

Building Committee

November 4, 2009

Members present: Bill Currin, Bob Monthei, Paul Sutterlin, Paul Haberern, Betsy Gara, John Biddiscombe (6:14pm), Hans Pedersen (6:15pm)

Also present: Ron Melnik, Rob Francis, Steve Meader, Ted Lombardo, Sue Viccaro (6:30pm)

Bill called the meeting to order at 6:08pm.

On a motion by Betsy, second Bob, the minutes to the meeting of October 20, 2009 were unanimously approved.

Well Update: Ron said the State has granted approval to use the existing well at Lyman as the main water source. Some modifications will need to be made. The second well will be hydro fractured to see if the yield can be increased. The Memorial School water system will be ready to go out to bid first. There is no financial advantage in waiting to go to bid for all three schools at the same time. At Brewster School there is a slight sulfate smell to the water but no quality issues. They are looking into the sulfate issue.

Roof Update: Rob reported that there are still some details left at both schools. At Memorial the materials for the snow guard are on site but it needs to be installed. The skylight that was broken will be replaced. He expects that they will be 100% complete within the next two weeks. At Lyman there is still a list of action items to be taken care of. They met today with the contractor and discussed the many details needed to finish the project. The contractor hopes to be able to complete everything within the next two weeks.

Athletic Facility Update: Bill explained that the project is on hold because of the appeals. He asked members to keep the goal of the project in mind because the Committee still needs to make it happen. He thanked the Committee for all of their hard work and said meetings would be happening less frequently until the appeal is settled.

Ron said a request has been sent by the attorney asking to expedite the appeal process. Even if the process is expedited we can still expect the appeal process to take five to six months. We should not go out to bid because contractors will not be willing to hold prices for that long. The price estimates may change and we do not know how much more money we will continue to spend on legal fees to fight the appeal. If we choose to go to bid, a judge could issue an injunction, stopping the project. The Town of Durham Planning and Zoning Commission will also be spending money on attorney fees to fight the appeal as well. If the appeal is upheld in court the District would have the right to fight it at the State Supreme court.

The football team is going to be housed in the District next fall regardless of the outcome of the appeal. It is going to be very difficult to schedule field time for all of the sports. The public needs to know that is District is facing some very difficult decisions.

Bill said he and other Board of Education members are going to try to keep the parent groups apprised of the decisions being made.

John asked if the District had connections with any attorneys that might be willing to do pro-bono work on the project to save on legal costs.

John suggested that Dick Webb be asked whether we could consider going out to bid on the synthetic surfacing while we wait for the appeal to be settled. He feels that these companies would consider bidding even though there may be a delay in the project as their industry is very competitive. There may be other materials that could be bid on as well.

Ron said he would ask Dick but he will also have to check with the attorney to be sure that it would not affect the appeal process.

Bill said that communication to members will be through email regarding any progress on the appeal process. The Committee will meet again when change orders for the roofs or wells need to be approved or as required.

The meeting adjourned at 7:00pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Sue Gaudreau