

APPROVED BY THE BOARD JANUARY 10, 2017.

**BURLINGTON BOARD OF SCHOOL COMMISSIONERS
INFRASTRUCTURE AND TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE MINUTES**

December 20, 2016

5:30 P.M.

Ira Allen Board Room

Attendance:

Board Committee: *Commissioner David Kirk, Chair; Commissioner Lauren Berrizbeitia; Commissioner Mark Barlow; Commissioner Miriam Stoll; Commissioner Susanmarie Harrington; Commissioner Mark Porter, Board Chair; Commissioner Kathy Olwell (5:46); Commissioner Anne Judson (5:48)*

Administration: *Marty Spaulding, Director, Property Services; Paul Irish, Sr. Director, Infrastructure and Technology, Nathan Lavery, Sr. Director of Finance*

Public: *Mike Fish, Kate Stein, Jennifer Green & James Gibbons (BED)*

The meeting was called to order at 5:32 PM

1. Mission
2. Approval of Agenda

Motion to approve agenda (Commissioner Barlow/Commissioner Kirk)

Result: Approved

3. Public Comment
Thanks to BPD Brian DiFranco for help on ramp at BHS. Interested in continuing participation in BHS/BTC review committee.

Thanks to Marty for PTO meeting discussion at Champlain.

4. Permit Approval for Possible Proposed Solar Trackers Agreement
Jennifer Green and James Gibbons
Marty introduced proposal from BED to put trackers on a couple of our sites. Permit codes are changing on January 1. Getting permit will not obligate us but will allow us to take advantage of current regulations.

Additional attachment shows the earnings, between \$700-900 per site per year in savings, for three trackers per site. Additional PR benefit from using renewable. Possible locations could include Hunt and Champlain.

Request to go out to permit.

Questions about contract, and time limits, cost to district (none), rates, location. Clarified that this is a request for permit, and board can take up to one year to install or decide not to install. Has the board set an objective to review renewable energy alternatives over all the schools?

The board was presented this information and Marty will move forward on acquiring the permit.

5. Capital Plan

Marty provided an overview of the NPA meetings to date. All except Ward 6 have seen the presentation and provided feedback. Ward 6 is scheduled for January 5. He noted that people were not surprised by the conditions of the buildings.

Commissioners spoke about their perceptions of the meetings, and feedback from City Councilors. Commissioner Kirk spoke about the need to get this on the March ballot.

\$39 Million does not include renovations for BHS. There is about \$10 million towards design and contingency for management reserve, which can help with planning and initial work at any site. Are there things at BHS that are so extreme we should be funding them right away? It is hard to identify without considering the overall master design of BHS.

Concern about asking for bond without final plans for exactly what will be fixed. We do have a highly detailed plan by EMG with cost estimates for all buildings. Contingency includes design, inflation, and may be applied to support critical needs if they arise ahead of schedule.

If approved in March, we will only have authority to bond for \$21M in July 2017, and then \$2M per year for the next 9 years.

Administration expects to be coming back to ask for more to address the BHS design and needs in addition, based on the results of the BHS/BTC design planning. What is the timing for the BHS/BTC full group process? Meetings have started with the BHS/BTC administration and the architect. Invitations for participation have been shared at the NPA meetings as well.

Note to reach out to original group, include student voice, and other stakeholders from the community.

A. 2018 \$2m Capital Bond

Motion to recommend that the Finance Committee include in the FY18 budget debt service payments sufficient to cover \$4.0 million of new debt in FY18. This funding will be used on projects identified in the district's long range capital plan, with actual projects determined on the basis of facility need and ability to complete the design and construction work. Most likely, the funds will be spent on investments at Champlain (windows), Edmunds (basement), and Ira Allen (preschool).

B. \$19m March 7 Bond Vote

Motion to recommend that the Board put forward a special article on the March 7, 2017 ballot asking the community to authorize additional borrowing of \$19 million. This

funding, when combined with \$2 million of annual borrowing already authorized by city charter, will allow the district to address deferred maintenance needs for all schools. Additional capital investment in the high school will be evaluated and proposed after an additional public process intended to determine how the community views the future of the high school.

Reverse Timeline:

April 11 board meeting, approval of bids for construction
March 21 ITC meeting to March 28th to review bids
February 21 pre-authorized contractors for bid due
City Council by January 30th meeting (check on City Board of Finance timing)
Motion to our board by January 10th
Motion from ITC at this meeting

Question -- no additional district staff for design and contracting workload for these major projects.

Question -- what if legislature provides construction aid (from Commissioner Cina via e-mail)? Aid is related to construction, and our major construction would not be able to start until summer 2018, and we could get aid for any of this construction if it passes.

Question -- when is the money from our bonding going to be more than our interest payment?

Discussion on motions and process.

A. Motion to recommend that the Finance Committee include in the FY18 budget debt service payments sufficient to cover \$4.0 million of new debt in FY18.

(Commissioner Porter, Commissioner Olwell)

Action: All in favor

B. Motion to recommend that the Board put forward a special article on the March 7, 2017 ballot asking the community to authorize additional borrowing of \$19 million.

(Commissioner Kirk, Commissioner Barlow)

Action: All in favor

Additional general discussion. Marty spoke from prior experience with receiving construction state aid, whether we have already requested a bond for the work or not.

6. Next Meeting - January 17, at 5:30 pm, Ira Allen

7. Adjournment

Motion to adjourn (Commissioner Barlow/Commissioner Judson) at 6:55 PM

All in favor.

Respectfully submitted,
Paul Irish