

BARRE UNIFIED UNION SCHOOL DISTRICT
FACILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE MEETING
Spaulding High School Library and Via Video Conference – Google Meet
September 12, 2022 - 6:00 p.m.

MINUTES

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:

Giuliano Cecchinelli, II, Chair – (BC)
Terry Reil, Vice Chair - (BT)
Mary Jane Ainsworth (BT Community Member)
Tim Boltin - (BC)
Andrew McMichael (BC Community Member)

COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT:

Vacant Position

OTHER BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

Nancy Leclerc
Sonya Spaulding

ADMINISTRATORS PRESENT:

Chris Hennessey, Superintendent
Luke Aither, SHS Co-Principal
Jamie Evans, Facilities Director

GUESTS PRESENT:

Mike Davey (EEI) Josh Howard

1. Call to Order

The Chair, Mr. Cecchinelli, called the Monday, September 12, 2022 BUUSD Facilities and Transportation Committee meeting to order at 6:01 p.m., which was held in the Spaulding High School Library and via video conference.

2. Additions and/or Deletions to the Agenda

Add 5.1 SHS Athletic Fields and Auditorium Projects

3. Public Comment

None.

4. Approval of Minutes

4.1 Approval of Minutes – July 25, 2022 BUUSD Facilities and Transportation Committee Meeting

On a motion by Mr. Reil, seconded by Mrs. Ainsworth, the Committee unanimously voted to approve the Minutes of the July 25, 2022 and August 1, 2022 BUUSD Facilities and Transportation Committee meetings.

4.2 Approval of Minutes – August 1, 2022 BUUSD Facilities and Transportation Committee Meeting

Approved under Agenda Item 4.1.

5. New Business

5.1 SHS Athletic Fields and Auditorium Projects

Mr. Cecchinelli would like to hold brief discussion on these projects, to gather some additional information so they can be added to a future Agenda should the Committee wish to move forward. Mr. Aither spoke with Derek Cipriano, SHS Athletic and Activities Director and has asked that he be prepared to speak at the October meeting. Mr. Cipriano has been performing an ‘audit’ of athletic facility’s needs. Regarding Auditorium renovations, Mr. Evans advised that a volunteer, Patricia Meriam conducted a lengthy study (approximately 8 years ago) and prepared a report including various budget numbers. Given the length of time since the study, it is anticipated that budget numbers will need to be revised. Mr. Aither advised that a few small auditorium updates have been completed but there is still much to do. Code related to seating has changed and it is anticipated that approximately 20% of seating will be lost using today’s standards (Code). Mr. Cecchinelli would also like the Committee to discuss expectations, anticipating that some smaller items can be selected to get things moving forward. Mr. Cecchinelli advised that it has been approximately 10 years since athletic field upgrades were discussed and other than new lighting, there has been no movement, and he believes this is unacceptable. Mr. Evans noted that funding will be a large topic of discussion (including donations). Mr. Reil suggested that the Storm Water Mitigation project also be incorporated into athletic field renovation discussions, as there is most likely an impact to the fields. Mr. Aither advised that he did ask Mr. Cipriano to provide a list of quick/easy updates, as well as more visionary projects.

Mr. Evans advised that he has conceptual drawings for the athletic fields as well as the report from Patricia Meriam and he can distribute copies of these prior to the next meeting. Mrs. Ainsworth suggested that Mr. Cipriano give a presentation to the Board. The Committee agreed to add these projects to the October Agenda.

6. Old Business

6.1 HVAC Project Update

A letter to Jamie Evans from Energy Efficient Investments, Inc., dated 09/08/22 was distributed. Mike Davey addressed the Committee and provided an update on the HVAC Project. EEI has selected new air handling units (currently being sized by the electrical and mechanical engineers), and the mechanical engineer should have duct work drawings completed by the middle of September. It is anticipated that by the end of September, a complete package (mechanical, structural and electrical prints) will be available for the Committee's review. At that point, EEI can send the package to the AOE for their review. After AOE review, the various components can be bid out to local contractors. Pricing will be finalized and hopefully, a contract can be approved by the Board before the end of the year. If all goes according to this plan, construction can begin before the end of 2022. In addition to the AOE, all information will be sent to the Vermont State Fire Marshall's Office (including sprinkler drawings, which have been updated to reflect new Code).

Mr. Davey provided an overview of the lighting upgrades proposed in the distributed letter. Current lighting needs to be taken down to install duct work, so that would be a good time to replace lighting. Mr. Davey advised that installation of LED lighting is proposed under a lease option. Lighting is motion activated and dimmable. Savings on electric usage will cover the cost for the lighting upgrade. Mr. Davey has included two lighting options (the Career Center portion of the building and the remaining portion of SHS). If purchased through a lease option (for 15 years) there should be little or no budgetary impact. Other options include making a down payment and financing over fewer years, or financing for fewer years without a down payment (which would result in some budget impact). Mr. Davey can provide detailed financial information at Thursday's Finance Committee meeting. Some districts opt not to fund the entire amount and lease for a shorter term. Mr. Davey advised that Efficiency Vermont is offering a \$100,000 rebate and is pushing to have the project started by the end of 2022 and completed by the end of 2023. Board approval in October is optimal to assure the project can get started before the end of the year. Mr. Davey advised that work would most likely be started in areas that do not require duct work and Mr. Davey believes it would be unlikely that Efficiency Vermont would penalize the District if completion ran a little late due to the other work being performed. Mr. Davey advised regarding how proposed lighting savings was calculated. Mr. Evans recommends that lighting upgrades be completed throughout the entire building (both of the proposed projects). Brief discussion was held regarding discussion that will need to be held by the Finance Committee. Mr. Davey advised that the projected lifespan of LED lights in classrooms is approximately 20 years. Brief discussion was held regarding the need for the Finance Committee to also review these projects. Mrs. Perreault is aware of the project proposal and can provide additional information (related to financing) at the Finance Committee meeting. Brief discussion was held regarding the timing of Facilities and Finance Committee meetings, and it was suggested that perhaps monthly Finance meetings be held prior to Facilities Committee meetings.

On a motion by Mr. Reil, seconded by Mrs. Ainsworth, the Committee unanimously voted to recommend that the Board review for consideration, the lighting proposal submitted by EEI.

6.2 Summer Projects Update

Mr. Evans provided a recap of summer work/projects. In addition to routine cleaning and maintenance the following projects were completed or are near completion;

SHS: Replacement of flooring in 6 classrooms and some hallways, renovation to two 'single user' restrooms, creation of one single user ADA compliant restroom (near the lobby area), and replacement of the 'far exterior doors' to the main entrance.

BCEMS: Replacement of flooring in 4 classrooms, boiler room work (replacement of piping and victallic fittings), and renovation of a couple of restrooms.

BTMES: Replacement of flooring in approximately 12 classrooms, and completion of a large amount of roofing. All roofing is now completed and is covered by a 20 year warranty.

Central Office: Paved the parking lot.

SEA: No major projects were necessary.

It was noted that BCEMS roofing could not be performed due to unavailability of supplies. It is anticipated that BCEMS roofing work will be completed next year.

7. Other Business

It was suggested that Maintenance personnel and Administrators create a 'visionary' list of projects they would like to see in the future. Changes/improvements may tie to the Strategic Plan, e.g. Student Engagement - more outdoor classroom areas.

Mr. Cecchinelli suggested that perhaps this sort of list could be worked on using a rotation similar to the rotation previously used for safety grant monies. Mr. Hennessey will send a 'kick-off' email to Administrators regarding the creation of a 'Visionary List'.

Brief discussion was held regarding transportation for SHS students and included confirmation that there is not enough student interest and that there is a shortage of buses and bus drivers. SHS will be conducting research regarding reasons for absenteeism and if the reasons are transportation related, something of a smaller scale will be considered.

Brief discussion was held regarding the possibility of swapping the order of Committee meetings (Finance prior to Facilities each month). Discussion of this matter may be addressed with the Board.

Brief discussion was held regarding the need for any policies or procedures (a check list of sorts) that might be necessary relating to outside contractors working in the District.

8. Items to be Placed on Future Agendas

October:

- SHS Athletic Fields and Auditorium Upgrades – Preliminary Discussion - (including Storm Water Mitigation)
- Budget Priorities
- HVAC Update

Add to Parking Lot:

- Visionary Needs and Wish Lists by Building – Requested by TR – Added September 2022
- Procedures/Check List for use of Contractors – Requested by TR – Added September 2022

Remove from Parking Lot:

- Bus Survey for SHS Families – not enough interest from families
- Athletic Entrance at SHS (this will be incorporated with Athletic Field Upgrades)

9. Next Meeting Date

Due to the Columbus Day holiday, the Committee agreed to cancel the Monday 10/10/22 meeting.

The next meeting is Tuesday, October 11, 2022 at 6:00 p.m., at the Spaulding High School Library and via video conference.

10. Adjournment

On a motion by Mr. Reil, seconded by Mr. Boltin, the Committee unanimously voted to adjourn at 7:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Andrea Poulin