

## **Press Release**

### **For Immediate Release**

**May 27, 2014**

**Kasson, Minnesota:** On Wednesday May 28, 6:00 PM the Kasson, MN City Council will discuss the pending sale of the historic 1918 Kasson Public School to the 1918 Kasson Public School Limited Liability Limited Partnership. In January the city agreed to sell the school for \$240,000. A cashier's check will be delivered to City Hall by close of business on Friday May 30.

Local citizens formed an organization called: Turn The Lights On (TTLO) to raise funds for the purchase. The TTLO team conducted fund raising phone calls, hosted informational open houses and other activities related to completing the purchase. The Limited Partnership was formed to assist with collecting funds by selling shares in the Partnership which were sold for \$500 per share. Donations were also collected and a combination of the two formed the \$240,000 to purchase the school. Going forward citizens can continue to invest in the Kasson School and Kasson's history by purchasing shares in the Partnership which is ongoing.

Erin Hanafin-Berg from the Preservation Alliance of Minnesota stated: "The citizens of Kasson should be proud of what they have accomplished. Preserving historic buildings creates jobs and increases property values. New construction has a 50 year life while historic buildings are built to last for many generations."

Clint Jayne from the development firm Cohen-Esrey has expressed an interest in purchasing the school from the Limited Partnership for \$265,000 contingent on securing Minnesota housing tax credits. Mr. Jayne has proposed a plan to rehabilitate the school into apartments

The Kasson Public School was placed on the National Register of Historic Places in 2007. A large group of Kasson's citizens has been working diligently since 2006 to save the school. If you are interested in a donation or investment opportunity please call 651-272-7970 or mail a check to: Turn The Lights On, P.O. Box 103, Kasson, MN 55944. Addition information can be found on the Turn The Lights on Facebook page and at: <http://www.mnpreservation.org/kasson-school/>

#### **Resources:**

**Turn On The Lights: 651-272-7970**

**Erin Hanafin-Berg, Pres. Alliance of MN: 651-293-9047**

**Clint Jayne, Cohen-Esrey: 913-671-3300**

**City of Kasson: 507-634-7071**

**End**