

Chebeague Island School Committee Meeting Minutes Tuesday, September 18, 2018

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 6:02 pm by Chairperson Jeff Putnam. Present: School Committee members Jeff Putnam, Suzanne Rugh, Courtney Doughty, and Jen Belesca; school staff Superintendent/Principal Mike Pulsifer and Pre-K teacher Nancy Earnest; and guests Mark Dyer, Herb Maine, Carol White, Town Manager Marjorie Stratton and David Brunner.

Flag Salute

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Approval of Agenda

A motion was made by Jen Belesca and seconded by Courtney Doughty to approve the agenda as written. The motion passed 4-0.

Approval of Minutes

A motion was made by Jen Belesca and seconded by Suzanne Rugh to approve the School Committee meeting minutes of September 11, 2018 with the additional language of “and confirmation with the CRC Director David Hoidal” in Old Business section. The motion passed 4-0.

Correspondence

Mike Pulsifer included in the School Committee members’ packets an earlier email that he and Jeff Putnam received from Denise Sullivan about the recent move out of the school for the renovation. In the email she suggested that the staff be polled to get feedback on the move out and hopefully get feedback or suggestions on how to best move back into the school. Mike will work with Beverly Johnson to get an anonymous survey set up and will get compiled data to share with the staff from the survey.

Public Comment

Carol White was in attendance and she shared that the School Department will need to complete some new water tests due to the fact that we are now in the Chebeague Island Recreation Center instead of our regular school setting. Carol suggested that Mike Pulsifer get in touch with Jeremiah Haws in Augusta to get the tests completed. Carol agreed to collect the samples for the testing, but the costs would need to be covered by the School Department. Mike agreed to start that testing process and will contact Jeremiah and work with the CRC director.

Reports

School Committee Chair: Jeff Putnam announced that there will be a joint meeting of the School Committee and Board of Selectmen scheduled for Tuesday, September 25th at 6 pm. The location will be at the Chebeague Recreation Center.

Superintendent/Principal: Mike Pulsifer said that the recently reinstated Pre-Kindergarten program is beginning to take shape. There is still some work to complete in getting the room ready at the Kids Place, but Nancy Earnest is doing a good job with it. Nancy commented that she had some help from Bob Earnest and Chip Corson in moving of larger items.

Mike additionally shared that the School Department had received a generous donation of time and materials from island electrician Ken Pelton. Ken did some work getting the Recreation Center ready for school, and in the process he donated a lot of his time to the school. The students made a nice thank you card and sent it to Ken.

And finally, Mike also shared that we he will need to hire a part time Educational Technician to complete our special education needs, and he will be posting that speaking to candidates. He also is still looking at ways to gain additional space for student and school use. He will keep the School Committee updated on those things.

Old Business

School Renovation Update: Mike Pulsifer shared that a recent review of the school by a mold and asbestos abatement firm revealed that there is some mold evidence in the school. David Brunner met with the consultants and we are currently working to remove the mold and will report back when the work is completed. David gave a full report on the plans for the removal. Mike also noted that the School Committee will need to address some undesignated funds at their next meeting that could be designated for the renovation.

Marjorie Stratton informed the School Committee that she now has authorization to approve up to \$10,000 in change orders. This is a new development approved by the Board of Selectmen. When that amount is used, she plans on going back to the BoS and getting another \$10,000 amount to approve.

David Brunner reviewed with the School Committee construction meeting number six that was held earlier that day. He noted that the renovation is moving right along and few bumps are on the horizon. He said the electric work has some details to work out, but the siding is almost up, the roof shingles are just about complete, the concrete work outside is almost done on the ramp, and the ceiling insulation is going in next week. He noted that next week the boiler will be checked to see if it is running well and can be functional for the new renovation. David also reviewed the change orders that have been done so far, and also some that may be requested in the future. David noted that the School Committee and Board of Selectmen will need to discuss some of them in order to decide on funding or deciding not to add them to the renovation. Some possible change items discussed by the SC were as follows: a double walled oil tank, underground CMP line, electrical upgrade from 200 amp to a 400 amp system, interior classroom fixtures and finishes, VTC flooring and also a smaller yet new generator. And finally, David noted that the drain in the boiler room goes to a dry well, and will need to be sealed somehow. Carol White was in attendance

and she is also a member of the Planning Board, and she said that the recommendation of the Planning Board for the renovation approval was to seal that boiler room drain as a ground water safety action. David said he would get that drain sealed. Mark Dyer was also in attendance, and he has attended most of the construction meetings so far as the Board of Selectmen's representative, and he has been impressed with David Brunner's work and with Ducas Construction's work so far. He had no concerns to share.

New Business

None

Other Business

Warrant # 5 was reviewed by the School Committee and approval was authorized for it.

Adjournment

Suzanne Rugh motioned and Jen Belesca seconded to adjourn the School Committee meeting at 7:44 pm. The motion passed 4-0.