

BUDGET / FACILITIES SUBCOMMITTEE MEETING

FACILITIES FOCUS

MINUTES

Monday, March 14, 2011

Mt. Hope High School Cafeteria

Present

Subcommittee: William O'Dell (Chair), John Bento and Diana Campbell

School Committee, Administration and Staff: Denise Arsenault, Karen Lynch, Marjorie McBride, Susan Rancourt, John Saviano, Paul Silva, Melinda Thies, Mario Andrade, Pauline Silva and George Simmons

Bill O'Dell called the meeting to order at 6:47 PM.

Approval of Minutes

MOTION: Diana Campbell motioned to approve the minutes to the March 1, 2011 meeting; John Bento seconded. The motion passed by a vote of 3 to 0. A copy of the minutes will be forwarded to David Barboza, Chair of the Joint Finance Committee.

New Bus Bid

Pauline recommended the bid be awarded to the single bidder, DATTCO for the amount of \$91,787.80.

MOTION: Diana Campbell motioned to approve; John Bento seconded. Pauline explained the District's old bus had to be taken off the road because of emissions issues; this bus is used primarily for special needs pre-school, afterschool programs and small trips when available, and during the summer; purchasing our own bus is more cost effective because we get charged extra for anything other than regular runs by the bus company. ARRA funds are being used for the purchase with 25% immediate reimbursement from DEM for environmental upgrades; it holds 36 students. John Saviano asked if it would not be prudent to go out to bid again, having received only one bid. Pauline said our last three busses were from DATTCO and they performed very well. Diana Campbell suggested a creative route and maybe research a bus for sale online. George argued that a used bus is risky.

The motion to approved passed by a vote of 3 to 0.

Bond Counsel Bid

The recommendation is for Cameron & Mittleman, the only bidder.

MOTION: Diana Campbell motioned to approve. John Bento seconded. John Saviano would like to put the bid out again. The rates are half what we were charged by the current firm, "\$200-\$395

per hour depending on level of experience and legal work required.”
A question of rate determination caused some vacillation; however there is no commitment to duration and we can reassess when we wish.

The motion to approve passed by a vote of 3 to 0.

Facilities Update

Lighting Replacement Project

George reported all the lighting in the Rockwell, Guiteras and Kickemuit gyms has been replaced.

Rockwell Lights Issue

George redirected the light at Rockwell away from Mr. Possi’s residence.

Fields

George has received a packet of material from Maguire to develop the bid for the field work. Diana said Recreation Board meeting material indicated that Walter Burke is waiting for confirmation from the District on a collaboration with the Town for grant applications to address the watershed issue that includes the Mt. Hope High School fields. It is uncertain what is expected—a letter of commitment, signage for the field. Marj continues to have concerns and feels an ironclad memo of agreement regarding field use is necessary. Mrs.

Thies has made it clear to Mr. Burke no monetary commitments will be made by the District.

MOTION: Diana motioned to draft a resolution to present to Walter Burke of interest by the District to collaborate but with no commitment of funds. John seconded.

John Saviano questioned the legality of this action, the item not being on the agenda.

Diana withdrew her motion; John withdrew his second.

As Chair of the Budget Subcommittee, Bill O'Dell directed the Superintendent to draft a resolution to present to Walter Burke confirming the District's interest in a collaboration of efforts to secure grant funding for projects which would include upgrades to the Mt. Hope High School fields, with no commitment of monetary contribution by the District at this time.

Adjournment

MOTION: At 7:13 PM Diana Campbell motioned to adjourn. John Bento seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

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