

Rochester School Board
Building Committee Minutes
School Department Board Room
February 2, 2017
6:15 PM

DRAFT

Members Present:

Mrs. Audrey Stevens, Chair
Mr. Thomas J. Jean
Ms. Nichole Guptel
Mr. Paul Lynch

Members Absent:

Mrs. Jennifer Bryant

Also Present:

Mr. Michael Hopkins
Ms. Linda Casey
Mr. Richard Bickford
Mrs. Christiane Allison
Ms. Julie Brown
Mr. Raymond Turner
Mr. Matthew Pappas
Mr. Robert Watson
Mrs. Karen Stokes
Guest

The meeting was called to order at 6:15 p.m. with a quorum present.

Mr. Lynch moved, second by Ms. Guptel, to approve the minutes of the January 5, 2017 meeting as written. The motion carried unanimously.

Facilities Update

Mr. Richard Bickford, Facilities Director, reported that Honeywell Energy Project rebates were received from Public Service/Eversource in the amount of \$16,000. Planning for summer projects contact has been made with the County to line up labor-free painters for the high school in July. The more difficult painting in the stairwells is being done now.

The bid proposals for Construction Managers for the HS Sprinkler System and Fire Alarm Upgrade Project will be opened February 15th. We anticipate bringing a recommendation forward to the March Committee meeting for approval.

FY 2018 Building Budget

Mr. Hopkins noted that the FY 2018 Building Operating Budget reflects an increase of \$97,064 over the current budget. There were very minor changes and adjustments; the electricity line reflects a substantial adjustment. Increases were made to repair and maintenance items in order to bring those line items back up to where they should be to ensure upkeep of buildings.

The \$20,000 increase to care and upkeep of grounds reflects the cost for an outsourced comprehensive plan for a care and treatment schedule for all fields, to include the HS Triangle vs. the current practice of spot maintenance.

Mr. Jean asked for clarification of the electricity line increase of \$73,000. Ms. Casey explained the increase includes the lower locked in rate, the increased service fees Eversource, and a couple schools have had increases in kW usage. The budgeted amount would ensure the line was not cut short with available funds.

Mr. Turner inquired what was included in the rental of land and buildings line. Ms. Casey responded that line covers space utilized within the Recreation Center by the School Department; we have a ten year renewable lease with the City for approximately \$7 to \$8 per square foot.

Mr. Turner asked if the general supplies went up because the account has been decreased in previous years. Ms. Casey confirmed that decreases have created an issue with not having enough funds to maintain buildings properly; this amount reflects close to actual costs for building upkeep and maintenance.

FY 2018 Building CIP Budget – Mr. Hopkins first reviewed the *Bonded CIP Projects*, specific details surrounding each project was provided. Some of the projects listed under the Administration Recommendation can be put off for one more year, with budget constraints it was not the right time to bring them forward.

The Maple ADA Project includes work that would ensure the building was ADA Compliant. Mr. Hopkins explained he has spoken to a representative from the OCR; because it is a magnet school, we may eventually be required to ensure the building meets ADA compliance. The other option would be to move the Magnet School to another location; which would not be a good option or costs effective. Spoke with architects, may be less costly than budgeted.

Mr. Jean asked if a letter had been sent citing deficiencies related to compliance. Mr. Hopkins responded that at this time there has only been discussion related to this matter. Mr. Jean stated that he hesitant to commit any funds without a formal letter requested action at this time.

CTE Renovation is still in the budget from last year. Legislature will take up request at some time very soon. Before moving forward with the project, City Council approval would be required.

Mr. Hopkins reviewed *Cash CIP Projects* noting that the total Operating CIP budget has gone down slightly from last year; there are not a great deal of changes. He addressed details of each Project relating to need and overall purpose within the District. Mr. Lynch asked for a breakdown of costs for the Sprinkler Upgrades.

Mr. Jean moved, second by Mr. Lynch, to eliminate the Maple ADA Project in the amount of \$714,080 from the FY 2018 Bonded CIP; and add the William Allen Roof Project in the amount of \$325,000.

The Committee noted its support making MSMS ADA Compliant as needed; it is just not a good time to budget for this work without a letter siting deficiencies related to compliance.

The motion on the floor carried unanimously.

Mr. Lynch moved, second by Ms. Guptel, to send the FY 2018 CIP Budget to the Finance Committee for approval as submitted. The motion carried unanimously.

Further review and discussion of the Building Operating Budget ensued regarding increased budgeted amount for electricity; potential consolidation of students from Nancy Loud School to East Rochester School; process for eliminating modulars, and costs associated with the upkeep of a vacant building.

Mr. Lynch moved, second by Mr. Jean, to send the FY 2018 Building Operating Budget to Finance Committee for approval. The motion carried unanimously.

Other

None

Public Comment

None

Adjournment

Mr. Jean moved, second by Ms. Guptel, to adjourn the meeting at 6:57 p.m. The motion to adjourn carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Mrs. Audrey Stevens, Chair