



STATE OF CONNECTICUT – COUNTY OF TOLLAND
INCORPORATED 1786

TOWN OF ELLINGTON

MICHAEL J. PURCARO
Chairman

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DAVID J. OLENDER
Vice Chairmen

BOARD OF FINANCE

PEGGY A. BUSSE
JAMES F. FAY
DOUGLAS B. HARDING
BARRY C. PINTO

Special Meeting November 16, 2022

MINUTES

Members Present: Michael Purcaro -Chair, Peggy Busse via zoom, James Fay, Douglas Harding, Barry Pinto.

Others Present: Liz Nord – Board of Education Treasurer, Brian Greenleaf – Director of Finance/Operations, Dr. Scott Nicol – Ellington Public Schools Superintendent, Jennifer Dzen – Board of Education Chair, Jennifer Mullin - Board of Education Secretary/Board of Selectman Liaison, Kerry Socha – Ellington Middle School Liaison, Gary Blanchette – Permanent Building Committee Liaison, Tom Palshaw – Resident, David Stavens – Deputy First Selectman via zoom, Felicia LaPlante- Assistant Finance Officer/Deputy Treasurer via zoom.

Call to order

Chairman Michael Purcaro called the meeting to order at 5:30 PM.

Pledge of Allegiance

Citizen's Forum

No one came forward.

New Business

- a. To consider and act on a resolution recommending an appropriation and borrowing authorization for costs related to the installation, replacement and upgrading of heating, ventilation and air conditioning systems (HVAC) at Ellington High School, Ellington Middle School and Center Elementary School.

Mrs. Dzen thanked the Board for taking the time to discuss this matter. Mr. Greenleaf and Mrs. LaPlante collaborated to create a presentation on the HVAC Grant Application which Mr. Greenleaf presented to the Board. He stated the grant program is a very competitive state program with a quick timeline. The deadline is set for December 1st. Our reimbursement rate if selected would be 55% even. Our school's HVAC systems are coming up on 20-25 years old which is typically the end of their cycle and repair costs increase.

Mr. Greenleaf stated there are many benefits to replacing the systems. Including higher filtration, and dehumidification. He stated they have been reviewing potential incentives across all the projects for both revenue and financing options. It's not yet clear what projects with quality for incentives, they will continue to work through this.

Mr. Purcaro thanked Mr. Greenleaf for completing this in a compressed time frame. He stated there are programs out there we can apply for, helping to use as little tax dollars as possible. We won't know the final costs, but they want to continue to move the process forward. Mr. Greenleaf stated the state grant is the most lucrative incentive out there and the big key to this project. He proposed we develop a systematic improvement/replacement of building systems over a 25-year cycle. This will help to even out the budgetary impact of replacements throughout the years.

Dr. Nicol stated it's a great opportunity to take advantage of this grant as we could receive 55% reimbursement. There is no way of knowing if this opportunity will come up again. He stated these are things we need for the students at Ellington Public Schools. With these upgrades, all five of our schools will have upgraded airflow.

Mrs. Dzen stated this is a necessity. We will be needing to do this within the next 5-7 years and if we can jump on the opportunity to gain back some of our taxpayer money now then it makes sense to do so.

MOVED (HARDING) SECONDED (FAY) PASSED [AYE: HARDING/FAY/BUSSE; NAY: PINTO] TO ADOPT THE FOLLOWING RESOLUTION:

RESOLVED, THAT THE BOARD OF FINANCE RECOMMENDS THAT THE TOWN OF ELLINGTON APPROPRIATE \$6,736,250 FOR COSTS RELATED TO THE INSTALLATION, REPLACEMENT AND UPGRADING OF HEATING, VENTILATION AND AIR CONDITIONING SYSTEMS (HVAC) AT ELLINGTON HIGH SCHOOL, ELLINGTON MIDDLE SCHOOL AND CENTER ELEMENTARY SCHOOL (THE "PROJECT"). THE PROJECT IS CONTEMPLATED TO CONSIST OF NEW BOILERS, DEDICATED OUTDOOR SYSTEMS AND BUILDING MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS, AND THE REPAIR AND REPLACEMENT OF SPECIFIED ROOFING SECTIONS. THE APPROPRIATION MAY BE SPENT FOR DESIGN, ACQUISITION, INSTALLATION, SITE IMPROVEMENTS, REMOVAL OF MATERIALS AND DISCARDED EQUIPMENT, PERMITTING AND ENVIRONMENTAL COSTS, EQUIPMENT, MATERIALS, SITE IMPROVEMENTS, SWITCHES, WIRING, PIPES, SENSORS, THERMOSTATS AND OTHER RELATED EQUIPMENT, ARCHITECTURAL, ENGINEERING AND OTHER CONSULTANT FEES, LEGAL FEES, NET INTEREST ON BORROWINGS AND OTHER FINANCING COSTS, AND OTHER EXPENSES RELATED TO THE PROJECT AND ITS FINANCING, INCLUDING THE PREPARATION OF SCHEMATIC DRAWINGS AND OUTLINE SPECIFICATIONS FOR THE PROJECT. THE PERMANENT BUILDING COMMITTEE, AS ESTABLISHED PURSUANT TO

SECTION 913 OF THE TOWN CHARTER, IS ESTABLISHED AS THE BUILDING COMMITTEE WITH REGARDS TO THE PROJECT AND IS AUTHORIZED TO DETERMINE THE SCOPE AND PARTICULARS OF THE PROJECT, AND MAY REDUCE OR MODIFY THE SCOPE OF THE PROJECT, AND THE ENTIRE APPROPRIATION MAY BE SPENT ON THE PROJECT AS SO REDUCED OR MODIFIED.

FURTHER RESOLVED, THAT THE BOARD OF FINANCE RECOMMENDS THAT THE TOWN AUTHORIZE THE ISSUE OF \$6,736,250 BONDS OR NOTES AND TEMPORARY NOTES TO FINANCE THE APPROPRIATION, THE AMOUNT OF BONDS OR NOTES AUTHORIZED TO BE REDUCED BY THE AMOUNT OF GRANTS RECEIVED FOR THE PROJECT AND NOT SEPARATELY APPROPRIATED TO PAY ADDITIONAL COSTS OF THE PROJECT

Adjournment

MOVED (HARDING) SECONDED (FAY) AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY TO ADJOURN THE MEETING AT 6:48 PM.

Respectfully submitted:

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Elizabeth Phelps".

Elizabeth Phelps, Recording Secretary