

**BARRE TOWN MIDDLE AND ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
FINANCE AND FACILITIES & TRANSPORTATION JOINT COMMITTEE MEETING**

Barre Town Middle and Elementary School Library
June 1, 2016 - 5:00 p.m.

MINUTES

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:

Chad Allen, Finance Committee Chair arrived 5:20 pm
Brent Tewksbury, Facilities & Transportation Committee Chair
Brenda Buzzell, Barre Town Board Chair
Kristin McCarthy, Barre Town Board Member

ADMINISTRATORS PRESENT:

Timothy P. Crowley, Principal
Jennifer W. Nye, Principal
Julia Pritchard, Director of Special Services
John Pandolfo, Superintendent
Erica Pearson, Assistant Principal departed at 6:05 p.m.
Lisa Perrault, SU Business Manager
Terrie Murray, Transportation Coordinator
Jamie Evans, SU Facility Director

COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT:

Jay Paterson, Barre Town Board Member

GUESTS PRESENT:

None

1. Call to Order

Mr. Tewksbury called the Wednesday, June 1, 2016, Joint Meeting of the Finance and Facilities & Transportation Committees meeting to order, which was held at the Barre Town Middle and Elementary School Library.

2. Summer Maintenance

New SU Facility Director Jamie Evans in attendance. Discussions centered around the summer maintenance work expectations to be completed at BTMES. It was recognized that typically more activity had occurred during winter and spring vacations than has occurred this year so the BTMES maintenance team is behind coming into the summer. The Administration voiced their support and offered to help prioritize work items if need be.

3. Parking Lot

The estimated total cost for parking lot upgrades is estimated to be in the neighborhood of \$250,000. Mr. Tewksbury did not have the actual quote from Pike Industries in hand. The Town has committed to paving and paying for a two lane roadway width from the staff and visitor entrance off of Websterville Rd through to the gated entrance to the softball field and tennis courts. The estimated remaining cost, to be paid for by BTMES, is anticipated to be in the neighborhood of \$150,000 to \$175,000. Brent will verify actual figures and report back at the June 21, 2016 Barre Town School Board Retreat. The treatment for the parking lot is anticipated to be a pavement overlay; the last time the parking lot was paved stone and fabric was installed to strengthen the subbase. Parking lot upgrades are anticipated to include an overlay of the pavement for the larger parking lot, and the parent drop-off loop.

Mr. Tewksbury will check in with Donna Kelty on the process to request voters to approve the parking lot upgrade for the November 2016 ballot. Voter turnout is anticipated to be high due to the presidential election.

Mrs. Perrault indicated that we will be soon making our last installment of \$100,000 to pay back a previous bond. She indicated that it is a good idea to maintain a manageable line of credit and questioned whether or not there were any additional large expenditures that could be bundled and voted on by the voters.

4. Traffic Circle Report

BTMES Administration received a report entitled “Review of School Traffic Flow Report” conducted by Mark Moody of Secure Your Building Consulting. One of the primary recommendations in the report was to install a secondary traffic circle off of Websterville Rd just inside the existing traffic circle that is reserved for bus traffic. The report cited safety and security concerns with the current traffic flow relating to student drop-off and pick-up.

The implementation of this recommendation would require significant improvements to Websterville Rd and the project impact area at the school, requiring multiple permits and coordination meetings. The Committee is not convinced that the recommendation is a cost effective solution to ensure the safety and security of students. The item was tabled for further discussion at a future board function.

5. Transportation Bid Discussion

Superintendent Pandolfo summarized the BTMES transportation timeline leading up to a request for an extension of the SU’s submittal of the Final Cost Study to address the consolidation of transportation and special education services in accordance with ACT 153 of 2010. The Agency of Education granted the SU a 60-day extension to submit the Final Cost Study. The analysis isn’t yet completed and the Board is reviewing bids received by a single bussing contractor to purchase BTMES busses and provide transportation services for the upcoming school year.

A discussion ensued regarding current challenges related to being able to have a sufficient number of bus drivers. Finding qualified bus drivers, or applicants with CDLs, is a state and national issue. The Committee discussed different transportation scenarios involving BTMES continuing to have its own transportation or having contracted bussing services or a hybrid of the two options (having a bussing contractor provide services on one or more bus routes).

The Committee is considering sending a survey to parents to gain their perspectives. This topic will be discussed further at the upcoming June 21, 2016 Barre Town School Board Retreat.

6. FY16 Budget

There are no anticipated issues with the current budget. The budget is on target with a projected surplus of \$77,805 representing 0.7% of the total budget of \$11,007,753. Great job by the Administration managing to their budget.

7. FY17 Budget

A couple of unanticipated impacts to the upcoming budget year include placing a child out-of-district and providing BI services for another student.

Another FY17 budget item that was discussed concerned the projected student-teacher ratios and whether or not the budget will need to support an additional teacher or two. Current staffing levels in Grades K-2 cannot yet be solidified as of yet due to a dynamic student population. This topic will stay on the agenda for the next meeting.

8. Next Meeting Date

The next meeting will be held at the June 21, 2016 Barre Town School Board Retreat to be held from 1 pm to 5 pm at the Spaulding Library.

9. Adjournment

The Committee agreed to adjourn at 6:28 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Chad A. Allen, Finance Committee Chair

DRAFT