

## **Chebeague Island School Committee Meeting Minutes Tuesday, May 29, 2018**

### **Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order at 6:03 pm by Chairperson Jeff Putnam. Present: School Committee members Jeff Putnam, Courtney Doughty, Jen Belesca, Suzanne Rugh and Stephen Todd (excused late); school staff Superintendent/Principal Mike Pulsifer; and guests Patrick Ducas, David Brunner, John Thaxter and Geoff Summa.

### **Flag Salute**

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

### **Approval of Agenda**

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

### **Approval of Minutes**

A motion was made by Jen Belesca and seconded by Courtney Doughty to approve the School Committee meeting minutes of May 15, 2018 as written. The motion passed 4-0.

### **Correspondence**

Mike Pulsifer shared a letter that was sent to the School Committee from parents of a child asking if their child could be included in the Pre-Kindergarten class for next fall. The School Committee Chair asked Mike to place that request on the agenda for the next meeting. Jeff Putnam also shared an email he received from Tracy Ames that informed the SC of her work clearing up brown tailed moths from a tree on the school grounds. The SC noted that Tracy has done quite a bit of work around the school and they were very appreciative.

### **Public Comment**

None

### **Reports**

School Committee Chair: Jeff Putnam noted that a lot of hard work has been put into the ball field over the past few weeks, and Jon Rich, Amy Rich, Stephen Todd and Chip Corson have done the majority of the work. A thank you will be sent to them from the School Committee for their fine work.

Superintendent/Principal: Mike Pulsifer reported that we had a new family move onto Chebeague Island this past weekend, and they have three school-aged children. Those new students made a total of five new additions to our school district this spring.

## **Old Business**

School Renovation: The School Committee invited Patrick Ducas to the meeting, he is the President of Ducas Construction, and his firm was the low bidder on the school renovation project. The public funding approval amount of \$1.355 million is below the Ducas Construction bid of \$1.606 million, and a general discussion was held at the meeting to help inform the School Committee on the project and to allow them to ask specific questions of the contractor. Some items discussed were as follows:

- To complete the renovation on time, Ducas said a decision on the bid and funding needs would need to be made soon. If the June 12<sup>th</sup> referendum vote is positive, that would still give ample time for the project to move forward without a delay. A negative vote and the need to extend the work timeline would not give him enough time to secure his lowest sub-contractor bidders and his next to lowest sub-contractor bidders are higher in price.
- The SC asked if there were any areas they cut recently to save money that would have a negative effect on the project, and also asked if there were any areas that could be cut to save money that they had not considered. Patrick responded no to both questions.
- Patrick said the only potential area that might have an increased effect on the pricing would be if hazardous materials were found, but he did not think that would happen.
- Patrick's goal is to be done with construction by late March or early April. He would like to have the school area fenced in, including the pavilion area behind the school. He will use the pavilion area as a dry storage spot for his materials and supplies. His plan is to start construction June 26<sup>th</sup> if the funding is approved.
- The School Committee asked if they could get a more detailed budget breakdown of Patrick's bid, and he said he would get share his "Schedule of Values" that he developed.
- Patrick said he needs an island worker from Chebeague Island, and he is looking to fill that vacancy. His plan is to work four 10-hour days during the renovation period. He wants to keep a truck and skiff on the island for transportation needs.
- Patrick is planning on having weekly meetings with his foreman on the project. John Thaxter will be at those meetings. Patrick will generate minutes from the meetings that will be shared with the SC, Superintendent, Town Manager, BoS and architect.
- The School Committee asked how change orders would be dealt with, and who would be in charge of paying bills. Jeff Putnam asked Mike Pulsifer to speak to the town manager to get answers to those questions. Mike will also ask who approves the contract and if we need legal counsel to review it first before approving.
- Patrick asked if the School Department would pay for the heat and electricity during construction, and that was approved, as long as the heat is kept at a low temperature so pipes won't freeze but workers can work in the winter. Patrick is hopeful to have the school ready for inside work by the end of October.

The School Committee then talked about the upcoming Public Forum to discuss the additional \$250k needed for the renovation. A plan was discussed for the presentation. David Brunner said he would be in attendance as well. The Public Forum is set for 6:00 pm, Wednesday, May 30<sup>th</sup> at the Hall.

Mike Pulsifer shared that because of the uncertainty of the funding approval and construction, he has made no agreements for storage containers, movers, the office pod or barging. He is very concerned that we could get shut out of potential vendors due to our inability to commit to them. He will share more information on the support vendors as we move towards the vote on June 12<sup>th</sup>.

Second Reading of Policies: A motion was made by Suzanne Rugh and seconded by Courtney Doughty to approve policies IHBAA-R Referral Procedures and General Education Interventions; JFABD Admission of Homeless Students; and JIC Student Code of Conduct as final readings. The motion passed 5-0.

### **Other Business**

Warrant # 25 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 8:43 pm. The motion passed 5-0.