

# Schedule conflict delays meeting on Braille school

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VINTON — A meeting planned to discuss the future of the Iowa Braille and Sight Saving School (IBSSS) was cancelled Thursday afternoon.

Representatives of the Iowa Board of Regents were scheduled to meet with the Vinton city council regarding a proposal presented to sell the campus to the city for \$1.

"I received a phone call asking for the meeting to be postponed," Chris Ward, Vinton city administrator, stated.

Ward stated that he had received a call from John Nash explaining that the Regents wanted to stay in Des Moines because of discussions happening at the Iowa State House.

"Because of difficulties with the defunding bill" the Regents asked to postpone the public meeting and reschedule at another time Ward explained.

The City was approached last

year regarding the possibility of taking over the grounds and all the buildings at IBSSS for the cost of \$1. However, concerns with operating costs, maintenance and upgrade in relation to the city's budget has kept the Vinton city council from agreeing to the sale.

With a decision as large as taking over the grounds, council members have made an effort to get input from the public.

To make sure that happens, city officials are working with the University of Northern Iowa's Institute for Decision Making. The goal is to do some strategic planning looking at ideas for ways the city could use the facility and trying to develop plans to make those things happen.

A visioning committee made up of approximately 30 people from the community has been established. Three meetings for the visioning committee have been scheduled, Feb. 28, April 5 and May 2. Each of the meetings will be from 6 to 9 p.m.