

EAST PROVIDENCE SCHOOL DEPARTMENT

East Providence School Committee

East Providence City Hall

145 Taunton Avenue, Council Chamber

East Providence, Rhode Island 02914

August 22, 2013

Open Session

Mr. Monteiro called the Public Session to order at 6:30 PM. Members Present: Anthony Ferreira, Richard Pimentel and Joel Monteiro (Timothy Conley and Elizabeth Clupny absent). Also present: Kim Mercer, Superintendent of Schools and Andrew Thomas, Esq.

The Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag & Moment of Silence were observed.

Middle School Sports - Finance Director, Malcolm Moore, explained that donations made by city residents on a tax bill check-off box total approximately \$6500; question was how does the money get approved to go over to the school account; an ordinance has been written to allow the city to put the money aside; can be spent with approval by the Superintendent of Schools and Finance Director. Mr. Moore read from the resolution. Vouchers must be signed by the Superintendent and a separate fund will be set up to be paid to the School Department for that purpose. The percentage of tax bills contributing was at 70%; resolution will be on the City Council agenda for first reading at the next meeting; we need a mechanism to be able to write checks from the account.

Action Items

Personnel Appointments – Tabled to August 27th meeting.

Facilities/Construction Update – Mike Taber, Project Manager and Tony Simas, SMMA architect reported on the progress of the work; they were confident the work will be completed even though: Waddington still has a long way to go; punch list will be developed at a later date. Mr. Taber reported that he was very happy with the progress; work will continue behind the scenes after hour at no additional time or cost to the School Department. The first payment to Iron Construction is due; once it is reviewed and fair, they will forward to the School Department. Mr. Ferreira requested that a walk-through of the buildings be conducted before any checks are signed

Mike Taber reported that there is no cost to the School Department for any work after school opens; Irons is aware that credits are coming to the School Department; changes were made in the scope of the work; for example, the amount of work on the bathrooms at Waddington was reduced by \$100,000.

Mr. Ferreira asked about transformers which were high on the fire prevention list but not as much now; he will wait for the paperwork from the Building Inspector and the Fire Marshall's opinion.

Discussion regarding acoustical panels. Mr. Ferreira asked about the status of the schools related to cleaning and changing air filters; questions about exterior doors. Mr. Ferreira requested a list of what work has not been completed this summer; he felt that we need a plan going forward on the work which has not been completed.

Discussion regarding the cost of using custodial/maintenance staff to move furniture. Mr. Ferreira asked for more accountability. Mr. Monteiro responded that he is confident this will happen with the new Superintendent and support of the School Committee.

Public Comment – Fred Rybka asked if the elementary schools not under construction are done; fire alarm at Waddington; will it be done. When will Oldham be ready for moving in? Have we conducted air quality tests on schools that have had construction projects?

Mr. Simas responded that air samples are taken before and after any asbestos work.

Motion by Mr.Pimentel to adjourn, seconded by Mr. Ferreira. Vote 5-0.

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia A. Iannelli, Administrative Assistant

Elizabeth Clupny, Clerk of the Committee