

Chebeague Island School Committee Meeting Minutes Tuesday, May 15, 2018

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 6:01 pm by Chairperson Jeff Putnam. Present: School Committee members Jeff Putnam, Stephen Todd, Courtney Doughty, Jen Belesca and Suzanne Rugh; school staff Superintendent/Principal Mike Pulsifer, and Pre-K Teacher Nancy Earnest; Town Manager Marjorie Stratton; Board of Selectmen Jay Corson and Mark Dyer; and guests Tracy Ames, Erika Neumann and Bob Earnest.

Flag Salute

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Approval of Agenda

A motion was made by Suzanne Rugh and seconded by Courtney Doughty to approve the agenda as written. The motion passed 5-0.

Approval of Minutes

A motion was made by Stephen Todd and seconded by Jen Belesca to approve the School Committee meeting minutes of May 1, 2018 as written. The motion passed 5-0.

Correspondence

None.

Presentation

Erika Neumann and Tracy Ames presented a report to the School Committee about their work on the Memory Garden at the Chebeague Island School. Put together in two phases, the garden has been funded by the CPA along with donations secured by Erika and Tracy. The original idea was to create a memory garden to honor William Robinson who passed away two years ago. A two-phased plan is in place to keep the garden in front of the school going. Erika and Tracy hope to transplant it this spring and then later restore the garden back to front of the school after the renovation. The SC thanked Erika and Tracy for their time and efforts on this beautifying project.

Public Comment

None

Reports

School Committee Chair: None

Superintendent/Principal: Mike Pulsifer reported that he received a call from a citizen who believes the school bus hit her truck while it was parked at the Stone Pier. Mike is following up with that citizen and will also connect with our insurance agent who will investigate the claim. Mike also informed the School Committee that we will not have a bus driver after May 18th for a few weeks, as our regular driver is recovering from surgery, and our two spare drivers are not able to work.

He plans on communicating this to our parents this week. He is hopeful to get a car driver who may be able to help us out for a week or so for small numbers of students who need transportation.

Old Business

School Renovation: The School Committee reviewed their recent meeting with the Board of Selectmen that centered around the renovation funding shortfall from the higher than expected bids that were received from the three general contractors. It was agreed that the SC needed to cut some costs from the lowest bid to get the expenses even lower. The SC went over nineteen possible cuts to that bid, and agreed to cut sixteen items for an approximate savings of \$70,772. Next the SC reviewed nine bid alternates that had been considered as possible additions to the project. After a lengthy discussion, it was agreed to not add any of the bid alternates to the project, as they would add to the overall project costs. Next the SC reviewed approximately \$113,000 in associated soft costs that would be needed during the renovation, in addition to construction bid costs.

After discussion, a motion was made by Suzanne Rugh and seconded by Courtney Doughty to add \$63,000 in soft costs (for CMP connection, Architect/Consultant fees, Inspection fees) to the overall bonded project amount and to pay an estimated \$49,900 in soft costs (for legal fees, builder's risk insurance, moving and storage, Hazardous Materials bid documents and BAN interest) from the School Department's designated Capital Improvement fund. The motion passed 5-0.

The School Committee then discussed the shortfall amount they would like to ask the voters to approve to get the renovation done. It was agreed that approximately \$250,000 in additional funding is needed to get the project completed, and the SC would ask the citizens at the June 9th public budget meeting to approve that additional funding for the renovation. That amount would be in addition to the \$1.355 million that was previously approved by the community. A workshop was tentatively scheduled for June 5th to inform the public about the shortfall and to communicate the SC's need for the additional funding. Next, the SC discussed the need for a contingency fund that would cover any unexpected costs needed during the renovation. It was agreed that they would ask the Board of Selectmen if they could set aside some contingency funds that could cover change orders or unexpected costs during the renovation. That proposal would be shared with the BoS at their next meeting on May 16th.

New Business

First Reading of Policies: A motion was made by Jen Belesca and seconded by Courtney Doughty to approve policies IHBA-R Referral Procedures and General Education Interventions; JFABD Admission of Homeless Students; and JIC Student Code of Conduct as first readings. The motion passed 5-0.

Other Business

Warrant # 24 was reviewed by the School Committee and approval was authorized for it.

Adjournment

Courtney Doughty motioned and Suzanne Rugh seconded to adjourn the School Committee meeting at 8:37 pm. The motion passed 5-0.