

Special Meeting of the Pawtucket School Committee

Tuesday, January 28, 2014 at 6:30 PM

School Administration Building, 2nd Floor Conference Room

286 Main Street, Pawtucket RI 02860

Minutes

I Meeting will come to order

The Chairman, Mr. Araujo, called the special meeting to order at 6:35 PM.

a Roll call

Ms. Bonollo-here; Ms. Cano-here; Mr. Spooner-here; Mr. Tenreiro-here; Mr. Araujo-here

Also in attendance were Mrs. Deborah Cylke, Superintendent of Schools; Ms. Melissa Devine, Chief Financial Officer; Mr. Ronald Beaupre, President, Pawtucket Teachers Alliance; Mr. Jon Winikur, SBS Mr. Edward Frenette and Mr. David Ruiz, SMMA; Mr. Stephen M. Robinson, Legal Counsel for the School Committee.

Ms. Nordquist arrived at 6:40 PM.

Mr. Coughlin was not in attendance for this special meeting.

b Pledge of Allegiance

The Chairman, Mr. Araujo, led the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance.

II Public Participation

Comments from the public are invited at this time. Citizens wishing to speak should sign in with the Committee Chair before speaking. The Committee is precluded from discussing or acting on items raised by Public Comment, which are not already on the agenda. Public comment will be included in the minutes of the meeting.

None

III Presentation/Action Item(s)

1. Approval of Health & Safety Scope B Modifications

Mrs. Cylke commented that Jon's job is to represent the Pawtucket School Department and that there will be some modifications for the Committee's approval.

Mr. Winikur: I brought the whole team here this evening. Everyone

has the information before you. You are aware that this is an \$8M project that started last summer. We have data and real bids. We want to make sure we have the most accurate prices on real bids. We have been working with Dennis on the highest priorities and working with the greatest plans, structural etc. We brought in an outside team to make sure the prices are being modified and the scope is being modified with actual prices and not spend Potter Burns money but maybe wait and spend it later.

Mrs. Cylke: We have met with Slater and maybe not make that money available until they lift the moratorium. We do have money set aside. As Jon said, money set aside for the next thirty days, the picture will be much more clear.

Mr. Winikur: We have given you a summary of a scope of changes from the timeline. From a bidding standpoint there is a small window of time to get done award in a timely basis and hit the ground running as soon as school lets out. We have to get RIDE endorsement of this process. We are working our way through this process.

Mr. Tenreiro moved to approve the Health & Safety Scope B Modifications. **Mr. Spooner** seconded.

Ms. Bonollo: There are some major changes and I want to make sure variances aren't because we're cutting corners. Why did you think estimates are needed of these changes?

Mr. Winikur: These are major changes.

Ms. Bonollo: I want to have a good reason why we're going from \$600,000.00 to \$1.3M.

Mr. Ruiz: At Curtis we had to remove and replace the entire heating system. That was put out to bid last year. Additional work was needed that was not identified while going through Stage II submission so that work while starting in Scope A project, we would capture that were not originally captured in original assessment. Initial analysis later in greater detail found greater problems that were identified.

Ms. Bonollo: Besides the \$50,000.00 contingency, means the heating will now be up to snuff and it will be under warranty?

Mr. Ruiz: Work will be required to be warranted. Generally work is one year; parts vary.

Mr. Spooner: Based on the same idea, some are very high. I've seen scopes like this before.

Mr. Ruiz: In those prices, if those prices were to stay the same, the cost differences did not really change that much. The Scope itself has changed in some instances.

Baldwin's initial request in Phase II was based on one thing but after talking to Dennis we changed it. The original budget was \$953,000.00.

Mr. Spooner: Under Curtis is says remove steam units, replace gut boiler and replace HVAC.

Mr. Winikur: We have to replace the boiler.

Mrs. Cylke: We actually received a complaint today that it is too warm at Curtis.

Mr. Winikur: We wanted to get through the summer work. These are small snippy projects. We sat with bid results and tried to sit with detail. Cost changes have to do with what actual costs are. We tried to explain where deviant changes are.

Curvin is actual bid result. The work is completed.

Fallon is a similar scope but we reviewed and replaced the entire fire alarm system. It was actually salvageable, so the budget actually dropped.

Ms. Bonollo: In three years, we won't have to replace it?

Mr. Ruiz: It's functioning and up to code.

Mr. Winikur: The criteria is life safety. System failure is #2 and you would have to replace it. High priority is full replacement and some that are more urgent.

Mr. Ruiz: Greene—this is a school that has a need for a fire alarm system that will be done this summer. There is only one water line going in.

Ms. Bonollo: Will all schools have that?

Mr. Ruiz: Three don't, Greene, Shea and Potter.

Little—Replacement of fire alarm; we are able to make some small adjustments. Everything we do will be up to code.

Potter-Burns—there is a big change driven by the master Plan trying to replace pipe.

Mr. Araujo: If the Master Plan Phase I doesn't get approved, what work will get done?

Mr. Winikur: The boiler will get taken care of.

Mr. Ruiz: If the boiler went down, we knew there would be a problem.

Winters—there are leaks in the distribution system in the underground system that are difficult to locate. Our goal is to replace it with a new building. Would it make sense to do the repairs and then tear down the building?

Ms. Bonollo: The Master Plan may not come true, so taking care of the smallest problems is the most important thing.

Mr. Winikur: We did put a contingency of \$75,000.00 for this to make sure it lasts without a whole lot of adjustments.

Mr. Araujo: The whole thing is to keep our staff and children safe.

Mr. Ruiz: Some decisions have been swayed to be prudent.

Mrs. Cylke: The health and safety bond can only be used for certain things; warm, dry, safe and roofing.

Even though things go up and down, we have to stay within the \$8M budget. The School Committee hires the project manager, SMMA who can have an opinion. Jon vets everything and he met with me and the School Committee is the owner. He will meet with me again to update me on the process.

Mr. Ruiz: Because of other issues with the City, we decreased it. It was all in the \$16M scope.

Mrs. Cylke: If the state doesn't lift the moratorium, we will still be sitting and discussing what we will be doing if they do. We will be talking about what more to do at Potter and Greene. If they do, \$60M will be available and Pawtucket will be first in line.

Mr. Winikur: We will present the final package next week with your approval and go out to bid immediately.

Mr. Frenette: The original date was 2014, but the problem was they were not funded. \$104M in work that could not be done. So you end up with a small number of what could be done. Immediate health and safety but wouldn't be meeting immediately. Is the pipes or boiler immediate health or safety? We went through two or three buildings and the prices are going up and prices are getting old. Bidding time is making it difficult to get you the best prices.

Mr. Ruiz: As we started vetting the scope, the boiler and unit ventilators proven to take care of and get it on the list. We are working closely with Dennis and getting it on the list. We want to have this proper meeting and have a proper ventilation system.

Mrs. Cylke: Did Goff get boilers?

Mr. Ruiz: Yes, it's on the list now.

Mr. Winikur: It's a very complicated system and Jenks went to hold a significant amount of money to one side in long term disposition.

Mr. Spooner: Is that whole design a full BOP?

Mr. Ruiz: You wouldn't use that system today. You would replace that mechanical system today. No one would ever choose that system today.

Mr. Winikur: We are holding a lot of contingency aside and we can have this conversation in the fall.

Mr. Ruiz: Slater—no changes.

Shea—there is a fire alarm now. The estimates are a little higher than expected.

Tolman—small road repair work less expensive than thought and fire alarm work.

This building is very complicated. There's need here, but the biggest dilemma is the fact that to do the work is you have to get into disposition system and move people and get into ceilings.

-New air handling system

-New boiler and chiller

Mr. Winikur: The revised estimates took out \$31,000.00 at Cunningham. It's not life safety immediate and you can pick it up in the fall.

Roll call

Ms. Bonollo-yes; Ms. Cano-yes; Ms. Nordquist-yes; Mr. Spooner-yes; Mr. Tenreiro-yes; Mr. Araujo-yes

Motion carries six in favor.

2. Approval of Competitive Cheerleading Positions from "Advisor" Stipend to "Coaching" Stipend

Mrs. Cylke: This request came from Mr. Scanlon. Advisors have to be certified the same as coaches and we are requesting your approval that the Competitive Cheerleading Advisor Stipend be changed to Competitive Cheerleading Coaching stipend.

Mr. Tenreiro moved to approve the Competitive Cheerleading Positions from "Advisor" stipend to "Coaching" stipend. Ms. Nordquist seconded.

Ms. Nordquist: Competitive cheerleading is a sport recognized by the Rhode Island Interscholastic League and this should have been done two years ago.

Voice vote carried six in favor.

3. Discussion/Approval of Composition of RFP for Superintendent Search

Mrs. Cylke: A copy of an RFP for services has been provided to you if you want us to help that has a cost. It can have a minimal cost to assist with this process. They can help narrow it down. Some districts use these companies in their searches.

Ms. Nordquist: I think we who want to be involved, it becomes too cumbersome with too many people. I think all school committee member should be involved, but last time, it was too much.

Mrs. Cylke: There are four highly known and regarded companies.

Mr. Spooner moved to approve Superintendent Search Committee RFP to obtain a quote for services. **Ms. Nordquist** seconded.

Voice vote carried six in favor.

IV Executive Session

Mr. Araujo commented that the committee would possibly recess to executive session in accordance with provisions under Title 42, Chapter 46, Subsection 5 (a) (2) (legal advice and litigation/collective bargaining) of the General Laws of the State of Rhode Island for the purpose of discussing and/or acting upon the following:

- 1. Negotiations – Pawtucket Teachers Alliance**
- 2. Seal Executive Session Minutes**

Ms. Nordquist moved to recess to executive session. Mr. Spooner seconded.

Roll call

Ms. Bonollo-yes; Ms. Cano-yes; Ms. Nordquist-yes; Mr. Spooner-yes; Mr. Tenreiro-yes; Mr. Araujo-yes

Motion carries six in favor.

The Committee recessed to executive session at 7:28 PM to 9:22 PM.

V Reconvene to open session

The Chairman, Mr. Araujo, reconvened the open session at 9:23 PM.

a. Roll call

Ms. Bonollo-here; Ms. Cano-here; Ms. Nordquist-here; Mr. Spooner-here; Mr. Tenreiro-here; Mr. Araujo-here

VI Report out vote(s) of executive session of 1/28/14, if applicable

The Chairman asked the Clerk if there were any votes to report out of executive session.

The Clerk reported that the Committee voted to declare an impasse on the Pawtucket Teachers Alliance negotiations and go to mediation, seal executive session minutes and to adjourn the executive session on a six-0 vote.

VII Adjournment

Mr. Tenreiro moved to adjourn. Ms. Bonollo seconded.

Voice vote carried all in favor.

The Chairman, Mr. Araujo, adjourned the special meeting of the Pawtucket School Committee on Tuesday, January 28, 2014 at 9:24 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Clerk

Approved 3/11/14