

SPECIAL MEETING OF THE PAWTUCKET SCHOOL COMMITTEE

Tuesday, April 7, 2015 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 6:33 PM.

a. Roll call

Mr. Charbonneau-here; Ms. Dube-here; Ms. Grant-here; Mr. Knight-here; Ms. McQuade-here; Mr. Araujo-here

Also in attendance were Mrs. Patricia DiCenso, Superintendent of Schools; Mr. Dennis Rebelo, Director of Facilities; Ms. Noelle Pinsonnault; Ms. Donna Rundlett and Mr. Louis Torrado, Torrado Architects.

Ms. Bonollo was not present.

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. Persons 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. Executive Session

Possible recess to executive session in accordance with provisions under Rhode Island General Laws, Title 42, Chapter 46, Subsection 5(a) (2) Legal advice and litigation (collective bargaining) for the purpose of discussing and/or acting upon:

- 1. Local 1352 Negotiations**
- 2. Seal Executive Session Minutes**

Mr. Knight moved to recess to executive session at the end of the meeting. Mr. Charbonneau seconded.

Voice vote carries unanimously with six members present.

IV. New Business/Action Item

a. Approval of Architectural and Engineering Firm for \$32 Million Bond Health and Safety Master Plan

Mr. Araujo gave the floor to Mr. Charbonneau, Chairman of the Facilities Subcommittee.

Mr. Charbonneau: Good evening. It is my pleasure to recommend on behalf of the Facilities Subcommittee Torrado Architects as our preferred firm for Architectural and Engineering Services.

Through a very rigorous process that included multiple meetings in excess of four hours each, Mr. Torrado's firm distinguished themselves.

Mr. Torrado spoke at length about his commitment to the community, city and the kids. He was the only principle to personally walk the buildings during the RFP process. He has worked in all districts in the State with the exception of three, soon to be two with your approval.

Mr. Torrado brought a team to the interview that impressed, and really wowed some members with the security piece of his presentation.

Mr. Torrado will be our point person, face to face contact with the firms whose name is going on this project with our names was crucial.

I personally had Mr. Torrado tied for first on my matrix and he blew me away in the interview portion. I don't need to remind any of you of the importance of this project and I firmly believe we have selected the best firm who shares our beliefs and our values.

I ask that you support our recommendation, and I am sure after hearing Mr. Torrado you will agree we made the best choice.

Members of the Committee it is my pleasure to introduce Louis Torrado of Torrado Architects.

Mr. Torrado thanked the Facilities Committee who worked very hard and fair for creating the proposal. It's important to us. The project I will be dedicated to. This is one of the few communities we haven't worked in. We have two employees who graduated from Pawtucket. We're excited and look forward to working with you.

Mr. Knight moved to approve Torrado Architects as the Architectural and Engineering Firm in the amount of \$1.8M for the \$32M Bond Project. Mr. Charbonneau seconded.

Mr. Knight: I sat in and viewed the presentation and of these Mr.

Torrado had the strongest security piece. I was impressed with their professionalism and team.

Chairman Araujo turned the floor over to Deputy Chairman, Mr. Charbonneau.

Mr. Araujo: It was a very important decision. We had four firms that presented and I agree with Mr. Knight, I was very impressed with the security measures presented. I was torn between two firms. After further conversation I cast my vote to you. You have a very solid booklet and I look forward to working with you.

Mr. Araujo took the Chair back from the Deputy Chairperson.

Ms. Grant: I would re-iterate what Mr. Knight, Mr. Charbonneau and Mr. Araujo said. Their presentation stood out and impressed me. That was one of my biggest things. I look forward to working with you.

Mr. Araujo: We still have a contract under negotiation and are still working on that process.

Mr. Charbonneau: I want to mention Mr. Torrado's bid of \$1.8M was not the highest or lowest fee. It was a consideration but not the be all that ends all. I would suggest recommendation of the Facilities Subcommittee was not a rushed decision. It was one that took time.

Mr. Torrado was the one left standing.

Mr. Araujo: There were four presentations at fifty minutes each.

Mr. Knight: We're talking about security and I now realize that the Pawtucket Police Department no longer has a special response team and that is a great concern to me.

Mrs. DiCenso: The only thing I can say is you're going to be able to deliver because you are very passionate. The only thing I can say is the bigger issue is there are teachers and students waiting for re-modeling to occur. Your challenges throughout the state do say you finish on time. I think your passion and commitment will get the job done.

Roll call

Mr. Charbonneau-yes; Ms. Dube-yes; Ms. Grant-yes; Mr. Knight-Torrado; Ms. McQuade-yes; Mr. Araujo-yes

Motion carries unanimously with six members present.

Executive Session

The Chairman commented that the Committee will recess to executive session in accordance with provisions under Rhode Island General

Laws, Title 42, Chapter 46, Subsection 5(a) (2) Legal advice and litigation (collective bargaining) for the purpose of discussing and/or acting upon:

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Ms. Grant moved to recess to executive session. Ms. McQuade seconded.

Roll call

Mr. Charbonneau-yes; Ms. Dube-yes; Ms. Grant-yes; Mr. Knight-yes; Ms. McQuade-yes; Mr. Araujo-yes

The Committee recessed to executive session at 6:54 PM to 9:17 PM.

The Chairman, Mr. Araujo, reconvened the open session at 9:17 PM.

Roll call

Mr. Charbonneau-here; Ms. Dube-here; Ms. Grant-here; Mr. Knight-here Ms. McQuade-here; Mr. Araujo-here

The clerk reported that the Committee voted unanimously on two

matters regarding collective bargaining, Local 1352; to seal the executive session minutes and to adjourn the executive session.

V. Adjournment

Ms. McQuade moved to adjourn. Mr. Charbonneau seconded.

The Chairman, Mr. Araujo, adjourned the special meeting of the Pawtucket School Committee on Tuesday, April 7, 2015 at 9:19 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Clerk

Approved by School Committee April 14, 2015