

Facilities Committee minutes - May 11, 2016

Joe Phelan, Tom Burnell, Mark Fleischhauer, Diane Lyons, Sheldon Tieder, Lisa Rosenthal

Tom reported that the RFP to hire an Architect is going out today and is due back on June 1, 2016. The committee will review and if needed meet with any firm the week of June 6th. The committee will have a recommendation for the BOE on June 14th. Tom went through some bond borrowing information with the group. Interest rates while currently lower may be around 4-5% by the time we are ready to borrow.

The Committee looked at three scenarios for projects of \$5m, \$7.5m, and \$10m. The first two years the interest would be borrowed so it will increase the debt but would not come out of the general fund or affect the tax cap. The school would receive aid for the project at 36.8% yearly. The increase to taxpayers is between 1.5% and 2.5%. These figures are separate from the tax levy and will be a jump for taxpayers the first year.

Looking at a bar graph of existing and proposed debt service a \$5m project will only go slightly above what we are currently paying, this is because an existing project is coming off the books. The \$10m project would rise above current levels. Looking at a possible November vote the committee has much work to do. We would like to have a focus group of community members to gather their thoughts on this project. This may be best done over the summer. The group still needs to decide the size of the project; \$5m includes everything on the priority 1 list.

Joe and Sheldon informed the group that pro-active water screening for lead has been completed in both buildings, and there are no issues to report. This was done as a precaution, not because we were experiencing any issues.

The committee also discussed the idea of purchasing cameras to be placed inside both schools starting in the lobby areas. It is possible that there could be a reduction in our insurance rate if we have them, but Tom would need to check into it. These cameras would not be continuously monitored. They would help with security after the fact with the exception of the janitorial staff which could use them when working alone. Joe noted that our outside cameras have been helpful in assisting in a few issues in the parking lots. The new busses also have cameras on board.

Respectfully submitted by Diane Lyons