Monadnock Regional School District Finance/Facilities Committee Meeting Minutes November 14, 2023 SAU Conference Room, Swanzey, NH

Board Members Present: Cheryl McDaniel-Thomas, Scott Peters and Betty Tatro

Absent: Stephanie Lawlor

Administration Present: J. Morin, Business Administrator

1. **Public Comments:** There were no public comments.

2. Approval of the October 10, 2023 Facilities/Finance Meeting Minutes: MOTION: S.Peters MOVED to approve the October 10, 2023 Fin/Fac.Meeting Minutes as presented. SECOND: C. McDaniel-Thomas. VOTE: C. McDaniel-Thomasyes, B. Tatro-yes and S. Peters-abstain. Motion passes.

3. **Discussion on CIP:** It was explained that the administration at this time is not recommending any additional warrant articles. The Stage Lighting was mentioned but this may be something the Board could ask the Trustees of the Trust Fund for. The roof over the girls and boys locker rooms in the MRMHS is in need of repair. It was suggested to do one locker room roof one year and the other locker room roof the next year. J. Morin explained the quote for the locker room roofs is \$166,833.00. She also explained that there was a balance of \$70,000.00 remaining from the repairs to the MRMHS roof which was completed in the summer with a warrant article that had passed in March. She would suggest the \$70,000.00 and funds from the Expendable Trust to complete the Girl's Locker Room roof which is the worst of the two locker room roofs. There is no impact to the taxes. J. Morin explained that the Expendable Trust which can be used to repair the roof has a balance of about \$104,000.00. The Board is the agent of the Expendable Trust. S. Peters is concerned with having this conversation with the Budget Committee on Saturday. He might suggest having this discussion at the next Board Meeting. J. Morin said to possibly mention that it is in the works, a small project, not a warrant article and it will not impact taxes. Maybe discuss at the Joint Meeting on Saturday. The committee began to dig into the CIP. Start to replace the roof at the MRMHS in 2033 and it is predicted to cost 6 million. J. Morin felt that was high and

commented that the biggest part of the roof was done over this past summer. S. Peters asked what the 10 year and the 20-year plan is to tell the Board. What is the right timing for the SAU? It was mentioned that there are 2 to 3 years of no repairs. J. Morin suggested a google satellite and the infrared study to get some good information on the roofs. S. Peters said so no warrant articles this year. He also asked when the Board should plan for projects for the elementary schools as far as scheduling on the CIP J.Morin will ask K. Barker.

- 4. Discussion on the 2024/25 Budget: S. Peters commented that the Board has always taken the recommendation of the administration for the proposed budget. J. Morin explained that last year it was the bond interest payment and the roof. This year is the bond interest and principle. The health insurance and the ESSER Grant positions that are moving forward in the budget and impact the budget. S. Peters commented that the Board could discuss what can be decreased. S. Peters would like to put the Board to task and have them come up with questions for the administration to review. We need to give the administration time for the questions. J. Morin commented on the list of items the Board came up with for the new budget. She said the mentors are being paid through grants, the unaffiliated benefits are corrected if L. Walker sees an inequity. The administration has not heard back from the committee regarding the stipends. S.Peters asked about State equity. J. Morin explained and said it should be a wash. The committee will review the budget book and email any questions to J. Morin.
- **5. Meeting Time Change:** The committee will now hold their meeting at 6:00 PM instead of 7:00 PM. *S. Peters leaves the meeting.*
- Report to the committee. J. Morin explained that the District is more in the red than last month. She is hoping the number will go down but it will not go down a lot. J. Morin explained in the 2023/24 budget which was reduced by the Budget Committee so in turn the administration made cuts in the OOD Account. She explained we do not always spend all of the purchase orders in Special Ed. so at the end of the year there may be savings. There are also items that are not encumbered. Cutler is low but she may be able to make transfers from other schools. MTC may also need to have budget transfers from other schools. In January it will be half way through the year and she will use the funds

for the first half of the year vacancies; those funds should add about \$100,000 to the budget. It was explained that the Budget Committee sets the budget and the default budget. J. Morin is not sure if the School Board would like to do any expendable trust warrant articles. J.Morin reviewed the Expendable Trust Funds and the balances. She is not sure if this is the year to add to these trusts. J. Morin did mention that she has heard grant funding may be available for the tennis courts.

- J. Morin reported that they have hired a night custodian for Troy School. This position has been vacant for 2 years.
- 7. **Public Comments:** There are no public comments.
- **8. Adjourn: MOTION:** C. McDaniel-Thomas **MOVED** to adjourn the meeting at 8:02 PM. **SECOND:** B. Tatro **VOTE:** Unanimous for those present. **Motion passes.**

Respectfully submitted,

Laura L. Aivaliotis
Recording Secretary