

Meeting of the Buildings, Grounds, and Technology Subcommittee
at New Marlborough Central School

D R A F T

Tuesday March 10, 2015

Subcommittee members present: Vito Valentini, Maria Rundle, Fran Lartigue
Also present: Bruce Turner, Dave Hastings, Dennis Sears, Fred Finkle, Nat Yohalem, Francine Groener

Meeting called to order at 4:36pm

Ms. Lartigue moved to approve the minutes of the January 13, 2015 BG&T committee; Ms. Rundle seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Discussion of proposed capital items for the FY16 budget (please see attached document)

Mr. Valentini reminded the committee of the previously spoken for encumbrances: **the Truck, the MFSA busses**, and the **air conditioning loan** for a total of **\$65,400**.

Carpets Carpeting replacement is an ongoing project. There are thirteen upstairs, eight on G wing, and 30-35 rooms left to do. For \$25,000/ year we can get eight rooms done. Keeping the program going means we will keep on top of 10 year rug turnaround. This includes tile replacement for areas like the cafeteria and science room. **\$25,000**

Ceiling tiles This project is on an approximate 10 year turnaround time as well. If we have new materials ready to be replaced as part of the roof replacement project this summer, we'll save some labor time. **\$25,000**

Athletic fields Softball fields need more work. Soccer field, JV baseball, and fencing of softball field have been done over the last two years. **\$10,000**

Yellow House upgrades There is still outside work that needs to be done as well as to make sure the hydroponic area is separated out and heated. The outside pavilion work to be done is to be separated out from this capital item. **\$6000**

Water fountain replacement Inside fountains originally had coolers; replacements will be just fountains. \$700 apiece for inside fountains; \$2800 apiece to replace outside fountains. Eighteen fountains to be replaced. Mr. Valentini suggested making this a three year project. No problems in the elementary school fountains. We'll leave the outside fountains as they are. **\$5600**

Driveways and paving Mr. Valentini inquired whether the Town of Sheffield could partner with us on these repairs since they will be fixing their roads after this winter, too. Mr. Finkle will find out. **\$30,000**

Musical instruments Mr. Valentini suggested putting this item into a Capital Projects Fund and have the music teacher apply for purchase of instruments. There is a need for brass instruments and they are expensive as well as an electric piano for the elementary music program. Mr. Sears reminded the committee that when Courtney English came to the School Committee to ask for

funds for instruments that she was encouraged to seek our rent-to-purchase options. Ms. Lartigue also suggested looking for used instruments to be donated or purchased at a reduced rate from local cultural institutions. Rent-to-purchase would be an ongoing encumbrance for the capital budget; we need more information to be able to make a decision on this item. **\$8000**

Lockers in both hallways and locker rooms \$10,000

Discussion of the lockers led to addressing the broken hand dryers in the bathrooms. Mr. Valentini registered his displeasure that unusable hand dryers have been left on the bathroom walls for years. It makes it seem like we're not taking care of the place. Mr. Finkle clarified that if the dryers are removed, electric power would have to be removed from the wall as well.

Kitchen in Mt. Everett office Need to replace the sink and take out the stove, replace countertop, etc. **\$2500**

Community Schools Mr. Turner would like to establish a Capital Projects fund to be used as projects occur rather than put an undefined placeholder number in the capital budget each year for emergency events. This fund would then be the place from which capital is drawn (after approval by BG&T) to address projects in the Community Schools.

Classroom furniture Teacher chairs replaced. **\$5000**

Blower motors This is an ongoing expense. Two motors are \$450. There is a speed adjuster on the outside so teachers can turn it down during class. **\$5000**

Bathroom floors in 1-2 wing To replace the floor would be \$8-9000. Mr. Finkle has sought out an estimate on how much it would be to put in drains instead. The \$2500 is a placeholder at this point for putting in drains. Mr. Valentini asked Mr. Finkle to look into flooring material that would flow in over the cement floor. **\$2500**

Repair/ replace door hardware Ongoing expense. **\$8000**

TAC PAC Mr. Valentini suggested putting this item in the Capital Projects Fund. Items could be presented to the committee for review before purchase. Mr. Sears asked about when the circuits were last replaced, recalling that there was a recent output for that project. The committee asked for further information from Travis Daly before moving forward on TAC PAC projects.

Mr. Valentini wants to review the capital expenditures of the last few years with the administration so we can make a better accounting of how this money is being spent and the impact of capital investment in our facilities.

Discussion of proposed Technology items for the FY16 budget

Laptops are needed. Desktops are the oldest in the school. Network switches. \$49,000

Security cameras with installation They are needed in the hallway as well as more outdoor cameras, including at Monterey. Ms. Rundle asked about whether there was a conversation with staff and students about installing surveillance cameras in the school hallways. Ms. Lartigue recalled the previous BG&T conversation that hallway surveillance camera would primarily be used to review

incidents and not for observation in real time. This expenditure will come before the full school committee before moving forward on installing cameras in the hallways. **\$12,000**

TV Studio. \$8000

Classroom TVs/clocks. \$7500

Public address system When the fire alarm goes off, PA won't reset. **\$15000**

Electronic sign Mr. Valentini questioned why we need an electronic sign. It can't be put out on the road; it would be installed on the property. Mr. Hastings and Mr. Finkle reminded the committee that maintenance has to change the sign manually right now. An electronic sign would take the place the sign at the end of the road. Ms. Lartigue requested to hear from Chris Thompson about his vision for the electronic sign before moving forward on this item.

Proposal to establish a Capital Projects fund

Currently the business manager has to encumber money that doesn't get spent in the fiscal year it was approved. A Capital Projects fund would give more flexibility to ongoing, multi-year projects. Mr. Valentini asked for a quarterly reconciliation and report on this fund. Policy subcommittee would have to be involved in establishing this fund so that money would still go through the school committee for approval of projects.

Ms. Groener reminded the committee that in the past, money had been allocated for capital items and then when it came time to do the project the funds had been spent on something else.

Redundancy on the athletic fields line item: **\$20,000**

TAC PAC: **\$25,100**

Community Schools: **\$30,000**

Electronic sign: **\$16,000**

Total: **\$91,100** to establish Capital Projects fund

Ms. Lartigue made a motion to bring the proposed Capital Projects fund to the School Committee for approval. Ms. Rundle seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Ms. Lartigue made a motion to propose the capital projects list for FY16. Ms. Rundle seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Ms. Lartigue made a motion to adjourn; Ms. Rundle seconded and the meeting adjourned at 5:31pm.