

Coventry Board of Education
Coventry, Connecticut

Fiscal Committee Meeting

Approved Minutes of Thursday, October 12, 2023
Administration Building Conference Room

Committee Members Present:

Mary Kortmann, Fiscal Chairperson
Peter DePaola
Emma Eaton

Also Present:

Jennifer Beausoleil, Board Chair and Ex-Officio

Administrators Present:

Dr. David J. Petrone, Superintendent of Schools
Robert Carroll, Director of Finance of Operations
William Trudelle, Director of Physical Plants and Facilities

Audience: Eugene Marchand, Board member; Courtney Rossignol, Board member (arrived 6:15 p.m.); and Christina Williams, Board member (arrived 6:32 p.m.).

I. Call to Order

M. Kortmann called the meeting to order at 6:01 p.m.

II. VOTE: Approve Fiscal Minutes of September 14, 2023

MOTION: To approve Fiscal Minutes of September 14, 2023

By: E. Eaton

Seconded: P. DePaola

Result: Motion carries unanimously

III. VOTE: Approve Joint BOE Fiscal/Town Finance Minutes of September 18, 2023

MOTION: To approve the minutes of the Joint BOE Fiscal/Town Finance Minutes of September 18, 2023

By: E. Eaton

Seconded: P. DePaola

Result: Motion carries unanimously

IV. Information: Financial Reports for September 30, 2023

IV.A. Management Report

Mr. Carroll reviewed the report and various changes since August. He noted that the initial cost to the district for the bus drivers' strike was \$32,000 and there has been an additional \$8,000 since then.

M. Kortmann talked about the utilities spreadsheet and asked about the solar production. Mr. Carroll said GHR ran totally off solar during the summer.

M. Kortmann turned to the certified and non-certified salaries lines. Mr. Carroll said there have been new hires in both certified salaries and non-certified, which would account for the change.

IV.B. Encumbrance Reports

Mr. Carroll noted that there was one new grant added - the Open Choice Academic and Social Support Grant.

IV.C. Capital and Special Funds

Mr. Carroll reviewed purchases that have been made out of the capital funds.

The Committee reviewed the tuition account.

M. Kortmann asked that the EV chargers' income be tracked as a special fund. The Committee agreed.

Mr. Carroll continued and reviewed changes to the Tuition Fund.

IV.D. Special Education Tuition/Excess Cost

M. Kortmann noted that the numbers are basically the same as the previous month. The Committee discussed the 18-22 year old program and funding students who are staying due to the new extended age limit.

IV.E. Preschool Fund

Mr. Carroll said the preschool is doing well. He noted the cost of the new shed was applied to this fund.

IV.F. Food Service

Mr. Carroll said Food Services runs a month behind, so there isn't much to report at this time.

V. Information: HVAC Grant Round 2

Dr. Petrone reviewed the process for Round 2 of the HVAC Grant. He said there are funds that need to be secured by the Board to apply for the grant. He asked if Fiscal wanted to move this forward to the full Board.

The Committee discussed the details.

M. Kortmann was okay with securing \$100,000 of the 2% account. P. DePaola said he would like to pass and wait for the 3rd Round. E. Eaton said she is concerned with depleting the 2% account and she is also concerned with the age of the equipment and waiting, not doing anything. J. Beausoleil said she is nervous about bringing the 2% down that low. The Committee continued the discussion.

M. Kortmann said she would like to bring funding for at least one unit of \$150,000 to the full Board, which would be approximately \$60,000 out of the 2% non-lapsing account. P. DePaola said he would still like to hold, but is not against bringing it to the full Board for discussion. E. Eaton said she is better with \$60,000 from 2% non-lapsing account than \$100,000.

M. Kortmann reiterated she would like to move this to the full Board for more input. P. DePaola and E. Eaton agreed.

VI. Information: Capital Improvement Plan FY2025 - FY2029

M. Kortmann asked if there has been any input from the Town on how the CIP will pan out. Dr. Petrone reviewed the discussions that have taken place.

Dr. Petrone offered to meet with the new Town Manager and staff to see if more information could be gleaned.

The Committee reviewed the list as it was written and the priorities of items - there is more work to be done.

VII. Information: Grant Awards

This item was here for information purposes only.

VIII. Information: Para-Educator Deductible Assistance Program

This item was here for information purposes only.

IX. Adjournment

MOTION: To Adjourn the Fiscal Meeting at 6:58 p.m.

By: P. DePaola

Seconded: E. Eaton

Result: Motion carries unanimously

Respectfully submitted,

Kimberlee Arey Delorme
Board Clerk

Approved: October 26, 2023