

MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL WOODBRIDG BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING

Monday, October 22, 2018

South Assembly Room

CALL TO ORDER: Ms. Hamilton, Chair called the meeting to order (5:00 PM).

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Ms. Margaret Hamilton, Chair, Dr. Steve Fleischman, Vice Chair; Ms. Claire Coleman, Ms. Maegan Genovese, Secretary; Dr. Todd Jokl and Ms. Joyce Shavers.

STAFF: Mr. Robert Gilbert, Superintendent; Al Pullo, Director of Business Services/Operations and Marsha DeGennaro, Clerk of the Board.

MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC: Beth Heller, First Selectman; Mica Cardozo, Joe Dey, David Lober, Board of Selectmen Members; Tom Handler, Paul Kuriakose, Andy Pels, Sandy Stein, Board of Finance Members; Vito Esparo, BRS Facilities Manager; Sheila McCreven, community.

A tour of the outside grounds (Cafeteria / playground area, back of A, B and C Wings, Kucinskas Loop, South playground) and the BRS facility (south hallway / art room, technology lab) was conducted.

PUBLIC COMMENT – None

2019/20 CAPITAL BUDGET PROPOSAL

Discussion ensued for which capital projects were the most critical, which could be spread out in further years and which could be combined with Town bidding projects. The proposed funding for fiscal year 20 at \$939,901 followed by \$1,120,200 for fiscal year 21 is too robust and prioritization is necessary. It was noted that many of these projects have been on the forefront for several years and have not been funded. In addition, the building upgrade project was energy based and the recent building needs assessment identified specific areas of concern not previously addressed. Items such as roofing, carpet replacement and painting adhere to scheduled routine maintenance cycles.

The HVAC component for temperature and humidity is directly related to the building upgrade project and humidity controls were not part of the upgrade project and are a separate component. The incorporation of humidity controls will alleviate recent temperature balancing issues, greatly reduce the potential for future pipe bursts as well as provide a higher level of efficiencies within system controls. While it is anticipated the Van Zelm preliminary report will guide us, the exact cost remains an unknown and the dollars identified are a “placeholder”.

Interior / Exterior Doors are related to safety and security. It is imperative that certain access doors be replaced to ensure the safety of all students and staff.

The HVAC and miscellaneous equipment item pertains to heating/cooling ventilators, exhaust fans, drinking fountains and various other components that were not included as part of the building upgrade project, many of which are original to the building and replacement parts are no longer available. Further, given the original install dates, abatement is possible and it is generally far more cost effective to group “like” projects together.

Technology Infrastructure is crucial to student learning. This replacement cycle covers equipment, wiring, hardware and servers.

Several grounds projects need to be addressed in the short-term to mitigate other issues and prevent further damage/deterioration with water collection and drainage, specifically the erosion in the south playground area and the back of A-wing. These needs were identified in the Fuss and O’Neill Site Assessment Report. Suggestions were made to include the asphalt / paving / sidewalks and landscaping requirements in town bids. It was also hoped that smaller budgeted items (plantings, trees, etc.) could be incorporated into the operating budget or possibly achieved through STEAP grant funding.

The Board was urged to prioritize fiscal year 2019/20 and 2020/21 with absolute critical needs and to spread out the remaining items over the next several years. While no one is able to predict the future, it is imperative the Town have a full inclusive list of projects with logical progressions and scope clearly defined.

The Board recognized that based on prior years, funding would be a challenge. The Board agreed that fiscal year 20 funding should incorporate all HVAC issues, technology, doors, asphalt replacement, a reduction to grounds and other items would be deferred to alternate years.

MOTION #1 – 2019/20 CAPITAL PROJECT REQUEST

Move that we approve the fiscal year 20 Capital Budget with the first four items on the list, asphalt replacement and reduce Grounds Care – Site Improvement to \$50,000 and move and add all remaining items to fiscal year 21 with the understanding that we will attempt to continue to re-evaluate, prioritize and equalize spending over time to the degree possible.

HVAC Temperature & Humidity	\$500,000
Interior & Exterior Doors	31,812
Technology Infrastructure	31,700
Equipment (HVAC & Misc)	57,000
Asphalt Replacement	93,500
Grounds Care – Site Improvement	<u>50,000</u>
	\$764,012

Dr. Fleischman
Second by Ms. Coleman
UNANIMOUS

MOTION TO ADJOURN: (6:46 PM)
Dr. Fleischman
Second by Ms. Hamilton
UNANIMOUS

Recorded by Marsha DeGennaro, Clerk of the Board