

Mount Greylock Regional School District School Committee
Finance Subcommittee
Location: Zoom Remote Meeting
Thursday, October 22, 2020

C. Greene calls the meeting to order at 4:02pm
Present: Carrie Greene, Al Terranova, Joe Bergeron
Absent: Jamie Art

Terranova moves to approve meeting minutes from October 8, 2020, C. Greene seconds.
Greene, aye; Terranova Aye.

Review of payroll and accounts payable warrants

Terranova inquires about the revolving fund for mg athletics. It is funded by ticket sales and used to pay for uniforms and other team expenses (ex: Champion teamwear).

Review of Capital Gifts Expenditures

Building project - Ryan electric bill, credit will balance out with Ferguson, Issues with wiring the new building. C. Greene will inform J. Art that all looks ok.

Discussion of Capital Gift Fields Project related value engineering options

Traverse VE from Sept 2019 never went to full SC, only some members of the Phase II Committee. The Finance Com is tasked with reviewing the VE list this week, but the list is now over a year old and may need to be redone. The bids seen by Perkins Eastman and Traverse are coming in 10-15% lower now than they were a year ago, and it is a softer market for this kind of construction (landscape heavy, athletic fields). PE and Traverse will try to determine why bids were so variable last time around. RFP might need to be more specific.

History: The SC put out an Request for Proposals (RFP) last fall, PE/Traverse spent a lot of time on it. We will need to pay them to do this again. They will give us a proposal.

Do we need more detail on natural grass than Art Eddy's presentation from the July 2019 forum SC? Do we know what it would cost to bid turf? We would need to redo the proposal. We need to decide which we want and only do RFP for one thing. Putting two things out to bid is a waste of money, and it would raise concerns amongst bidders around what is happening. They might wonder if the decision was political or based on the quality of the proposal. The SC needs to decide what it wants, get the detailed design for that, and put that out to bid. Putting something onto the street in Jan/Feb is the best time to get responses back. A 6-8 week horizon is sufficient for them to get bid docs out. We need to make a firm decision and move forward.

John Skavlem, Lindsey VonHoltz, and Joe Bergeron recently reviewed the VE list. The recommendation is that we do more VE as we move through the process of developing bid documents rather than spending time on it now. We estimate the value of the gift at 6.8, less 3.2 million spent, with a balance of 3.6 million.

Terranova asked about the turf shock pad being on the VE list and was assured by J. Bergeron that we were not removing it.

If we estimate 2.5 million as available for the fields project, we need to know what we want and what we are willing to forgo. Terranova wants to be sure the estimate includes brockfill and 200K in contingency, with track as add/alternate. A. Terranova does not want to vote a cap on use of the endowment.

For long term maintenance/replacement, A. Terranova recommends the town approve a stabilization fund and contribute 50K/year (30 from Williamstown and 20 from Lanesborough). The District could also charge fees for use of the field that could go toward maintenance expenses. Community members could establish a Friends of the Fields Fund as a separate non-profit, using the revenue to fund capital renewal.

C. Greene raises the idea of doing a survey to determine the extent of community support/opposition. It is difficult to determine how wide-spread either position is, based on the feedback garnered to date. A. Terranova is opposed to doing a survey and argues it is the committee's job to decide. The issues are complex and there is too much information to expect people filling out the survey to be knowledgeable.

J. Bergeron did ask PE and Traverse to come up with a matrix of options for turf, infill, and mat, comparing the longevity, playability, upfront and renewal costs. He was also told we cannot use the name "brockfill", since it is proprietary, but we can establish parameters for the fill.

Terranova makes a motion to adjourn at 4:49 pm. Greene seconds. Terranova, aye; Greene, aye.

Respectfully submitted by Carrie Greene

Approved 12.03.20