

## MINUTES

Meeting of the Finance/Facilities Subcommittee

Monday, March 1, 2021

6:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

Zoom Meeting

<https://ctreg14-org.zoom.us/j/92086636013>

Meeting ID: 920 8663 6013

Phone: (646) 558-8656

### **Committee Members Present:**

Jim Crocker

George Bauer

Michael Devine

Jonathan Kapstein

### **Non-Participating Board Member:**

Carol Ann Brown

### **Also Present:**

Wayne McAllister, Acting Superintendent

Tina Tanguay, Director of Finance and Operations

Patrick DiSarro, Communications Specialist

Patricia Paige, Board Clerk

#### **I. Call to Order**

Mr. Crocker called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

#### **II. Monthly Financial Summary**

Current month revenues collected to date total \$24,528,926 or 66.51% of the budget; expenses to date are \$21,882,826 or 59.31%. Ms. Tanguay continues to review requests for purchases and approves only those that are absolutely necessary. Billing for the second installment of AgriScience was sent out earlier in the month and monies are beginning to trickle in.

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### **III. Monthly NHS Project Report**

Expenditures through February 28<sup>th</sup> total \$61,863,270 with some expected costs still associated with the project. Project Leader Scott Pellman anticipates meeting with the state at some point during the month. The central office move back to the high school is on track; targeting the end of March.

### **IV. School Lunch Update**

The lunch update took into consideration revenue and expenses through January, which depicted an overall loss of \$104,441; February numbers are still being analyzed and were not reflected in tonight's report. Though slightly lower than what was conveyed last month, the projected loss for the program is \$248,000 and represents the deficit through the end of January and part of February. That amount remains a moving target at this juncture, but is shifting in a positive direction.

The language for the Healthy Food Certification was provided to the committee for review. The program offers a small monetary reimbursement per meal and must be approved by the board annually. It will be brought before the full board for an authorized vote.

### **V. AGRISCIENCE Update**

Mr. Ed Belinsky was congratulated for his efforts to attract out-of-district students into the AgriScience program. As of Friday, 79 students confirmed acceptance into the program with a handful yet to commit. Additional applications continue to funnel in.

Mike Molzon, the district's Director of Grounds and Maintenance, provided details on the excavation for the horse barn prep site at the high school. During the high school building project, the excavator was generating a great deal of excess fill, which originated from various on-site locations. The decision was made to keep the fill on location and use it for the horse barn project. Using the fill will make the area much bigger and flatter and allow for maneuverability of horse trailers and larger vehicles.

The cost of repositioning the fill would be roughly \$23,000 and take 4-5 days. Mr. Molzon felt it would be advantageous to begin the regrading once the ground thaws to allow settling time prior to building the barn. The expenditure would be partially offset by the removal and hauling fees if the fill was to be moved off site, with the remaining costs absorbed into the building or horse barn projects. Other details of the project were discussed including trenches, data lines, water lines, electrical lines, etc.

### **VI. Corona Relief Fund**

The Region 14 School district was reimbursed 2020/2021 from a federal grant for Corona related expenses that occurred in 2019/2020. To provide transparency, the monies expended from the general budget and later reimbursed from the government were returned to the towns via a check. In a letter received from Mr. DeSorbo, Chairman of the Woodbury Board of Finance, he noted that that the district cannot refund monies to the taxpayers of the funding towns.

The board has been noticed in the past not to provide written checks back to the municipalities. There should be likeness with the two communities, however, and not one way for one town, and one way for another, which could lead to further issues.

A decision was made to have a second conversation with Mr. DeSorbo and bring the topic back to the committee in April.

**VII. Budget Season Calendar**

Mr. McAllister asked the committee members if they would entertain a budget workshop before the presentation to the towns on March 22<sup>nd</sup>; all were in agreement. A few dates were discussed; looking at Monday evening March 8<sup>th</sup> as an initial presentation. There would be time if an additional meeting is required.

**VIII. Adjournment**

A motion was made by Michael Devine and seconded by George Bauer to adjourn the meeting; all in favor; none opposed; motion carried unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 6:53 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Patricia Paige". The signature is written in a cursive style.

Patricia Paige  
Board Clerk

Recorded and filed subject to Board of Education approval by: Patricia Paige, Board Clerk