

**October 6, 2008
Special Meeting
Board of Directors
Clarinda Community School District**

The Board of Directors of the Clarinda Community School District met in special session on Monday, October 6, 2008, 6:30 p.m., at the Multi-Purpose Room located in the McKinley Building, 423 East Nodaway, Clarinda, IA 51632.

Call to Order

President Watkins called the special meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

Roll Call

The following Board members were present: President Watkins, Vice President Turner, Fine, Fulk, and McComb.

Approval of Agenda

A motion was made by Fulk, seconded by McComb, to approve the agenda. The motion was approved 5-0.

Approve Motion to Rescind Board Action

A motion was made by McComb, seconded by Turner, to approve the motion to rescind board action made on 09/22/2008, to proceed with the building demolition project.

President Watkins called members of the audience who had asked to speak by adding their name to a sign-in sheet as they entered the meeting. Four names were on the sign-in sheet.

Dixie Fritz read a letter she had prepared asking the Board to rescind its action from September 22nd and consider demolishing only the main school building in New Market. She stated she believes there is a lot of interest in using the north addition as a museum.

Joyce Orr presented a petition of sixty names asking the Clarinda Board of Education to demolish all the school buildings in New Market. Mrs. Orr stated the New Market City Council and Mayor have not provided adequate information on the cost of maintaining and/or renovating the buildings. With no concrete plans, it is unknown how the costs could impact property taxes in the City of New Market.

Steve Cabbage first thanked the Clarinda Board for offering the buildings to the City of New Market and not auctioning them to the highest bidder. He then offered a letter from the attorney for the City of New Market stating he believes the Iowa Code authorizes a school district to “give” property to a municipality if the property is located within the jurisdiction of both the school district and the city. Mr. Cabbage spoke on behalf of the New Market City Council, saying the Council believes the consensus of the residents of New Market is that they would like to keep both the north addition and south gymnasium.

Rick Cabbage thanked the Clarinda Board of Directors for holding a special meeting to allow for final discussion on the fate of the New Market Buildings. He stated his agreement with Mrs. Orr, that the downside of taking any of the buildings is the possible high cost of maintaining the buildings until a use is decided upon and an even greater cost to renovate the buildings. However, he sees the buildings as valuable assets and believes the City Council will find a use for the buildings.

Vice President Turner said she had reconsidered her position since the September 22nd meeting, believing now the New Market Council would find a way to use the north and south buildings to benefit the community. Mr. McComb and Mr. Fulk both stated their displeasure in even holding the special meeting. They concluded the New Market residents and city council had more than enough time to voice their desires for the use of the buildings. The vote for dissolution was held a year ago and they should have been formulating plans. Mr. Fine, new to the Clarinda Board, stated he felt that a win-win situation could occur. First, the cost of demolition should be lower if fewer buildings are coming down and the two buildings could be used in ways that are valuable to the City of New Market. President Watkins acknowledged he has been impressed with the determination of the City of New Market in the face of

adversity and believes the City Council and residents will find a way to take the two buildings and use them for the benefit of the community.

A roll call vote was taken on the motion to rescind board action made on 09/22/2008, to proceed with the building demolition project.

Turner – yes

Fulk – no

McComb – no

Fine – yes

Watkins – yes

The motion passed on a 3-2 vote.

Adjournment

A motion was made by Fulk, seconded by Fine, to adjourn the meeting at 7:35 p.m. The motion was approved on a 5-0 vote.

Cindy L. VanFosson
Board Secretary