



20400 10th Street. McIntosh, FL • 352-591-9797

**Special McIntosh Area School Board Meeting
February 18, 2019 • MAS Cafeteria • 5:00 PM**

Mission: McIntosh Area School is committed to providing a challenging, high quality, first class education for our students. We strive to fulfill the needs of the whole child by delivering creative lessons designed to inspire dreamers and doers. Our goal is to ensure all students put their knowledge into practical practices, quench their thirst for knowledge, and become lifelong learners.

CALL TO ORDER

President Marshall Roddy called the meeting to order at 5:00 PM. The meeting began with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Present: Marshall Roddy, president; Thomas Turner, vice president; Mary Ann Kelley, secretary; Ralph Smith, member at large; Deborah MacKay (phone); Cindy Roach, Director.

REVIEW OF PUBLIC NOTICES

The meeting notice was posted on Facebook and Remind.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

Approval of Minutes of the previous regular meeting was deferred until the next scheduled meeting.

REPORTS AND DISCUSSION

Regular Reports were deferred until the next scheduled meeting.

MEETING PURPOSE

The purpose of the special meeting was to discuss McIntosh Area School's request for the entire building at 20400 10th Street.

BACKGROUND

- Through an agreement with the Town of McIntosh, McIntosh Area School has used the back 1/3 of the building at 20400 10th Street for office/support space since the school's beginning in 2002. The front portion has been occupied by various medical practices or been empty since then.
- Since 2002, MAS has grown from kindergarten and first grade to kindergarten through fifth grades. The school's office/support needs have increased but the space has not.
- Most recently SIMED (Southeastern Integrated Medical) has occupied the space for two or three days a week.
- The east 2/3 of the building has been vacant since SIMED's most recent physician left in August.
- At the Town Council Meeting on January 10, 2019, MAS School Board member Deb MacKay represented MAS in asking the Town of McIntosh to allow use of the east portion of the building in addition to the office space at the west end.

- Members of McIntosh Town Council visited the school on January 15. MAS representatives walked through the building with the Council describing how potential use for each room could help the MAS serve its community better.
- At the February 7 Town Council Meeting a physical therapist and occupational therapist requested use of the east side of the building for a potential practice. They offered to pay rent during renovation and occupation of the building. They noted that they could serve the hand, physical, and occupational therapy needs of the community including OT for school-aged children through Title One.
- McIntosh Town Council and Town Manager agreed to meet at the building at 10:00 AM on February 20 to hear the vision and proposed use of the space from both the therapists and MAS.

This special meeting was to prepare for the February 20 meeting.

DISCUSSION

- **Thomas Turner** suggested that the MAS Board should have a unified vision of the school and the proposal.
- **Deb MacKay** reported on a discussion she had with Beth Nelson, McIntosh's Town Manager.
 - The therapists were especially interested in the right (north) side of the building.
 - McIntosh citizens want medical services close to home.
 - McIntosh got in the neighborhood of \$800 a month from SIMED.
 - The therapists offered to pay rent during renovations as well as when their occupancy started.

Discussion: Because we no longer have to pay for a portable, we could be able to pay some rent to the town.

- **Deb MacKay** stressed the following:
 - The safety aspect of having a presence on the north side of the building overlooking the school. This included recommendations from the Marion County Sheriff's Office.

Discussion: If the space were shared, student safety would require a solid separation between a medical practice and the school.

- The expansion offers potential for additional school services such as Voluntary Pre-Kindergarten, enhanced after school care, and potential for summer school/camps. This would serve the community as well as increase enrollment.
- MAS has proven itself to be a good steward of the building and property.
- The proposed office expansion will improve quality of life for instructional – as well as office – staff.
- Painting the entire building would indicate how invested the school is in the community.
- Student safety for weather-related emergencies would be enhanced with expanded space.

Deb noted that "Vibrant Schools make Vibrant Communities."

- **Marshall Roddy** suggested that, as a Town Councilor, he could ask about the therapist's business plan, plans for the space, their plans for maintenance and upkeep, and anticipated patient load.
- **Thomas Turner** will represent the school as Marshall Roddy will have to recuse himself from Town Council voting. Board members will attend as they are able.

NOTE: School Pride Day is March 1 and 2. Please join volunteers spruce up our school.

ADJOURNMENT: The meeting adjourned at 7:00 PM