



Moving & Preserving Our Historic Town House

Project Plan Summary

Purpose Statement:

Tyrone Township's first Town House was imagined and built 135 years ago. Our Historic Town House, built in 1887, is one of Tyrone Township's few historic buildings. It was designated as a historic site by the State of Michigan in 1975 as part of a Bicentennial project. The Historic Town House was a place built to become THE common thread that would bring a small community of people together. It was a space where gatherings, meetings, and elections were held.

To many, the Town House is a foundational piece that represents the very core of who we are. This building holds within its walls the legacy of our community. Great care must be taken to move, preserve, and protect it.

Our vision for the future of the Town House is for it to become the center point once again for our community to gather. As part of the new Township property where residents frequently visit, a place will be created for community events, programs, picnics, and a renewed sense of identity for Tyrone Township residents. This project integrates and honors our history within the future framework of a connected community. Our purpose in moving the Historic Town House to Township property is to continue the legacy of togetherness and create a space where residents can bridge the past to present and future generations.

Project Phases

- **Phase 1: Move the Building & Reclaim the Center Rd Property: (Deadline March 2023)** Moving the Historic Town House to its new location entails preparing the building and current site for the move, excavation, and a new foundation at the new location, physically moving the building so that it retains ownership by the Township and leaving the former site in the condition requested by the property owner.
- **Phase 2: Resettle the Historic Town House:** Resettling the Town House at its new location includes making necessary repairs, reconnecting utilities, adding the ADA ramp and new porch, installing sidewalks, replacing the State historical marker, and bringing the building up to code for community use while maintaining historical integrity.
- **Phase 3: Integrate & Maintain the Historic Town House:** Integration of the Town House entails planning for building use and strategies for connecting the community's past to its present and future. People across generations can connect to local history through community events, projects that engage residents with our history and this structure, education, outreach, and resources. Maintenance of the historic building can be assured by building sustainable revenue plans for the Tyrone Township Historical Society as they work to build stronger connections within and around our community to preserve local history.

Where We Are, What Comes Next?

We have currently raised a little over one third of the funds necessary to complete Phase 1 of this project. We are working to meet a deadline of March 2023 to reach a total of \$50,000 to complete the move of the building so that it can remain in the ownership of the community.