

Residents for Community Preservation  
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For Immediate Release: 7/6/2021

## **Funding & Sustainability for Tyrone Township's Historical Town House**

Work continues behind the scenes between Tyrone Township's Historical Society and a local nonprofit, Residents for Community Preservation to save their Historical Town House. Plans have evolved to support the Historical Society in taking steps toward becoming a 501c3 organization with a new focus on sustainability planning for the long term and fundraising.

Tyrone Township recently sent taxpayers a survey in the mail as an effort to see what the community wanted to do with the building. Some of the questions asked included language about tax increases, a millage question, and spending priorities which has some residents confused.

"While these are issues residents should care about, they really hold no relevance to this project. It's critical for every resident to understand that raising taxes or establishing a millage increase to support this project was NEVER part of the discussion. From the start, RCP and the Historical Society have asked to privately fundraise and seek grants to fund the project. The whole point of our local nonprofit work is so that individuals have a way to support the projects they care about, instead of relying on all taxpayers in the area to fund everything. The survey did not convey this message clearly." Sara Dollman-Jersey, RCP president

RCP and the Historical Society have been focused on developing a sustainability plan that will enable them to look after the community's history for the long term. Part of this process includes building a support team of dedicated, skilled residents to brainstorm ways to bring in revenue for the Historical Society, and how they might adapt to connect with younger generations in the community. A strategic, long-term plan is in the works as structures are being put in place. The team hopes to launch a full-scale fundraising effort and host an event for the community this summer.

"Too much history is being tossed out the window. We have to preserve what little we have left, and in Tyrone Township, this Historical Town House is it." - Sara Dollman-Jersey, RCP president

Supporters have been going door to door talking to residents about the fate of the Town House and gathering signatures as evidence for interest in preserving this building. The goal is to move it to the new Township property for the community to continue to enjoy, without burdening taxpayers. The response has been overwhelmingly positive and clearly demonstrates that residents here care about history, the community, and about preserving this building. The hope is still to integrate the Historic Town House as a centerpiece for our small community, connecting our past with our present and future.

**Tyrone Township Historical Society:** [www.TyroneHistoricalSociety.org](http://www.TyroneHistoricalSociety.org)

**Save Our Town House Online Petition:**

<https://www.ipetitions.com/petition/save-our-historical-town-house?fbclid=IwAR2kUj0rmSoLfWH1Cbh6LdrCAIqstSZrIWwgABwtRq1QH6x7SYI2fFpxd88>

**About Residents for Community Preservation:** Residents for Community Preservation is a nonprofit group of citizen advocates located in Fenton, MI. We were founded out of necessity in February 2021 in response to a proposed rezoning that would forever alter the natural integrity of our community. Our mission is to preserve the natural character of Tyrone Township through civic engagement, conservation, outreach, and advocacy.

Join our FB page: Residents for Community Preservation  
Visit our website: [www.TyroneRCP.org](http://www.TyroneRCP.org)