

**Monadnock Regional School District
Finance/Facilities Committee Meeting Minutes
January 3, 2023
MRMHS Library/via Zoom, Swanzey, NH**

Board Members Present: Colleen Toomey, Scott Peters and Betty Tatro **Absent:** Jennifer Strimbeck

Administration Present: J. Morin, Business Administrator and T. Breen, Dir. of Building and Grounds.

Also Present: K. Barker, Architect via Zoom and members from Hutter Construction.

1. **Public Comments:** There were no public comments.
2. **Elementary School Renovation Project-K. Barker:** K. Barker explained to the committee that he has been working on the plan for the elementary schools. He has been in contact with Hutter Construction every day. It has been difficult to come up with a number for the project due to the cost of materials going up. Information on the increase in cost over the past few years was provided to the committee from K. Barker and Hutter Construction. The cost of construction has skyrocketed over the past 12 months. He is not sure how the taxpayers will react to the change in cost but with no change in the scope. The increase in construction went up 25% and now is at 18%. If the cost of inflation continues to increase will the project have to decrease. S. Peters commented that we will set the article with a fixed amount if the costs continue to increase the Board will decide what steps or what comes out of the scope. We have \$19,385,000.00 from the State. The committee discussed getting additional grants for the project. K. Barker explained that the District will receive State Aid after all of the grants. If there are too many the end result may be less for the project. Getting too many grants will make us lose the funds from the State. K. Barker would suggest we call Amy Clark with these kinds of questions. K. Barker explained he as well as Hutter need to know the sequence of events. K. Barker suggested MTC addition first. We will need to know by July in order to schedule the design work. We need to know what to tackle first, what about the Troy students? K. Barker said that the GMP will be set but not now. It will be 6-8 months to complete the drawings. We will be able to do some work prior to the Fall. K. Barker mentioned the costs for the renovations to each school. He feels that the cost including the soft costs

would be about \$42,000,000.00. There are Homeland Security, ADA and Health and Safety code issues that have to be done. J. Morin mentioned that the Budget Committee would recommend to the Board to go with the Level Debt when purchasing the bond. The amount each year would be about 1.7 million close to the amount in recent years for projects throughout the District. K. Barker and Hutter Construction would recommend the \$42,000,000.00 as a number for the Elementary School Renovation Project. S. Peters would like to look at alternative ways to offset the amount. K. Barker commented that whatever number the Board agrees on we will make it work. He also mentioned that other Districts have not found grants to help with the amount. He would not count on it. The committee would like to go with a number of \$41,000,000.00. K. Barker said that \$41,000,000.00 is a lot of money and we can provide a good project. **MOTION:** S.Peters **MOVED** to recommend to the full Board the Elementary School Renovation Project Warrant Article in the amount of \$41,000,000.00. **SECOND:** C. Toomey. **VOTE:** Unanimous for those present. **Motion passes.** K. Barker mentioned it will make their job harder but they will be transparent.

3. 700-800 Wings: K.Barker explained that the 700 and 800 wings are fully scoped out, the final drawings for the mechanical and engineering are being done and then out to bid. There will be a walk through, pre-bid and the target date is the end of January or beginning of February.

4. Public Comments: There are no public comments.

5. Adjourn: **MOTION:** S.Peters **MOVED** to adjourn the meeting at 6:50 PM. **SECOND:** C.Toomey **VOTE:** Unanimous for those present. **Motion passes.**

Respectfully submitted,

Laura L. Aivaliotis

MRSD Recording Secretary