

Central Berkshire Regional School District  
School Building Project Committee Meeting  
Thursday August 22, 2019

A regular meeting of the Central Berkshire Regional School District School Building Needs Committee, held at Wahconah Regional High School in Dalton, MA, on Thursday August 22, 2019 was called to order by Co-Chair Callahan at 5:07

ROLL CALL

Present: Tom Callahan (Co-Chair), Richard Peters (Co-Chair), John Bartels (5:13), Mike Case, Wayne Cronnell, Jason Dion, Bonny DiTomasso, Todd Emerson, Bill Mulholland, Jan Paxton, Aaron Robb, Chuck Sturtevant, Shawn Therrien, Richard Wagner, Assistant Superintendent Melissa Falkowski, Superintendent Laurie Casna

Absent: Gary Campbell Jr., Dr. Barbara Craft-Reiss, Mike Daniels, Luke Dicicco (Student Rep), Mike Hagmaier, Mike Hinkley, Richard Lacatell, Kerry Mason, John McComish, Madeline Reichers (Student Rep), Brian Rabuse, Melinda Walton

Also Present: Lori Lombard from UniBank, District Treasurer Richard Jette, Members of the Audience, Recording Secretary

2. Validation of Agenda

Co-Chair Callahan validated the agenda as required by the open meeting law.

3. Approval of minutes from July 25, 2019 meeting

MOVED BY MEMBER DION SECONDED BY MEMBER EMERSON

*To approve the minutes of the School Building Committee minutes of July 25, 2019 as printed.*

Ayes: 15 members

Nays: None.

Abstentions: None.

Motion carried unanimously.

Melissa Falkowski passed out financial handouts to the committee, which are on file with the minutes. Melissa introduced Lori Lombard and Richard Jette to talk about the financial details.

Richard Jette gave a little of his background as well as his experience in working with funding buildings in school districts.

Richard stated that with the interest rates being lower right now is a good time to choose an option for funding for most of the project.

John Bartels arrived 5:13

Lori Lombard from UniBank summarized where the market is currently vs when she came to the school building committee meeting last winter. The rates are very favorable to long term borrowers right now. Laurie discussed the projections on the handouts. School Building Committee Members had time to ask any questions they had regarding the estimated debt service spreadsheets. Laurie Lombard stated that we are targeting the middle of October regarding the sale of the bonds.

An audience member asked a question about what each school building committee member thought about the choices. Superintendent Casna explained that the School Building Committee is a sub-committee of the school

committee and therefore they are making a recommendation to the school committee. Laurie Casna asked Melissa Falkowski to discuss what choice she would go with and to explain why she would chose that option. Several discussions took place between school building committee members regarding the borrowing options, interest rates, debt service and how many years the loan would be for.

Laurie Casna stated we need to vote to give guidance to the school committee so they could give guidance to Richard and Laurie Lombard regarding our direction in borrowing.

4. Approval of Long Term Borrowing Method

MOVED BY MEMBER DITOMASSO SECONDED BY MEMBER DION

BE IT RESOLVED that the Wahconah School Building Committee approves the Long Term Borrowing Method of Option 2 for the Wahconah Regional High School Building Project.

In response to multiple questions it was clarified what the three options were and that this vote was a recommendation to the school committee, who would have final voting authority.

Ayes: 15 members

Nays: Rich Peters

Abstentions: None.

Motion carried

The next meeting will be in November most likely on November 14– we will need a quorum for that meeting. Laurie will get a meeting date to the committee by Monday August 26, 2019

5. Adjournment

Adjourned at 6:13 pm