

**Coventry Board of Education
Coventry, Connecticut**

**Approved Minutes of the Joint Meeting of the
Board of Education Fiscal Committee and the
Town Council Finance Committee**

Thursday, June 13, 2019
Administration Building Conference Room

Fiscal Committee Members Present:

Mary Kortmann, Fiscal Chair
Jennifer Beausoleil, Board Chair
William Oros

Finance Committee Members Present:

Carolyn Arabolos, Finance Chair
Joan Lewis, Town Council Chair
Lisa Conant
Mike Sobol

Others Present:

Dr. David J. Petrone, Superintendent of Schools
John Elsesser, Town Manager
Robert Carroll, Director of Finance and Operations
Amanda Backhaus, Town Finance Director
Eugene Marchand, BOE Vice Chair
William Trudelle, Director of Physical Plant and Facilities

I. Call to Order

M. Kortmann called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

II. Joint Meeting - BOE Fiscal Committee and Town Finance Committee

Mr. Trudelle began by discussing the current status of the Microgrid project. He noted that there are adjustments that need to be made since the walkthrough. He said there are still questions about the details of what and how much energy would be supplied to the schools and the town.

Mr. Elsesser explained details of the meeting he had with the engineers and how the Housing Authority would be incorporated. He continued and explained the timeline we are looking at, which will not be fast.

J. Beausoleil said there are concerns as to what the Power Purchase Agreement (PPA) price will be. Mr. Elsesser said they know well, and have since the beginning, that it cannot be more and that Coventry expects it to be less.

II.A. Oil Tanks

W. Trudelle explained the current status of the oil tank project. He said CGS and GHR would be done this summer, with the others completed in September. He continued to explain that the Town would have to pay 100% of the costs that are in excess of the grant commitment from the State.

The Committees talked about addressing the concerns with Representative Ackert and if legislation could be introduced to assist with funding.

Mr. Elsesser talked about how money was saved by reducing the scope of the project.

II.B. School Security

Dr. Petrone talked about the Security Grant and noted that \$166,580 was approved and of that \$96,383 is reimbursable. He continued to talk about where items were placed on the CIP. M. Kortmann talked about the items that were not approved in the grant and how they could be covered by the CIP and under which years. She said next year's request would cover this.

Mr. Elsesser asked if these funds were being requested from the Town Council to come out of this year's funds. M. Kortmann said that would be accepted, but it was originally planned for discussion in the fall. The Committee discussed various avenues for this need to be addressed.

Mr. Elsesser asked if the funds were provided this year could the projects be completed this summer. Dr. Petrone said yes they could.

The Committees talked about priorities of projects.

There was clarification that the current amount needed is \$35,000 for the current project. Mr. Elsesser said the Finance Committee will talk tonight and the full Council will talk on Monday.

II.C. Facilities Summer Projects

Mr. Trudelle talked about the summer projects including the track resurfacing, drainage for the high jump area, and the field irrigation.

M. Kortmann noted the track resurfacing is funded out of the operating budget, due to necessity. She noted that the field irrigation is funded out of the School Use fund.

Mr. Trudelle continued and talked about the energy efficiency project. M. Kortmann said next they would like to see if there are savings to be had at the K-5 level. The Committee talked about how much in loans the Town can have and what projects are next in line.

M. Sobol asked if these efficiency projects will affect the Microgrid project. The answer was no.

Mr. Trudelle talked about other projects that are out further in time including the Asbestos Project. M. Kortmann said that project is in the bond.

II.F. Fire Doors and Walls

Mr. Trudelle talked about the Fire Doors. He said more investigation is needed by the contractor to see if there is a code violation.

The Committee next discussed the Walls at CHS. Mr. Trudelle said they are waiting for a quote from a scan company. Mr. Elsesser said this is the project where no funds have been allocated. The Committee talked about the history of this project.

Mr. Elsesser spoke to the new state budget and also some recent legislative items.

II.D. Forecasting End of Year

II.E. Transfer to 1% Account

Mr. Carroll noted there is currently \$35,000 remaining in unexpended funds for the end of the year.

III.D.5. Capital and Special Funds

Mr. Carroll noted everything is on track.

III.D.6. Preschool Fund

Mr. Carroll noted that the preschool is running very well. He said the projections are even better than expected.

IV. Approve Transfer

Mr. Carroll explained that due to a significant number of unanticipated retirements during the school year and related insurance savings, the Board was able to authorize a significant amount of work to enhance security measures district-wide and to replace aging equipment for the Facilities and Athletic Departments. Committee has consensus to move the transfer forward.

V. Adjournment

MOTION: To Adjourn the Fiscal Meeting at 7:19 p.m.

By: W. Oros

Seconded: J. Beausoleil

Result: Motion passes unanimously

Respectfully submitted,

Kimberlee Arey Delorme
Board Clerk

Approved: June 27, 2019