

REGION 9 BOARD OF EDUCATION

Regular Meeting
Joel Barlow High School
Tuesday, July 16, 2019
Minutes

ATTENDANCE

Region 9 Board of Education members: D'Agostino, Hocker, Denny, Johnston, Williams
Absent: Coppinger, Graziano, Hancock
Administration: Reiss, Czudak, Santangeli
Others: Videographer and 4 members of the public

CALL TO ORDER

Mr. D'Agostino called the meeting to order at 7:32 p.m.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion: move to approve minutes of June 27, 2019 Special Meeting (Williams, Denny).
Approved. Unanimous (Johnston abstained).

PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

BOARD MEMBER COMMENT

Ms. Williams thanked the Building Committee for their efforts on the Campus Improvements Project thus far.

DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION: 2019 CAMPUS IMPROVEMENTS

Mr. Johnston reported that two formal meetings of the Building Committee, which he chairs, had occurred since work on the project began. Mr. Reiss reviewed six invoices as well as the total of pre-construction engineering work by Gale Associates previously paid from the Capital Reserve Fund. These had all been reviewed and approved by the Building Committee.

Motion: move to reimburse the Capital Reserve Fund for pre-construction engineering services by Gale Associates in the amount of \$95,302.50 (Johnston, Denny). Approved. Unanimous.

Ms. Williams posed specific questions to Mr. Reiss regarding Bond Counsel services, which were answered to her satisfaction.

Motion: move to approve six invoices (totaling \$80,812.15) as follows: Inv. No. 1905250 for \$5,060.75 from Gale Associates for construction phase services; Inv. No. 1906237 for \$14,138.90 from Gale Associates for construction phase services; letter of 7/15/2019 for \$30,000 from Pullman & Comley for Bond Counsel legal services; Inv. No. 11372805 for \$950.00 from S&P Global for bond rating; letter of 7/3/2019 for \$17,750 from Phoenix Advisors for bond issuance services; Inv. No. 37360 for \$362.50 from Signarama for campus traffic control signage (Johnston, Denny). Approved. Unanimous.



INSTR # M2019000447
DATE FILED 07/18/2019 10:56:05 AM
CHRISTINE HALLORAN
TOWN CLERK EASTON CT

Mr. Reiss reported that the bond issuance had closed successfully, with all proceeds received, and that the true interest cost reflected a rate of 2.3 percent. He distributed copies of the S&P Global Ratings Report for the bond issuance, showing an AAA rating for Region 9 debt.

Mr. D'Agostino thanked Mr. Reiss for his work on the project and the successful bond issuance.

DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION: INTERSCHOLASTIC SPORTS INSURANCE

Mr. Reiss reported that the premium for accident insurance related to sports and other school sponsored activities had increased by approximately \$5,000 over the amount of \$30,000 shown in the 2019-20 operating budget. This insurance is intended to cover 100 percent of costs not reimbursed by insurance coverage held by the parents of students who are accidentally injured in the course of school-sponsored activities which typically, but not exclusively, involve athletic events. The current premium had been the lowest among several competitive bids. Premiums have been increasing sharply over the past several years, but Mr. Reiss had determined that there was no consistent pattern in previous claims history to explain the increase. He also found that a significant premium reduction could be achieved by providing coverage for 80 percent rather than 100 percent of uncovered costs.

As Athletic Director, Mr. Santangeli surveyed other schools in the same athletic conference as Barlow and found that of 12 schools that had responded (out of 14), 11 provided 100 percent coverage. In discussion, Board members generally agreed that 100 percent coverage was appropriate and that the difference between the actual premium and the budgeted premium was justified. No formal action was needed or taken.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Danielle Garavito, Redding, informed the Board that an individual who is a professional photographer and is retiring and moving from the area would like to donate photographic equipment to Barlow, but was concerned that prior Board approval was needed before such a donation could be made. She provided written information regarding the proposed donation.

BOARD MEMBER COMMENT

In response to the public comment, Mr. D'Agostino stated that Board approval for donations of the kind mentioned was usually a formality after the donation had been accepted by the appropriate staff, that the proposed donation would be routed to the appropriate department, and that the proposed donation and Ms. Garavito's effort were much appreciated.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion: move to adjourn the regular meeting of the Region 9 Board of Education (Johnston, Williams). Approved. Unanimous.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:06 p.m.

Recorded and submitted by

Chris Hocker
Region 9 Board of Education Secretary