

WEBSTER PUBLIC SCHOOLS
SCHOOL BUILDING COMMITTEE TUESDAY, 5:00 PM DECEMBER 17, 2024

Present: Ted Avlas – *Vice Chairman Member - Voting Member*
Tim Bell - *Town Accountant - Voting Member*
Sheila Blythe – *School Committee - Voting Member*
Earl Gabor - *Selectmen Delegate - Voting Member*
Dave Hurton - *Chairman - Voting Member*
Gina Nieves - *Voting Member*
Lisa Kontoes - *Business Manager*
Monique Pierangeli - *Superintendent*
Victor Waskiewicz- *Voting Member*
Al Young - *Voting Member*

Absent: Tony Paranto - *Voting Member*

Attendees: Mike Carroll-Colliers

I. Call to Order

Mr. Hurton called the meeting to order at 5:00pm via Zoom in accordance with Governor Baker's Order Suspending Certain Provisions of the Open Meeting Law, G.L. S30A, S20, now extended through March, 2025.

II. MSBA PFA Amendment

At the February 26, 2024 SBC meeting, three options were discussed for the bid savings. Mr. Carroll brought up the following information from those minutes:

Mr. Carroll explained to the committee that between the initial budget and the BID day amount of \$76,878,000, we have an approximate savings of 1.3 million. As previously discussed at the last SBC meeting, districts normally have three options when they come under budget. The district can keep the 1.3 million savings as town money with the potential of an increased contingency. The second option would be to take the town portion and keep it in contingency and let the MSBA keep their portion. The last option is to reduce the overall project budget by the approximate 1.3 million. Mr. Carroll recommended keeping the 1.3 million in the budget for flexibility since the committee had previously decided not to take the alternates for the field project. He also recommended potentially moving the extra money into the modular costs.

At the time, the Committee had voted to keep all of the bid savings within the project. On Thursday, December 12, 2024, Mrs. Kontoes, Superintendent Pierangeli and Mr. Carroll met with the MSBA team and they requested that they take back their portion of the bid savings. Discussions took place in regards to the four additional funding sources (the one million feasibility study funds, the FY23 surplus funds, the Esser

Grant funds, and the remaining Park Avenue project funds) and the MSBA has agreed to address those upon the returned bid savings portion. The MSBA is requesting for the Committee to rescind the February 26, 2024 vote and take a new vote to approve the amended MSBA PFA included in the packet presented to the Committee. The MSBA would have approximately \$900k returned to them and the district would retain a balance of approximately \$411k. The total project funding agreement would be reduced by \$896,720 to reflect this adjustment. This is all with the understanding that there will be a future discussion and vote on the other outstanding funding. Mr. Carroll explained that if the Committee votes to approve the amended MSBA PFA, then the revised budget would be presented at the next meeting. The potential adjustments with the outstanding funding sources, such as the Esser funding and FY23 funds, will show an increase in the budget, but also reflected equally in the expenditures, since it is money that has already been spent. It would just be an adjustment to the contingency.

Mr. Hurton entertained a motion to rescind the February 26, 2024 vote in which the SBC voted to leave the entire bid savings and instead return the MSBA portion of \$896,720, keeping the \$411,180 district share for a new project budget total of \$100,520,324.

Motion: Mrs. Blythe

Second: Mr. Gabor

Vote: Yes—7; No—0 ; Abstain—1

Mr. Hurton entertained a motion to approve the amended MSBA PFA as presented in the packet to the Committee.

Motion: Mrs. Blythe

Second: Mrs. Nieves

Vote: Yes—7 ; No—0 ; Abstain—1

III. Adjourn

Motion to adjourn at 5:20pm.

Motion: Mr. Young

Second: Mrs. Blythe

Vote: Yes—8 ; No—0; Abstain—0

Respectfully submitted,

Christina Radlo