

Capital Plan, Finance, and Turf Field Working Group
5 School St, Wenham
December 27, 2018

Present:

Jeanise Bertrand
Stacey Metternick
Peter Wolczik

1. Stacey Metternick calls meeting to order at 9:39 am.
2. Approved July 18, 2018 minutes. 3-0.
3. Discussed Debt Exclusion priorities. Went through line items and pulled items which were not considered Safety, Access, and Critical Infrastructure (SAC). Shades and furniture are not SAC. Repair of front sidewalk at MRMS; repair of sidewalk and curbing at administration building; drainage at Buker; and repair of gymnasium floor should be under Maintenance. iPads, Chromebooks, SmartBoards, and classroom hardware refresh should be under Technology budget.
4. WG is seeking an explanation of why the items in section 3 above items part of the debt exclusion and not part of the budget. The WG is seeking to understand if the Building Energy Management System is funded under the Green Communities Grant, and if so, why does it appear as an expense in the budget. Additionally, the WG would like a breakdown of Building Energy Management System expense and what it is for. The WG understood the sinks, countertops, and water bubblers posing a health safety risk were already replaced, yet there is a future expense appearing in the budget. The WG is seeking an explanation for this future expense. With this information, the WG will then be better informed and better able to make a recommendation.
4. New classroom furniture should be considered being put on hold, considering SC not knowing what is included in this \$800,000. Two WG members recommended that the SC should consider putting on hold the purchasing of new classroom furniture considering budget limitations, and that Longmeadow may greatly alter priorities, since the new furniture may not be suitable in the any new 21st-century school built, which would require different furniture than our current model of education.
5. Considering the Master Plan is outdated, the WG discussed forming a Strategic Planning Committee to include members of the school committee, administration, community members, staff, and students.
6. Jeanise Bertrand stated she didn't want the turf field or Longmeadow at all. Stacey Metternick discussed the concern that Jeanise Bertrand should not have a vote or be on the School Committee since she doesn't live in town anymore and therefore, should not have a vote on the school committee to decide how taxpayer monies are spent. Jeanise Bertrand stated that it's true

Capital Plan, Finance, and Turf Field Working Group
5 School St, Wenham
December 27, 2018

that she does not live in the district. She stated she uses her grandparents address as a mailing address but lives elsewhere to be closer to work. She stated she asked the Attorney General at the MASc conference about the fact she does not live in the district. She stated the Attorney General stated she did not care because Ms. Bertrand is not running again next year. She stated she does not pay taxes in the district, because she doesn't earn enough to pay taxes. Stacey Metternick reiterated that Ms. Bertrand should not have a vote on school committee to decide how to spend taxpayer monies.

7. Voted to Adjourn 11:22am. 3-0

Respectfully submitted,

Peter Wolczik