# BOARD OF EDUCATION, NEW FAIRFIELD, CT Business Operations/Resource Management Subcommittee Meeting

Name of Subcommittee: BO/RM Meeting type: Regular

Date of Meeting: 1/18/24 Minutes submitted by: K. LaTourette

Members present: Ed Sbordone, Amy Johnson, Kim LaTourette

Members absent: Greg Flanagan

Other attendees: Ken Craw, Carrie DePuy, Dom Cipollone, Kevin Siebrecht, Felipe & David

Place of meeting: Meeting Access: BO/RM Subcommittee (1/18/24 at 5:30 p.m.) Web: https://zoom.us/j/93735426733 Dial In: (929) 205-6099 Meeting ID: 937 3542 6733

Meeting called to order: 5:30 p.m.

## **II.** Approval of Minutes

## A. December 21, 2023 – Regular

MOTION: Made by: Ed Sbordone Seconded by: Amy Johnson

To approve the minutes of December 21, 2023, as presented

**Recording of vote:** All in favor

#### III. INFORMATION ITEMS

**A.** Monthly Summary of Budget vs. Actual Expenditure/Encumbrances Report for FY 2023-24 at December 31, 2023 – Carrie pointed out transportation (offset by Magnet Grant), Buildings and Grounds, savings in technology – that our budget will be balanced on the operating side. We are trending a deficit with SPED of about \$60,000 and SPED payroll of about \$100,000 (paraprofessionals, outsourcing firms while we try to hire). We do have the contingency (\$125,000). In comparison to last year, our spending is a little bit higher, and this may be because we are spending more in payroll than in prior years. We are looking better than last year; however, we do have the deficit and Carrie will look into grants.

**B.** Google Vault Reconciliation – October 1, 2023 – December 31, 2023 All was as expected. There were about 20 inquiries; however, they were all legitimate.

#### C. Solar Project

Kevin Siebrecht shared some information about adding panels to the High School and gave an overview. His team members, Felipe and David, also joined him. They are working with the town to look at the town dump site to figure out if and how they may move forward. We have a solarready roof on the High School and it makes sense to submit to Eversource. They have created a proposal that the system would be owned by the town. The Inflation Reduction Act began in January 2023, and you can get tax grants/payments from the government in these systems. They are recommending MS and possibly MHHS as well to see if additional solar may be added. In addition to the net metering, if we had solar on the schools, we would receive bill/revenue credit (can offset meter charges, demand charges, etc.). If we pay off other expenses, the excess could go into revenue. Ed asked about maintenance and servicing the panels. Phil Ross spoke about the panels on MHHS and how the maintenance/service is taken care of, i.e. a contracted service at no cost to us. Dominic asked about damage to the roof and how that would be dealt with, as well as what other schools have worked with them. Kevin offered to share those samples again and more if needed. Amy asked what the life expectancy is of the panels and where they may be disposed of when they are done. Kevin stated that the life expectancy is about 25-35 years. Carrie asked about how much we would have to pay upfront - Kevin said that Eversource has a performance bond contract if we are approved and install the project. This would be \$5000 and then we would be receiving an income stream from Eversource right away. Phil worked with Kevin and Felipe on the roof at the MS. Ed asked about the amount for the municipal loan - \$625,000 turnkey,

\$184,000 would be back, borrowing would be around \$450,000. We would like to have Kevin and his team present at our next regular meeting for the full board in February.

### IV. ACTION ITEMS

**A. FY 24 Budget Transfers** - Carrie explained the two non-payroll to non-payroll transfers. The High School is asking to move \$9,200 from dues and fees to the supplies line. The second request is to transfer \$15,000 from tech equipment into Building and Grounds supplies.

**MOTION:** Made by: Ed Sbordone Seconded by: Amy Johnson

To bring the FY 24 budget transfers to the full Board for approval

**Recording of vote:** All in favor

## V. OTHER – None

#### VI. ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn:Made by: Ed SbordoneSeconded by: Kim LaTouretteRecording of vote:Aye – UnanimousMeeting adjourned at: 6:11 p.m.