

BUDGET / FACILITIES SUBCOMMITTEE MEETING

MINUTES

Tuesday, February 10, 2015

Mt. Hope High School

Present

Subcommittee: Marjie McBride, Chair; John Bento and William O'Dell

School Committee, Administration and Staff: Karen Lynch, John Saviano, Erin Schofield, Mario Andrade, Superintendent; and George Simmons

Marjie M. called the meeting to order at 6:39 PM.

ACTION ITEM

Approve moving the Guiteras Field Bid Award recommendation forward for a full School Committee vote:

George S. recommended awarding the Guiteras Field bid to DaPonte's Landscaping. DaPonte's Landscaping is currently contracted by the School District to maintain the school's fields and

as such George S. is familiar with their work.

Karen L. expressed concern that DaPonte's Landscaping has not adequately maintained Guiteras Baseball Field. George S. responded that the maintenance work specs used for the District's schools, in the past, did not detail specific maintenance requirements for Guiteras Field. Moving forward, the work specs will outline detailed maintenance requirements for Guiteras Field.

George S. commented that he would also recommend JH Landscaping, a company he has had good experience with through their work at the School District.

John B. asked whether Yardworks has experience in landscaping work for other schools in the state. George S. responded that they do not have experience with local public schools, but he could not speak to whether Yardworks has provided landscaping services to local private schools. George S. stated that he has made several attempts to contact Yardworks over the last two weeks to no avail.

Citing the fact that Yardworks came in as the lowest bidder, Bill O. suggested waiting until George S. is able to make contact with the company to further ascertain their landscaping work and experience.

John B. asked what the timeline would be if a company were to default on the bid. George S. responded another bid request would

have to be made which would add at least another month to the process. John S. asked whether the work is bonded. George S. responded, “yes”.

A consensus was reached to add the alternate bid amount to the baseline bid, which will cover the field’s irrigation system.

MOTION: John B. made a motion to recommend JH Landscaping’s total bid amount of \$41,890, which includes the alternate, to the full School Committee for approval; seconded by Marj M.

DISCUSSION: Bill O. believes it would be in the District’s best interest to go with the lowest bidder, Yardworks, for an approximate savings of \$16,000. Marjie M. responded that the company has no experience with public schools. George S. reiterated that he does not know whether they have provided landscaping services to private schools.

The motion passed 2-1; Bill O. dissenting.

Next meeting – Tuesday, February 17, 2015

Adjournment:

MOTION: At 6:51 p.m. John B. made a motion to adjourn the meeting; Bill O. seconded.

The motion passed unanimously.

kd