

BUDGET / FACILITIES SUBCOMMITTEE MEETING

MINUTES

Tuesday, August 13, 2013

Mt. Hope High School

Present

Subcommittee: Susan Rancourt, Chair, Marjorie McBride, and Paul Silva

School Committee, Administration and Staff: Diana Campbell, Karen Lynch, Bill O'Dell, John Saviano (6:41 p.m.), Melinda Thies, Mario Andrade, Pauline Silva, Paul Morris and George Simmons

Susan Rancourt, Chair, called the meeting to order at 6:35 PM.

Technology Bid

MOTION: A motion was made by Paul S. to award the Technology Bid; seconded by Marj M.

DISCUSSION: Karen L. asked why in the bidding process, the District didn't go directly to the large companies such as Dell or HP. Pauline S. responded that an RFP was sent out to the larger companies

directly, but they did not choose to bid. Marj M. asked if the District has a representative within the larger companies. Paul M. stated that those companies utilize a third party that works with the customer. Pauline S. added most big companies have a government specialist that work with the customer. Paul M. stated in the case of tonight's recommendation, OM Office Supply Inc. is the "middle person".

Bill O. asked for clarification on the \$4000 shipping cost amount. Paul M. responded this amount is a good faith estimate averaging shipping costs for various companies. This amount was intentionally figured a little higher. Bill O. asked if the company uses multiple shippers to add a competitive edge. Paul M. responded he does not know if they do.

Bill O. asked for confirmation of whether these laptops will be used by the 3rd and 4th graders and whether there would be one in every classroom. Melinda T. responded the laptops will be used by the students as an instructional piece preparing them in the use of a laptop. The students will also be completing the online PARCC Assessment utilizing the laptop. Bill O. believes it would be more economical to have the students share laptops by staggering times of use. Melinda T. responded everyone is being taught at the same time.

Bill O. commented that streaming live would answer that. Susan R. believes it is necessary to stay current with the changing climate of technology for the students sake and would not be beneficial to have them share a laptop.

Marj M. stated that the purchase of the laptops is being staggered over a few years. She doesn't believe every child in the state will have access to a computer to take the PARCC Assessment. Marj M. stated that she appreciates that the District is meeting a state mandate ahead of time, but she wonders how the overall state implementation will look six months from now. Melinda T. responded she would rather be ahead of schedule in technology mandates to provide the best possible preparedness for the students.

John S. asked if the new laptops will be insured. Paul M. replied they will stay in the classroom.

Marj M. voiced a concern of whether all students have access to a computer at home in order to complete homework assignments. She commented that she will vote yes for the purposes of the subcommittee meeting to award the bid, but will not in the full committee.

The motion passed unanimously to award the Technology Bid to OM Office Supply Inc.

Bristol Landscaping Bid

MOTION: Paul Silva motioned to award the Bristol Landscaping Bid; seconded by Marj M.

DISCUSSION: Marj M. commented that the five year bid plan from Landscaping Services increases exponentially. Paul. S. responded that the bid amount is still cheaper overall.

The motion passed unanimously to award the Bristol Landscaping Bid to Landscaping Services.

Colt Andrews Chair Covers to BWEF for Fundraising

MOTION: Paul S. motioned to award Colt Andrews chair covers to BWEF for fundraising; seconded by Marj M.

DISCUSSION: Marj M. stated that tomorrow night Jacque, BWEF, will be going to Melinda's office to see the framed chair cover. Marj M. stated this vote does not have to go through the full committee as the seat covers have no value.

Diana C. asked if a seat cover should be made available to the library. Marj M. responded that there will be one at Colt Andrews. Diana C. asked the Subcommittee to make a motion to ensure that there is protection that a seat cover will be set aside as a historical piece. Marj M. stated that this request will be passed on to Jacque, BWEF.

Next Meeting

To be determined.

Adjournment:

MOTION: At 6:57 p.m. Paul S. made a motion to adjourn the meeting; Marj M. seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

kd