



MINUTES
SPECIAL MEETING – MONTVILLE BOARD OF EDUCATION
MONTVILLE HIGH SCHOOL
SUPERINTENDENT’S LARGE CONFERENCE ROOM
May 2, 2023

Item 1: Call to order / Pledge of Allegiance / Moment of Silence – 5:00 P.M.

The meeting was called to order at 5:00 p.m. by Wills Pike.

Those members in attendance were: Jim Wood, Tina Grove, Lisa Terry, Timothy Shanahan, and Bob Mitchell. Board Members Sheelagh Lapinski, Grace Carlos and Carol Burgess were absent.

Also in attendance were: Laurie Pallin Superintendent of Schools and Assistant Superintendent Dianne Vumback, Business Manager Kathy Lamoureux, and Director of Facilities Steve Carroll.

Item 2. Consideration and action to modify Policy 3323 Competitive Pricing/Bidding to identify circumstances when a competitive bid is not required

Motion: To modify Policy 3323 Competitive Pricing/Bidding as presented

Moved by: Tim Shanahan

Seconded by: Jim Wood

Vote: 6-0

Superintendent Pallin - presented a modified policy for the Board’s review which adds our standard practice to the policy to ensure all are aware of circumstances which might require us to award a contract without putting a project out to bid.

Lisa Terry – Jim, should this have gone through Policy First? Jim – I have 100% trust in Laurie.

Item 3. Consideration and action to use the 2% non-lapsing account to pay \$110,000 toward the cost for the Water Heater / Boiler Replacement at Montville High School (item 3 on Board’s Capital Improvement Plan)

Motion: That the Board approves the use of \$110,000 of the 2% non-lapsing account to pay toward the cost for the Water Heater / Boiler Replacement at Montville High School

Moved by: Jim Wood

Seconded by: Bob Mitchell

Vote: 6-0

Superintendent Pallin - At the Finance Committee meeting, we offered to see if the Board would approve use of the non-lapsing account to pay \$110,000 toward the MHS water heater / boiler replacement project.

Laurie reviewed the Board's use of the non-lapsing account since its creation in 2014. This year, the Board voted to use \$111,000 from the non-lapsing account to cover several items in the capital plan (transportation facility wall, well filtration system, Tyl bleachers, and MHS scoreboard). Use of another \$110,000 would leave \$724,185.71 in the account. It is very important that we move forward on this project now, but the Board should note that the Town Council has not yet approved the remaining \$117,000 toward this project. Kathy has included this amount in the 2% account ledger in the event the project is not approved by the council so you are aware of the possibility that the Board may need to pay for the entire project. Laurie also noted that we anticipate a shortage this year in the area of special education tuition and transportation of about \$300,000-\$400,000 which will need to come from the 2% account. She also reminded the Board that we will not be able to add additional funds to the 2% account in the foreseeable future and have not budgeted for any contingency placements or staffing needs

Item 4. Consideration and action to approve a bid waiver for EMCOR Services New England Mechanical to complete the Water Heater / Boiler Replacement at Montville High School
Motion: That the Board approves a bid waiver for EMCOR Services New England Mechanical to complete the Water Heater / Boiler Replacement at Montville High School

Moved by: Tim Shanahan
Seconded by: Lisa Terry
Vote: 6-0

Superintendent Pallin - We have a very narrow window for replacement of the water heater / boiler as the high school is the site of a 6-week summer school and also the Town Park and Rec Summer Camp. Summer camp does not end until August 11, and we must have working boilers in place for the start of school. EMCOR has indicated that they can get the project done within the required timeframe. We have received documentation from Peter Luchini, engineering consultant from of RZ Design Associates: "Regarding replacement of the domestic hot water system at Montville HS – the time required to prepare drawings and bid documents, to procure bids and issue a contract would place completion of the installation WELL BEYOND your required window."

Item 5. Consideration and action to request that the Town ARPA Committee utilize \$62,500 to purchase the Maintenance Van (item 7 on the Board's Capital Improvement Plan)

No action necessary – the town indicated that they intended to move this from the Capital Request to the ARPA committee, but it is our understanding that the committee will be voting on this tonight

Item 6. Consideration and action to request that the Town ARPA Committee modify its allocation of \$65,000 to replace the Palmer Building Skylights so that these funds can be used to improve school security

Motion: That the Board requests that the Town ARPA Committee modify its allocation of \$65,000 to replace the Palmer Building Skylights so that these funds can be used to improve school security

Moved by: Bob Mitchell
Seconded by: Tim Shanahan
Vote: 6-0

Superintendent Pallin - As we discussed with the Board when we did our facilities tours earlier this year, the Palmer Skylight replacement quote from Silktown Roofing came in at \$99,000 which is well about the \$65,000 which the Town ARPA Committee allocated for this project. At this time, Steve has been able to repair all leaks in the area of the roof where the skylights are located and they are not leaking. We are looking into whether it would be smarter to remove the skylights completely and simply roof over that area as part of a roof project at a later date. (The town bond includes \$93,200 for roof replacement over the gym and vocational room, NOT the area where the skylights are located.)

With that in mind, and last month's Board discussion of potentially using money from the 2% account to fund security measures, I would like to propose that we ask the Town ARPA committee to consider reallocating this \$65,000 to help pay for increased building security as we know this is a priority for the town and the schools. We have filed a security grant application for interior and exterior camera systems, penetration resistant window film, solid core exterior door replacement, a new scan card door access system, panic alarms, bollards at MHS and Tyl, and replacement walkie-talkies. Our total request is for \$711,581 and with a 71.07% reimbursement, this would cost the town about \$206,000. It is unlikely the entire grant will be approved. We put a placeholder of \$150,000 for door security in our capital request for next year, but this \$65,000 would enable us to move on the most important security projects as soon as we learn if the grant is approved (or fund the several projects entirely if the grant is not approved).

Item 7. Motion: To adjourn

Moved by: Jim Wood
Seconded by: Tim Shanahan
Vote: 6-0

The meeting was adjourned at 5:45 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Laurie Pallin
Superintendent of Schools