

MINUTES Building Committee Meeting on Tuesday, October 4, 2022, at 11:00 a.m. in the Board of Education meeting room

Members of the Building Committee for Small Projects

Jack Wesa
Ron Millovitch
Jim MacBride
Kate Beauparlant
Brian Kallio

Adam. S. Burrows - Administrative Representative
Darlena Loranger – Executive Assistant to the Superintendent

Also Present:

Anthony Averill --- APEX

Copy to:

Amy L. Suffoletto – VES Principal
Tracey Hanson ---- First Selectwoman

Jack West called the meeting to order at 11:04 a.m.

The Minutes of the 9-20-22 Building Committee meeting were reviewed.

Monitoring Expenditures and Completion of Projects

Chairperson Jack Wesa reviewed the highlights of an EXCEL spreadsheet that he had developed to monitor the work of this Building Committee and record the status of each project, action required, Deadline, Estimated cost, Additional 15% for the costs of unknowns, and the funding source.

APEX

Anthony Averill of APEX was introduced by Jim MacBride who reviewed priorities related to video surveillance, security upgrades, and our telephone system. Anthony noted APEX recently submitted a quote for \$14,800 to move a server. He reviewed the work of APEX and noted he would follow-up the discussion of this meeting with quotes for three different projects.

- Relocate Servers to Azure
- Security System Project Management
- Phone System Project Management

The above quotes were received within a few hours and will be reviewed at the 10-18-22 Building Committee meeting.

Funding Sources

Mr. Burrows reviewed the status of the existing and potential funding sources for the work of this Building Committee.

- *The Town recently received \$112,742.49 in state reimbursement from the recent oil tank replacement grant funds. The Town made has made the4se funds available to the Board of Education. Use of these funds requires approval for a specific designated project such as the asbestos removal, replacement of the old hallway carpet with new tiles, and other small projects, as identified. A Town Meeting is now scheduled for Thursday, October 20, 2022 at 7:00 p.m. in the VES Gym.*
- *Mr. Burrows noted our grants for ARP ESSER III federal funds (Elementary and Secondary Schools Education Relief) was approved, deposited in our grants management system and \$78,000 has been approved for the installation of a new HVAC system in the gymnasium. This project may require the services of a structural engineer to assess the strength of the gym roof for the weight of a new HVAC system. Recent price increases may require a transfer of funds from another part of the approved federal grant to complete the gym HVAC project. The committee will review the process of securing quotes or make the decision to follow the bid process. The goal is to complete this project in the summer of 2023.*
- *ARP ESSER III has also approved and deposited \$29,215 in our Voluntown account for security upgrades in the school system and \$49,364.27 for video surveillance.*
- *A CT-SDE HVAC and Air Quality grant application for replacing the white HVAC, updating electrical services, completing the A/C of some VES classrooms, and other projects. If approved by a Town Meeting this grant application for \$170,000 will be submitted by the deadline of December 1, 2022. There are several well-established and comprehensive steps that are mandated to secure this grant. This is also a competitive grant to seek part of the \$160 million step aside by the state. DAS or the Department of Administrative Services uses the established format for securing approval of the original request and any change orders for reimbursement of “eligible” expenditures. Voluntown has a reimbursement rate of a little over 60% based on a formula. This grant also requires documentation that the Board of Education has voted to approve the projects meets the educational specifications of the school system.*

If all sources of funding are approved, this Building Committee has the opportunity to guide the expenditure of up to a possible grant total of \$439,321.76.

Town Meeting on Thursday, October 20, 2022, at 7:00 p.m. in the VES Gym

There are two motions that the Building Committee will request at an upcoming Town Meeting in order to #1 - gain access to the oil tank reimbursement funds of \$112,742.49 for the asbestos abatement project and #2 - to receive authorization to the State Department of Education for submitting an application for \$170,000.

- Motion #1 (Building Committee Meeting on 10-4-22 by MacBride/Millovitch) to authorize a Building Committee recently appointed by the Board of Selectmen to utilize the full amount of the recently received \$112,742.49 reimbursement returned to the town

by the Connecticut State Department of Education (CT-SDE) for eligible expenditures related to the recently completed VES Oil Tank Replacement Project to complete a Board of Education project to secure the services of a certified consultant to guide the process of removing the asbestos in portions of the VES hallways, replace old hallway carpets with approved tiles, and complete other safety upgrades for an asbestos abatement project to be completed, if possible, during the summer of 2023. Motion carries unanimously.

- Motion #2 (Building Committee Meeting on 10-4-22 by Millovitch/MacBride) Pending approval of a grant application, to allocate up to \$170,000 from the Undesigned Funds of the Town of Voluntown to support a Board of Selectmen appointed Building Committee to submit an HVAC Indoor Air Quality Grant application to the CT-SDE Office of School Construction Grants and Review (OSCGR) within DAS (Department of Administrative Services) prior to December 1, 2022, for the purpose of requesting reimbursement, currently a little over 60%, for “eligible” expenditures related to the preparation of construction drawings and specifications for replacing the HVAC system in the central office, upgrading the electrical system and code updates to support air quality upgrades and/or roof work related to HVAC, and installing air conditioning in four VES classrooms and other areas, as needed. Motion carries unanimously.

Asbestos Removal

Mr. Kallio reported that Mystic Air Quality is now being used by school systems throughout the area because EASTCONN no longer offers “Asbestos Abatement” services. He also noted that school systems are required to maintain an updated asbestos management plan.

Mr. Kallio will have Mystic Air Quality review that hallway and carpeted areas that this committee is seeking to remove the older tiles that may have small portions of asbestos and guide the management this project to ensure compliance with all safety requirements.

As noted above, this committee will request to use the \$112,742.49 for completing the project, of approved at a town meeting.

The next regular meeting of the Building Committee is scheduled for Tuesday, October 18, 2022, at 11:00 a.m. in the central office.

Meeting adjourned at 1:02 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by:

Adam S. Burrows – Superintendent of Schools

Darlena Loranger – Executive Assistant to the Superintendent

(ASB and DCL on 10-7-22)