BOARD OF FINANCE

SPECIAL MEETING
MARCH 10, 2020

MINUTES

Members Present: John Rachek-Chair, Peggy Busse, Douglas Harding, David Olender, Barry Pinto, Joseph Wehr

Others Present: Lori Spielman-First Selectman, Dr. Scott Nicol-Supt. of Schools, Brian Greenleaf-director of Finance & Opers., Kevin Kenzenkovic-Temp. Finance Officer, Felicia LaPlante

1. Call to Order

Chairman John Rachek called the special meeting to order at 9:12 PM.

2. To consider and act on a resolution recommending an appropriation and borrowing authorization for renovations, improvements, and additions to Windermere Elementary School to provide a facility serving Pre-K through Grade 6.

John Rachek told the Board that additional funds were added to the contingency figure for the project and therefore, a new cost figure requires a new resolution to be made. Dr. Nicol expressed his appreciation for Mr. Kenzenkovic’s work in getting bond counsel’s cooperation and for the Board of Selectmen’s cooperation to get these motions done in a timely manner. He stated that this was a technical oversight.

Peg Busse stated that she is unsettled with the figures because they don’t appear to be solid. She thinks this may be a hard sell to the taxpayers. Mr. Wehr questioned why there is not 10% contingency as in other projects.

Dr. Nicol stated that this is the agreed upon percentage between Brian Greenleaf and Kevin Kenzenkovic. The Architects have fine-tuned the figures based on experience; they are the experts. The Board of Education feels that 5% is sufficient as recommended by the architect. John Rachek stated that the Crystal Lake School project did not use all the contingency. Most of the Board members
were comfortable with 5%. He stated that the Permanent Building Committee will have to be diligent to stay on budget.

MOVED (BUSSE) SECONDED (HARDING) AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY

Notwithstanding the Board of Finance’s action at its meeting held March 3, 2020 regarding the recommendation of an appropriation and borrowing authorization for the project described below;

NOW BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Finance recommends that the Town of Ellington appropriate $56,430,000 for costs related to various renovations, improvements, and additions to Windermere Elementary School to provide a facility serving Pre-K through Grade 6, including the demolition of approximately 29,000 square feet of the current building, the design, construction, furnishing and equipping of an approximately 41,000 square foot addition, and other renovations and improvements, including full roof replacement to the approximately 57,000 square foot remaining portion of the building, and various related on-site and off-site improvements, and related work; and for costs relating to financing of the project. The appropriation may be spent for acquisition, design, construction and installation costs, equipment, furnishings, materials, utilities, relocation costs, related off-site improvements including but not limited to turn lane additions and other road improvements, utility connections, signalization and sidewalks, clerk of the works, architects’ fees, engineering fees, consultants’ fees, administrative costs, legal fees, net interest on borrowings and other financing costs, and other expenses related to the project or its financing. The Permanent Building Committee shall be authorized to determine the scope and particulars of the project, and may reduce or modify the scope of the project, and the entire appropriation may be spent on the project as so reduced or modified. The Town anticipates receiving an estimated $28,378,000 grants from the State of Connecticut to fund in part the project appropriation, for an estimated net project cost to the Town of $28,052,000.

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board of Finance recommends that the Town authorize the issue of $56,430,000 bonds or notes and temporary notes to finance the appropriation, the amount of bonds or notes authorized to be reduced by the amount of grants received for the project and not separately appropriated to pay project appropriation.

3. Adjournment

MOVED (OLENDER) SECONDED (HARDING) AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY TO ADJOURN THE MEETING AT 9:30 PM.

Respectfully submitted:

[Signature]

Lori Smith, Recording Secretary