

The Facilities Subcommittee met on Thursday, January 18, 2024, in the Virtual Zoom Meeting. Present were Mike Judge, Jennifer Cullum, Sara Ahern, Mike Lambros, Kevin Maxim, Chris Dwelley, Derek Osterman, and Jen Kruczek.

Mr. Judge called the meeting to order at 12:02PM.

### **Review Final Facilities Report**

- Dr. Ahern stated in this first meeting, the Committee will review the consolidated facilities report and talk about the next steps.
- Everyone introduced themselves.
- Dr. Ahern stated Mr. Osterman is working on a short narrative that can be shared with stakeholders. He will discuss the big picture of the facilities presentation he gave to the School Committee this summer.
- Mr. Osterman discussed the consolidated report. The focus was on the schools and Facilities building. He looked at how classrooms were being used, district enrollment, what the facilities needs were, the priorities, and the funding requirements. There is more than \$72 million in items that are a Priority 1. For Priority 2 items (3-5 years), there are \$24.8 million in projects and for Priority 3 (over 5 years), there are \$34.8 million in projects. He broke down the priority projects by school. In looking at the space needs and what is impacting those needs, it came down to specialized programs.
- Mr. Osterman discussed how to read the capital improvement and space needs summary by school reports.
- Mr. Osterman discuss his preliminary conclusions. Barnstable has enough general classrooms to meet the growth projections. The modular classrooms are addressing the most urgent needs. In the elementary schools, enrichment spaces do not exist. The expanding special programs, like Special Education, will require more space.
- Mr. Osterman stated this group is here to discuss how to handle all these needs.
- Dr. Ahern stated this Subcommittee will prioritize projects, put projects into the Capital Improvement Projects process, and discuss how operating fit into this. The Committee will look at funding and positions needed to meet the needs of the district.
- Ms. Cullum asked if recommendations from principals were built into the Priority 1s. Mr. Lambros stated yes. There was a Workshop with all the principals to go over this report.
- Ms. Cullum stated from an implementation standpoint, there is an unending need for improvements and maintenance. She recommended using the Town's architects.
- Mr. Judge stated when he first started on the School Community, the maintenance was \$.65 per square foot and it should have been \$1.00.
- Mr. Lambros stated the district is currently at \$.69 per square foot and the average in the state is \$1.61. It should be \$14 million and the district is nowhere near that.
- Ms. Cullum is concerned that Facilities is understaffed to manage and maintain the buildings.
- Dr. Ahern stated there are challenges filling vacancies. The district presented the Capital Improvement Projects to the Comprehensive Financial Advisory Committee and she felt there was a great response from them on the projects. When comparing staff with what the Town's structures and grounds have, an architect and project manager would be good to bring into School Facilities.
- Mr. Maxim stated the Town has multiple carpenters, foreman, electrician, numerous grounds people, and a number of summer workers.
- Ms. Cullum asked if Facilities could share positions with the Town or hire their own. Mr. Lambros stated Facilities has used the Town's architects for large scale projects.
- Mr. Judge asked for maintenance and day to day work, could Facilities integrate with the Town. Mr. Lambros stated they tried to have structures and grounds help with the fields, but they ran into a union issue.
- Mr. Maxim stated occasionally Facilities reaches out for expertise on the Town side. They are different local unions and pay rates. The Town does not have the bandwidth to lend people anymore. There is a lack of skilled labor.
- Mr. Judge asked how does the district attack this.
- Mr. Maxim stated Facilities has put out bids for on call services for positions not being filled. The Committee discussed the cost of these contractors.

### **Next Steps**

- Mr. Osterman stated the district needs labor to set the Facilities group up. He suggested setting up monthly meetings and setting goals.

**Future Meeting Dates**

- Dr. Ahern stated the next meeting will be on Zoom on February 29 at 8:00AM.

Motion by Dr. Ahern, seconded by Mr. Lambros, and the Committee voted, unanimously, to adjourn the meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 1:02PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jen Kruczek  
Executive Assistant