

SPECIAL PROJECTS STANDING BUILDING COMMITTEE SPECIAL MEETING

Friday, August 12, 2011

4:00 pm

First Floor Conference Room

Independence Hall

725 Old Post Road

Fairfield, CT 06824

FINAL MINUTES

Members Present: Rich Speciale, Chair; Al Kelly, Pam Iacono, Jane Purcell, Gerard Keough

Members Absent: Len Amato, Mike Giaquinto

Others Present: Tom Cullen, Craig Wiles, Eileen Kennelly, Hilary Plessner, First Selectman Mike Tetreau, Selectman Jim Walsh, David Becker, Judy Ewing, Genny Riley, Steve Baker, Ken Lee, Dorene Herron

I. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 4:00 pm by Chairman Rich Speciale.

II. Discuss Proposed Funding Request Presentation to Town Bodies

A spread sheet was made available for the discussion about requesting additional funding from town bodies. Mr. Speciale reviewed the FEMA budget which included the add alternate for Energy Recovery in the amount of \$94,613. He said that this item would exceed the allowable FEMA amount, and he hoped that it would be possible to find a way to do it because it was important, and also because it was the one item that would fully pay for itself. Mr. Speciale started to explain what it was and asked Al Kelly to finish describing its function.

Mr. Speciale then said that if the Committee keeps the item in the budget, the project will be over budget; if it is taken out then it can't be done. He urged that it appear as an Add Alternate, but timing is a problem because if it isn't added now to the project it cannot be added later.

Pam Iacono also supported the energy recovery as an add alternate and asked about the timing, as did Jane Purcell, who also asked about paying for it out of the Contingency Fund.

Mr. Speciale asked the Committee to look at Option 1 in the first column of the above mentioned spreadsheet at the top of the page which includes gym and cafeteria ventilation improvements as code compliance items. The new total is \$3.4 million.

Jerry Keough asked if the new total is in the new bonding resolution. Assistant Town Attorney Eileen Kennelly said it is.

III. Discuss and Vote on Revised Funding Request to Town Bodies

Mr. Kelly made a motion to amend and restate a bond request to the Board of Selectmen for Roger Sherman Elementary School upgrades for \$3.4 million. Mr. Keough seconded the motion which carried unanimously.

IV. Update on Project by Architect

Architect Craig Wiles said he had no report; they were waiting for SPSBC action on the funding, and a letter of confirmation from Jim Wendt, Zoning, who has stated that the ventilation improvements are maintenance items, and, therefore, exempt from the FEMA funding requirements.

A question was asked whether Twig Holland, Purchasing Director, had received additional background information from Salce, and if she had checked the references of all three bidders. The answer was no, but she was working on it.

In answering Selectman Jim Walsh about the two columns, Mr. Speciale said that only the first column should be considered because 15% is normal for a Contingency. At Ms. Holland's request at the last meeting, an Owner's Contingency in the amount of \$188,065, was added to the budget, as well. It was noted that the Energy Recovery system would result in a \$17,883 expenditure over the FEMA limit. That is why it has to be listed as an Add Alternate. First Selectman Mike Tetreau concurred. Selectman Walsh said to make sure that during construction there are no dust issues or the kitchen isn't shut down while school is in session. Ms. Iacono noted that when construction took place at Osborn, there were cold lunches. Mr. Kelly added that once the addition is built, internal work can start after hours.

Ms. Purcell asked some questions about structuring the contract, the shop drawings, and the timing of ordering the equipment. It was suggested that the drawings be ready by the end of December.

The spreadsheet will be revised to reflect the funding request and intent of the project.

Other questions were related to construction with school children in the building; if the bids will hold; what can be done during the school breaks and next summer; what will the construction schedule be like; can the construction company break through the walls; and is there an extra cost to separating the work from the students.

Mr. Speciale reiterated that he didn't expect a change in Mr. Wendt's position. Mr. Wendt is away, so there was a delay in receiving it in writing as requested.

V. Public Comment

Recording Secretary Jennifer Carpenter read the following written statement from Principal Eileen Roxbee into the record, "I support going forward with the request for additional funding. I have informed the parents and staff of the issues surrounding the project so they are aware and the consensus is to get the job done as soon as possible."

VI. Adjourn

Mr. Keough made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 5:05 pm. Ms. Purcell seconded the motion which carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Jennifer S. Carpenter
Recording Secretary