

**MINUTES OF BOARD OF EDUCATION SPECIAL MEETING HELD
JANUARY 23, 2020 AT 6:30 P.M. AT DODD MIDDLE SCHOOL**

Board Members Present: Anthony Perugini-Chair; Adam Grippo-Vice Chair; Kathryn Hallen-Secretary; Faith Ham, Andrew Martelli

Board Members Absent: Anne Harrigan, Timothy White

Administrators Present: Jeffrey Solan, Superintendent of Schools; Marlene Silano Assistant Superintendent of Schools; Vincent Masciana, Chief Operating Officer; Tracy Hussey, Director, Pupil Personnel Services; Diana Burns, Principal-Chapman Elementary School; Kevin Hanlon, Curriculum Coordinator K-8

1. CALL TO ORDER – 7:30 P.M.

A. *Roll for Quorum.* The roll was called and a quorum determined.

B. *Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America.*

Mr. Perugini led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

2. Approval of Cheshire High School Code Compliance Improvements - Door Accessibility Upgrades

Mr. Perugini explained this is a special meeting of the Board of Education preceding the budget meeting with only one agenda item. He called on Mr. Masciana to provide an overview.

Mr. Masciana reviewed the history of the Cheshire High School Voluntary Action Plan. In 2009, the high school was reviewed by the Office of Civil Rights and they found a number of deficiencies that needed to be corrected, mostly in the area of ADA compliance and Title IX. The Cheshire Town Council approved the Board of Education request in the capital budget for \$1,383,000 in order to complete the final phase of this corrective action plan.

He explained the State's document requirements for construction grants require, among other things, a motion from both the Board of Education and the Public Building Commission, to whom this project is assigned as the building committee, stating that the project manual, preliminary designs and the estimated budget have been reviewed and approved. He reviewed documents (on file) with the Board. In addition to the motion, Board Chair Mr. Perugini and the Superintendent need to sign SCG-042 certifying that the documents have been reviewed and approved to go out to bid. He noted that this is a Public Building Commission (PBC) project and they have already signed off on the project.

Mr. Masciana introduced Rich Clavet, the Facilities Manager for Cheshire Public Schools and member of the PBC, who explained this project in more detail. The project is to replace 78 doors where a complete structural renovation must be done to make them ADA Compliant. Each frame must be pulled out, walls demoed, and there is a significant amount (approximately 30%) of abatement. He said there are another 83 doors will need to have hardware modified. Mr. Clavet said they hope to complete these 161 doors during the summer break, a significant project. Once the State approves the construction

grant, they will put the project out to bid to find a contractor who can get this project accomplished during summer recess.

Mr. Masciana said the estimate of probable costs for this project is \$1,248,094. All but \$133,312 of this project is eligible for a 46% reimbursement from the state, in the form of a school construction grant, and can be used for the completion of the project beyond the doors.

Mr. Masciana explained that they were unaware, until they were recently notified by the architect, that they needed this motion from the Board of Education in addition to the PBC on this project. He said they are meeting with the State on January 28th.

MOTION by Mr. Martelli, seconded by Ms. Hallen.

***MOVED** that the Cheshire Board of Education has reviewed and approves the final plans, project manuals and professional cost estimate prepared for bidding by Silver/Petrucci & Associates for the Cheshire High School Door Accessibility Upgrades project #025-0101CV dated 10/14/2019.*

Discussion:

Mr. Grippo asked if this is to make the doors flush with the hallway. Mr. Clavet answered that it is to make the doorways wheelchair accessible.

Ms. Ham asked if they are confident the project will be completed by the end of the summer, and if not, we penalized by the state. Mr. Clavet and Mr. Masciana answered they are fairly certain. They plan to do the abatement first, so that the students can be back in the building. They are not penalized if it goes beyond summer break as those are the Board and PBC deadlines, not state deadlines.

VOTE: The Motion passed unanimously by those present.

3. **PUBLIC COMMENT**

None.

4. **ADJOURNMENT**

On a motion by Ms. Ham, and seconded by Mr. Martelli, the meeting was at 9:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Anthony Perugini, Board Chair

Attest:

Carol K. Jesensky, Board of Education Clerk

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