

**MARPLE NEWTOWN SCHOOL DISTRICT
FACILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE MEETING
THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 9, 2006
BOARD ROOM
MINUTES**

PRESENT: **Committee:** Chairperson Carol DeLuca, Mrs. Nancy Galbraith, Mr. Richard Carpenter and Mr. Robert Moldoff

Board: Dr. Jeffrey Shapiro

Administration: Mrs. Merle Horowitz and Mr. Bill Gasior

Press: 0

Audience: 0

Ms. DeLuca opened the meeting at 6:31pm, welcomed all in attendance and led in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Approval of Minutes from Previous Meeting

Mrs. Galbraith made a motion and seconded by Mr. Moldoff to approve the October meeting minutes.

Approval of Present Agenda Items

Mr. Gasior suggested that the agenda be arranged in a way that plenty of time can be allotted to discuss the security of buildings.

The Committee agreed.

Old Business

- **Phone System**

Mr. Gasior stated that the phone system is up and running with little or no problems. It is finished and the first payment has been made.

- **Security of Buildings**

Mrs. Horowitz stated that last week she convened a committee involving both police departments, Mr. Gasior's office, our directors, building principals and Tony Caso. We spoke about what the most urgent needs would be if we were to take a recommendation to our Board. The police spoke about additional personnel. This would be a great asset but also a significant expense and would be a commitment we would have to make for a long time. Our principals were very much in support of intercoms for all six schools. We asked each principal to go back and speak to his or her team and key leaders in their building and to get recommendations to us. We did receive feedback from each principal.

Mr. Gasior handed out a list to the committee that stated the different ideas from the principals. We have to look at different schools in different ways. Russell has a buzzer and door release system. That would be something that we are looking at with the exception of adding cameras and monitors to that. Russell has two entrances because they park in the back. The expense of these is because of the fire doors where it is a little bit more expensive to put a door release on a fire bar versus a regular door. If I am not mistaken, just for the buzzer and release it was \$1,600.00. Loomis like Paxon Hollow needs additional parking and that, as a side item should really be addressed. Paxon Hollow would need three buzzers, cameras, monitors and intercoms. Loomis needs two. Culbertson should have two; one for the front door and one for the ADA area. The High School would need three releases because of the amount of parking in the back, in the front and the delivery dock. There have been suggestions to put a peephole and intercom in any door that is solid. The majority of the people should be directed to go to the front door.

Mr. Moldoff asked about the doors that are being propped open.

Mr. Gasior replied that last month we talked about putting a tamper proof system in. I have one call into a company that I used to work with in Western Pennsylvania and this is all they do. I also have a meeting with another firm on Monday. I suggest that once the door is opened, the buzzer rings until someone goes and finds out why the buzzer is ringing. The buzzer will ring in the office and will not shut off until it is secured.

Mrs. Galbraith stated that there are lots of doors being propped open like the ones that go into the playgrounds, etc.

Dr. Shapiro stated that there is a lot of interesting activity situations that will have to change such as early morning band at Paxon Hollow. The children go in from the band room doors. Now that this door is alarmed as you suggest, they need to come in the front. Someone would have to deal with coming in early to open those doors.

Mr. Gasior stated that there was also a suggestion of a swipe card that could be given to certain people. There are 36 doors at the High School, 14 of them had access from the outside with keys. We already blocked those out. We are down to five doors at the High School which are the boiler room, pool doors, the front doors, the band room and Ted Aceto's entrance doors. This still means that we have to put buzzers on 36 doors with everything wired (or wireless) into a central location. The High School suggested two-way radios similar to what we use at the bus garage. This would help them reach people within their own building more efficiently than the Nextels.

Mrs. Horowitz stated that this is something that they need to get more information on.

Mr. Gasior stated that we are going to look at all the entrances that are used as main entrances for the need of a camera, monitor and buzzer/release system for those doors. We are going to look at updating all of the DVR equipment and recording devices. We will look at the entire package.

Mr. Carpenter stated that he is confused as to who we are trying to protect. I thought one of the main issues was keeping out unwarranted people from in the building. I haven't heard a thing about unwarranted people coming into the buildings.

Mr. Moldoff replied that it is necessary to prevent any doors from being propped open because that bypasses the security.

Mr. Carpenter asked where the monitors are going to be located.

Mrs. Galbraith replied that they will be in the office.

Mr. Gasior stated that this will easily be in excess of \$100,000 from the capital reserve fund.

Ms. DeLuca stated that Mr. Gasior will come back to us with a cost analysis and a list of what each building needs.

Ms. Gasior agreed.

FACILITIES

- **Report on the Status of the Grounds Maintenance Garage**

Mr. Gasior stated that he is personally disappointed in the progress. I spoke with the owner today. We have had some bad weather but it seems that when the weather is good, we are not getting some things done. There was a little bit of a problem with the approvals of the sprinkler system but the inspector has approved it. The promise was made to me that by Tuesday we would be 100% finished. We are not 100% done. We still have the blacktop to do and most of the storm water is tied in. I can get a temporary occupancy permit once the sprinkler is up. Marple Township has asked me when we will be out of the Malin Road Property building because they want to store their equipment in there for the winter. Once the sprinkler is in, I will cut my guys loose and start working on the interior of our new garage.

TRANSPORTATION

- **Report on Lease/Buyback Bidding**

Mr. Gasior stated that we had projected the possibility of two or three bidders. We ended up with five. They were Worthington, Rohrer, Brightbill, Hodgekins Lincoln Mercury and a Chevy dealer in Lebanon. The last we will advertise will be on Monday. We will open bids at 2pm on Tuesday at my office. I will get something off to you after we tabulate the bids. We have to order these buses by January 15th. The good news is that we had originally stated that the increase would be about 40% or more for the cost of the buses but the prices are coming in better. It will not be as high as we projected.

MISCELLANEOUS

1. Approval for Disposal of Dated Weight Room Equipment

Mr. Gasior stated that this is a request from Ted Aceto. We are looking for approval of disposal of athletic equipment in the weight room. They are going to get some updated equipment. They were going to try to give some to Paxon Hollow but it is outdated and Paxon Hollow does not have the room for it.

Dr. Shapiro suggested that the motion include “disposal/donation” of equipment.

Mr. Gasior stated that he will check with Mr. Aceto to see if anyone wants it but if not, it should be scrapped.

Mr. Carpenter made a motion and seconded by Mrs. Galbraith to approve the disposal/donation of dated weight room equipment.

Ms. DeLuca adjourned the meeting at 7:31pm.

Respectfully submitted by Heather Welsh, Secretary to the Board.