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Group Looks to Preserve Windsor Locks Train Station

By SHAWN R. BEALS / *August 14, 2009*

WINDSOR LOCKS - Negotiations by a local group trying to preserve the historic train station on Main Street are moving forward, officials said, as the group waits for internal approvals from Amtrak.

First Selectman Steven Wawruck said Amtrak contacted the Windsor Locks Preservation Association recently about the sale of the site.

Cliff Cole, a spokesman for Amtrak, said Thursday the company wants a written agreement from the town that it accepts the sale to the group and that the station will not be used for future rail service.

"Once Amtrak receives acknowledgment in writing from the town that it accepts the sale of the historic train station to the preservation association which would preclude future train service at the station, the process can continue," Cole said in an e-mail.

Wawruck said Amtrak also wants a clear definition of the scope of the project and of what the group is trying to preserve, and he is hoping the three sides can meet to get on the same page.

"They're trying to get a clear definition of the site of the station," Wawruck said.

Town officials said a preserved station would be valuable in the long-term goal of revitalizing Main Street. The association wants to preserve it as a local historical landmark, possibly as a museum.