

City eyeing grant to fix old school

By STAFF - Athens Banner-Herald
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The Winterville City Council is considering applying for a \$500,000 grant to help restore part of the Winterville High School and turn it into a senior center.

A restoration committee is talking to representatives of the Athens Community Council on Aging about using part of the two-story building as a satellite location for some of its programs.

But applying for a federal Community Development Block Grant could cost the city as much as \$8,500, though some of the tasks required by the application would have to be done anyway, such as assessing the condition of the dilapidated building.

The council will have a called meeting at 7 p.m. Tuesday in Winterville City Hall.

While the restoration committee is focusing on whether to submit an application for the grant, paperwork that's due April 1, city leaders must decide whether to spend \$92,000 to dry out the adjacent auditorium, which committee members say should be done immediately. Drying out the high school, which also was drenched by recent rains, would cost the city about \$22,000.

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