

Finance and Capital Committee Meeting
Minutes of Meeting
April 11, 2022

Those in Attendance: Mark Stebbins, Mark Nielsen, Angela Lamell, Sue Prescott (via phone), Katie Orost, Lisa Barry, Patty Hayford, Deb Clark, Dylan Laflam, Brian Pena

Minute Taker: Sue Trainor

Call to Order, Approval of Agenda and Public Comment: Stebbins called the meeting to order at 5:14 p.m. There were no changes to the agenda and the Committee approved the agenda as written. There was no public comment.

Consent Agenda Items: Minutes of the January 3, 2022 Finance and Capital Committee Meeting: Stebbins noted that the January 3, 2022 minutes had been approved at the full Board meeting in February.

Update on Assorted Projects and Issues:

Eden Construction Project: Laflam updated the Committee on the progress of the Eden renovation project. Laflam noted that the summer program at Eden was in the process of looking for an alternate site. Belvidere school was asked about as an alternate site for Eden the summer programming, and Laflam reported that while the indoor air quality testing has passed, the ceilings still needed to be repaired/replaced. The two contractors he had hoped to use did not have enough personnel to do the job, so Laflam was back to looking for a company to do this work. If Laflam could find time for his own staff to do the work he may go ahead and do the project.

Track Project: Laflam reported they were currently mapping the field. Phase 1 would be completely done by May 4th. Laflam was hoping to bring the project to the full Board on May 9th. The coach had provided Laflam with a number of ideas and had recommended U-32 as his #1 choice with CVU second as options that would work to build a program. Stormwater treatment would be required to build the track. Phase 2 would cost \$23,500 for engineering and permitting. There were capital reserve funds available to do Phase 2.

Central Office Building: Clark reported they had opened bids for Central Office. They had received only one and it was from Manosh. It didn't qualify because the building was out of the district. The RFP stated the building needed to be in-district. Laflam stated that MSI had not provided a quote as they had determined that in order to just get the infrastructure ready to start to outfit the building for the District would cost \$8.4 million. Stebbins noted that MSI would have had to fulfill the contract if the District had signed on to use the building earlier. MSI said they would revisit construction options in a year or so. Clark said the District would send out another RFP stating they would prefer the building be in one of the Supervisory Union towns. Barry asked how many offices were required. Clark stated they would like to have about 20 offices.

Clark noted that Sheriff Marcoux was offering the parish in Hyde Park as an option to rent. It was 4,200 square feet which was more than Central Office.

Belvidere Central School: Laflam stated they were just starting the conversation about what to do with this building. Lamoille Health was interested in taking some of that space and having a community health option similar to what was being done in Johnson. Clark stated the Pre-K numbers were looking strong, with nine students definitely interested in attending. Mascolino had

researched birth records in Waterville and Belvidere. There were 17 potential children who could participate in Pre-K. Mascolino had done a mailing to those families to determine their interest. The Pre-K room had a separate entrance which would allow for a community health option.

Johnson Elementary School Boiler: Laflam reported that the boiler project would be starting next week. The plan was to minimize the interruptions. There were 12 sections to dismantle and a robot would be used to remove the 800-pound sections. Removing the old boiler and bringing in the new boiler sections would take a week. The following week would be the assembly. Laflam stated it should be done on schedule.

Lamoille Union/GMTCC Parking Lots: Laflam stated that potholes were developing. This project previously had a \$500,000 price tag. Now the cost was estimated to be \$1.2 million. This item should be discussed during this year's budget cycle.

Waterville Generator: Laflam informed the Committee that the town had reached out to the District last fall about an opportunity they had to purchase a USDA generator. The town would own the generator and it would sit on the school site. The school would be the Red Cross station. The District would offer the town a proposal in which the District would have use of the generator, maintain it and pay for fuel costs. It would ultimately save the District a significant amount of money. It would be another school that they wouldn't have to worry about a power outage.

Strategic Use of Pre-Paid to Manage Supply Chain Challenges: Coming out of the current year, the high school and middle school had a surplus of \$340,000. With the lead times currently required to purchase items, Clark thought it might be good to place orders and pre-pay them with general fund money. The expense would then go into the subsequent year but it would automatically restrict those funds for the FY24 process. Pena noted there was a lead time from 90 days to 6 months for some of his orders. Clark stated their vendors were trustworthy and pre-paying them did not concern her.

Summer: Clark stated the summer programs would be ESSER-funded and quite robust.

Other Business: Laflam stated he had met with Megan Hartigan. They were working on building a new outdoor classroom and garden spot across from the high school. Students on campus and at GMTCC would learn about biology, sustainability, and gardening. Laflam also responded to a question by stating that he was short three custodians on campus, and short one custodian at Johnson. Waterville and Eden were both missing a ½ time position.

Adjourn: Orost made a motion, seconded by Lamell, to adjourn the meeting at 5:45 p.m.