

Ashford Board of Education
Special Meeting Minutes – November 17, 2016
7:00 p.m.

Ashford School Cafeteria

Note: Per C.G.S. §10 – 218, Board of Education meeting minutes are provided in a draft format within 48 hours of the date the meeting was held. With the exception of motions and votes recorded, these minutes are unofficial until they have been read and approved by a majority vote of the Board. Should edits be necessary, they will be made at a regularly scheduled meeting, noted in the meeting minutes, and so voted upon.

Call To Order

Board Chair J. Rupert called the special meeting to order at 7:20 pm. Present were members J. Lippert, K. Rourke, M. Matthews, K. Warren, J. Calarese and L. Donegan. Also present were members of the town wide capital improvement committee D. Quirk, M. Gardner, M. Mellady, A. Hastillo, M. Zambo and Dr. J. Longo. Present in the audience were C. Abikoff, J. Bellamy and S. Eastwood.

Ashford School Existing Facility Report (Friar and Associates)

Michael Sorano of the architectural firm Friar and Associates recapped the firms approach to the study of the Ashford School building and distributed an outline of the full study. He addressed state grant funding; projects involving maintenance are ineligible, those involving programmatic changes are covered at 64% of eligible costs. Consideration must be given to building codes, fire codes and ADA requirements. Building code and ADA improvement costs are both reimbursable. Mr. Sorano went over the report section by section reporting that the two major issues with our building are the need for a sprinkler system and ADA accessibility. He noted it is important to know the building is up to code based on the date of construction, however, if certain parts of the building are to be improved/renovated, then those areas must meet current code requirements for fire, building and ADA. The full report is available on Friar and Associates website and can be accessed through the client portal using a password.

Discussion/Overview of State Grant Application Process

Mr. Sorano discussed eligible projects during his presentation. There are different types of projects that may be applied for that have a filing deadline of June 30th. Applications for code improvement projects to not have to meet the June 30th deadline. The grant application process takes a full year for approval. The necessary steps in the application process are:

- Identification of educational need...project rationale
- Governing body approval by Board of Selectmen
- Approval of local funding share

Prioritization of Capital Plans

Discussion of priorities began with green energy project and an energy audit. J. Rupert asked that the original energy audit be distributed to members of the board of education and the capital improvement committee.

Adjournment

Motion to adjourn the meeting (9:12 pm) made by J. Rupert, seconded by K. Rourke and carried unanimously.

Recorded by:

James P. Longo
Superintendent

