

A Special Town Meeting for the Town of Ellsworth was held on Wednesday, November 29, 2023 at 7:30 p.m. at the town hall. The purpose of the meeting was to ask the citizens of the Town of Ellsworth to approve building a town hall and shop. Wisconsin Statutes 60.10 addresses the powers of the town meeting and 60.10(2)(f) addresses Town buildings. A town meeting authorizes the town board to purchase, lease, or construct buildings for the use of the town....

**SPECIAL
TOWN
MEETING

NOVEMBER
29, 2023**

On October 23, 2023 at their board meeting the Town Board authorized to proceed with the town meeting to be held Wednesday, November 29, 2023 for the residents to vote on the town hall/shop proposal, said project not to exceed \$1.9 million and the total loan to be no more than \$1.7 million. Two informational meetings will be held: Sunday, November 12th 6:00 – 8:00 p.m. and Wednesday November 15th 6:30-9:00 p.m.

**RE:
BUILDING
TOWN HALL/
SHOP**

Notice was mailed to 415 residences in the Town of Ellsworth on November 6, 2023. The notice was published in the November 8th and 15th issues of the Pierce County Journal and the notice was posted on November 2nd at the town hall, website, and Kenny’s Lawton Bar.

There were 121 town residents in attendance. Clerk confirmed each person in attendance was an elector of the Town of Ellsworth. Each elector signed in and received a set of Rules for the meeting.

Chairman Billeter called the meeting to order and Adam Johnson led in the Pledge of Allegiance. Chair Billeter stated the purpose of the meeting.

**CALL TO
ORDER**

Supervisor Ristow shared information on the process stating the building committee, composed of the plan commission and town board, discussed the needs of the Town of Ellsworth and visited the buildings of three area towns. The town has a concept plan which most likely will change, but serves as a starting point as the town cannot proceed without approval from the town residents. The cost has increased \$500,000 since presenting a proposal to the town electors in May of 2022. Information on costs, taxes, possible building layouts and photos of the current building were presented. The clerk stores at her home the election equipment, the current and past records of the town.

**SHARE
INFORMATION**

Comments will be limited to 2 minutes. Adam Johnson will be the time keeper and when 30 seconds are remaining, a yellow card will be raised. The floor opened for questions and discussion. At 7:40 p.m. Chair Billeter asked for a motion to close discussion. Motion made and seconded to close discussion. Motion carried.

**DISCUSSION

END
DISCUSSION**

Clerk read the ballot to the group:

“The Ellsworth Town Board has proposed a town hall and shop be built on the 5 acre parcel the town owns to the south of 490th Avenue, said project not to exceed \$1.9 million and the total loan to be no more than \$1.7 million. Vote for one option.

BALLOT

Yes, I authorize the Ellsworth Town Board to proceed with the proposal to build a town hall/town shop with the total cost not to exceed \$1.9 million and the loan to be no more than \$1.7 million.

No, I do not approve of the Town of Ellsworth proceeding with the current plan.”

Ballots were distributed. Tellers were Audrey Severson, Gary Brown, Denise Hager, Lisa Hines, Sharon Seibel, Kathryn Mazac, Janet Huppert, Kit Feuerhelm.

BALLOT
RESULTS

121 in attendance - 118 votes cast - results:

51 votes - I authorize the Ellsworth Town Board to proceed with the proposal to build a town hall/town shop with the total cost not to exceed \$1.9 million and the loan to be no more than \$1.7 million.

67 votes - No, I do not approve of the Town of Ellsworth proceeding with the current plan.

The proposal was defeated.

MSC to adjourn.

(Motion by Brad Ristow, seconded by Gordon Borner)

Meeting adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

ADJOURN

Phyllis J Beastrom, Clerk