

The Regional School District 13 Board of Education Building Committee met in regular session on Wednesday, April 17, 2024 at 5:00 PM in the library at Cuginchaug Regional High School.

Committee members present: Mr. Cross, Mr. Faiella, Mr. Giammatteo, Mr. Mennone, Mr. Moore, Mr. Overton and Mr. Weissberg (remotely).

Committee members absent: None

Administration present: Mrs. Neubig, Mr. Proia, Dr. Schuch and Mrs. Smith

Board members present: Mrs. Dahlheimer, Mrs. Petrella and Mr. Roraback

Mr. Overton called the meeting to order at 5:12 PM.

Pledge of Allegiance

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Approval of Agenda

Mr. Faiella made a motion, seconded by Mr. Giammatteo, to approve the agenda, as presented.

In favor of approving the agenda, as presented: Mr. Cross, Mr. Faiella, Mr. Giammatteo, Mr. Mennone, Mr. Moore, Mr. Overton and Mr. Weissberg. Motion carried unanimously.

Public Comment

None.

Approval of Minutes - February 21, 2024

Mr. Giammatteo made a motion, seconded by Mr. Faiella, to approve the minutes from the February 21, 2024 meeting, as presented.

In favor of approving the minutes of the February 21, 2024 meeting, as presented: Mr. Cross, Mr. Faiella, Mr. Giammatteo, Mr. Mennone, Mr. Moore, Mr. Overton and Mr. Weissberg. Motion carried unanimously.

Pickett Lane Paving Phase 3

Mr. Proia reported that phase 3 included the baseball road which will be done next week. He talked to Jeff Jacobson about the drainage needed on Pickett Lane and was told that the survey work was completed and he expected the final draft next week to start looking at drainage options. Mr. Moore asked if there was money for the drainage and Mrs. Neubig explained that there is \$130,000 left in paving after the baseball road and the drainage design of just over \$16,000 as long as they transfer the whole culvert grant of \$446,000. Phase 4 will require other

funds after the \$130,000. It was agreed that the sidewalk in front of the high school is not in great shape.

Pickett Lane Paving Phase 4

Mr. Weissberg added that phase 4 will be the parking lot and possibly the sidewalk in front of the high school. He asked if the sidewalk could be done fairly easily and it was felt they needed to look at the subgrade. There is no sidewalk on the other side of the street. Mr. Weissberg felt it would look good as concrete and it was felt that concrete is preferable over asphalt. Cost-wise, concrete is very expensive and would be around \$70 or \$80 per linear foot. Since it's not a terribly long stretch, it may make sense. Mr. Proia got a price of just over \$58,000 from the paving people to excavate, dispose of existing asphalt, and install new asphalt with a 6" asphalt curb.

Mrs. Dahlheimer asked if the town-planned sidewalk will be on the other side of the road and wondered if they should wait to see if that will be sufficient. Right now, it doesn't look good or lend itself to a proper sidewalk. Mr. Weissberg agreed that it would get a lot more use on the other side of the road. Mr. Overton asked if the price included the entire circle and Mr. Proia noted that it was for the lower half and up the sides to the new saw cut.

Mr. Weissberg felt it would be the right thing to do, but the question then becomes where it gets tied in. Mr. Overton asked how many people actually use that walk and felt it was fairly low use. Mrs. Dahlheimer felt that the problem is that it's there and being used, but is a hazard. Mr. Cross felt the right thing to do would be to remove it and plant grass, with a good sidewalk on the other side of the street with proper crosswalks. Mr. Overton agreed that they could put in a concrete sidewalk that connects the existing crosswalk to the main entrance of the school.

Mrs. Dahlheimer explained that the town is putting forth a couple of ARPA projects and they need to go back to the Board of Selectmen. They are waiting for designs from the architect, but she felt that it didn't seem to be a priority. The funds have to be appropriated by December 31st but the project doesn't have to be completed until the following year.

Mr. Overton and Mr. Weissberg agreed to table this issue until next meeting and Mr. Overton and Mr. Cross will walk the area after tonight's meeting.

Mrs. Dahlheimer noted that she would rather do the back parking lot than the sidewalk out front. It was felt that the drainage in the back parking lot is not adequate and Mr. Overton agreed to walk that area as well. Mr. Proia had CT Forest and Parks come out and they don't mind any work being done, but approval will be needed from Wetlands. Mr. Overton felt that some simple drainage improvements would help protect the existing pavement and provide some under-drainage for the new parking lot. Mr. Moore felt that the drainage was more important than the pavement and Mr. Overton felt it would be nice to do it all at once.

Fieldhouse Update

Mr. Proia stated that the bathroom plans still need to be reviewed and approved by the state unless the district can fund them independent of the DECD grant which includes the lighting. He is waiting on a quote from Leading Edge, but the preliminary numbers seem high. He hasn't seen the full proposal yet, so he wasn't sure what can be cut out. To include everything would be at least \$150,000, but more if it is subject to prevailing wage.

State Grant for Fieldhouse and Lighting

Mr. Proia felt that they will get approval for the lights before any type of bathroom approval. That could delay the lighting project until after the Fall as the bathrooms need to be in before lights can be installed. Mrs. Neubig reached out to the state and they asked if the electricity and lights were at prevailing wage in the quote. It was not, so the district is getting another quote for that. She is very confident that they will approve the waiver for the lights, so they can use the proprietary equipment vendor. The stamped bathroom prints have been submitted and Mrs. Neubig has a call scheduled next week. She has told the state that they want to get on the vendor's schedule so the work can be done for the Fall. Mrs. Neubig agreed that the bathrooms are supposed to be installed before the lights and hopefully the state will move this to the top of the list.

Mr. Proia had also asked if the lights can be installed but not turned on and Mrs. Neubig did not think that was an option. Mrs. Dahlheimer stated that the legal agreement uses the word operation, not installed. Mr. Proia added that they need to get on Musco's schedule before May 1st in order to get done in August. Mrs. Neubig added that this is a reimbursable grant, so the work needs to be done before funds are released. Mr. Weissberg added that they cannot issue a purchase order until they know they will get the reimbursement. It was thought that once there is a project number, they can proceed. Mrs. Neubig stated that the state was very specific in saying that no work can be done before they review and approve the plans and they review the RFP. Mrs. Dahlheimer added that they are near the top of the list because of what they had with Musco.

Mr. Overton reviewed that everything has been submitted to the state and they just need to review it and render a decision. They will then be good to go to get on Musco's schedule. He summarized that they are comfortable that they can install them before the bathrooms as long as they are not operational. That will trigger pushing ahead on the bathrooms. Mrs. Dahlheimer asked if the state delays the bathrooms, can the district proceed with undesignated capital. Mrs. Neubig stated that the money would need to be transferred.

Mrs. Neubig felt comfortable going ahead with getting on Musco's schedule and issuing a purchase order next week after speaking to the state. She explained that once the state okays the

bathroom plans, they will then have to go out to RFP. Mr. Cross asked who was looking at the plans and felt that it was probably someone who was not qualified to look at them. Mrs. Neubig has been working with the grant coordinator and she sent it on to Chris Lipinski, a community development specialist. It was suggested to get the pricing together and send it with a copy of the purchase order to the state. Mr. Overton felt that they need to stay on top of this to stay at the top of the pile, but be careful not to be a pest.

Fire Pump Rehabilitation Update

Mr. Proia reported that Central Systems came out last week and are almost finished with the design. He has not seen an invoice as of yet. The updated flow test was completed for NFPA code and static pressure at Cuginchaug was 84, residual was 73. They are confident they can get the high school up and running off the underground vault this year. They are a little concerned that the piping reconfigurations might be a little more time consuming and Strong might need to be done next summer.

CRHS Turf

Mr. Overton had a discussion with a representative from Field Turf and they confirmed everything was on schedule. The turf is scheduled to be replaced on June 17th. Signs are already up stating that the field will be closed.

School Facility Updates

Mrs. Dahlheimer reported that the board will meet later tonight to discuss how the referendum will be structured as well as the plan amendment. The board voted to have the Building committee as their official representative. The presentation and mailer came out great. Mr. Roraback wondered if the QR code would prohibit some older people from seeing the presentation. Mrs. Neubig added that there were several ways to access the presentation, including having it mailed to someone.

Public Comment

None.

Adjournment

Mr. Mennone made a motion, seconded by Mr. Faiella, to adjourn the meeting.

In favor of adjourning the April 17, 2024 meeting: Mr. Cross, Mr. Faiella, Mr. Giammatteo, Mr. Mennone, Mr. Moore, Mr. Overton and Mr. Weissberg. Motion carried unanimously.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:47 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Debi Waz

Debi Waz
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