

Taft Public Library  
Board of Trustees Meeting  
February 15, 2012  
Executive Session

Roll Call: Bob Carlson, Carrie Grimshaw (non- voting member), Kathy Carlson, Bill McHenry, Carolyn Peters, Susan Darnell (via Skype)

At 7:30 PM per MGL C30A S21, Bill McHenry moved to enter into executive session. Carolyn Peters 2<sup>nd</sup>. All in favor via “yea” vote.

The purpose of the executive session is to consider the purchase of St. Michael’s Church as meeting in open session would have a detrimental effect on the Trustees’ negotiating position. The committee will return to open session.

Discussion of the history of St. Mike’s through information obtained by Bill from Judy Leonelli and Jean Berthold. The property was obtained by Springfield Diocese; the Worcester Diocese was not in existence at the time.

- In 1927, a couple owned the property which burned down.
- In 1936 (8?) John Donahue, Pastor of Hopedale, owned the property for 2 days prior to giving to the Diocese.

Discussion of purchase price and rationale for our price. Most important in our rationale is to keep the price as low as possible to get community approval. There is significant work to be done to bring the building up to code, but we also want to be careful not to give an offer so low as to insult the Diocese.

Discussion was held regarding pricing of St. Mike’s.

Carolyn Peters moved that the Trustees ask Judy Leonellie to prepare an offer to the Worcester Diocese for the purchase of St. Michal’s Church at a price of \$300,000. Contingent upon town approval and we will provide our reasons as to why we offer this price. Bill McHenry seconds the motion. All in favor – unanimous.

Taft Public Library Trustees’ rationale for this price:

- Keep the debt low enough to pass at town meeting
- The building needs work which included, but not limited to insulation installed; heating upgrades; oil tanks replaced/moved; elevator installed
- To the best of our knowledge there are no other interested parties
- Members of the parish are residents of Mendon and will benefit by turning the building into a library
- Diocese will garner positive feelings from the town of Mendon to continue to use this as a beneficial building for the townspeople

Kathy Carlson moved to leave executive session and enter into open session at 8:05. Carolyn Peters second. All in favor – unanimous.

