

Public Improvement Building Committee
Regular Meeting ~ November 18, 2013
BOE Administrative Office ~ Conference Room A

Chairman Bernie Simons called the meeting of the Public Improvement Building Committee to order at 6:30 PM.

The committee said the Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll Call: Present –, Chuck Cogswell, Arthur Gaughran, Francis MacIvain, and Bernard Simons. Absent – Rick Belden, Ken Bouchard, and Michael Robinson. Quorum: 4 present, 3 absent. Also in attendance were Superintendent Freeman Burr, BOE Finance Director Allan Cameron, Joseph DeSanti from Construction Management & Consulting Services, LLC, as well as several members of the public.

Chairman Simons asked if there was anyone from the public who would like to speak, and there were. He informed the public that they would have five (5) minutes to speak.

Booth Hill School PTO President Denise Broad spoke to the PIBC regarding the School Security Project and the fact that Booth Hill School is the only school in the Shelton School System that currently has no security cameras at all. She questioned the fact that there is much concern among parents throughout the city who are concerned with security issues, and the timeframe in which it is happening. Chairman Simons explained to Ms. Broad that the PIBC does not have any information on these issues. The PIBC is charged with issues that need to be tended to and we carry out the bidding and recommendation process. We do not come up with the ideas of what needs to be done. It is only after the Board of Aldermen allocates funding for a project, that the PIBC gets involved. Arthur Gaughran also commented that we investigate what needs to be done, and then make our recommendation to the BOA. Ms. Broad stated her, and other parent's, concerns regarding that the security measures should be expedited. It is coming up on one (1) year since discussions began, and a bidding process can be timely. She wanted to know if there was any way to get this going sooner rather than later. Francis MacIvain noted that the Surveillance Monitoring and Communication is the high priority in this project moving forward. Ms. Broad reiterated that Booth Hill School has no cameras at all. The staff has to look out the window to see who is buzzing at the door. Superintendent Burr interjected that there was already authorization to take care of this now. Chairman Simons also informed the group that there were state regulations and funding that had to be considered prior to coming up with a plan.

Judson Crawford informed the group that he spoke to Chairman Simons regarding looking at a location already using surveillance equipment. He offered for them to go to the site of DeCello Distributors, his previous place of employment, and observe their surveillance system. There are cameras as soon as you enter the property. Chairman Simons said that it is premature to do that right now.

Chairman Simons asked a second and third time if there was anyone else from the public that would like to speak. There were none

School Security Project

Superintendent Burr was introduced to give an overview of what was in process. He indicated that Joe DeSanti was present to speak, and that he has done the bid specs for the School Security Project. Superintendent Burr informed the group that the BOE has been fully funded for this project. There is already some level of security at Perry Hill, Shelton Intermediate and Shelton High Schools, in regard to camera surveillance. There are no camera systems at any of the elementary schools for camera surveillance. There are only fixed cameras. The BOE has been awarded The School Security Improvement Grant. They also had to go through the Federal Government's Emergency Management Checklist Protocol. This is a 22 page document for each school that has to be done by trained and certified individuals. They also have had a security audit by Advanced Systems Technology. This involved a walk through internally and externally. The cameras would be 360° to capture anything anywhere around the building. The cameras are web based and will be connected to Shelton Police Department and vehicles. This system is state-of-the-art and will be here for the future. This grant is fully funded and will not cover anything beyond camera surveillance. Each school will get the camera surveillance as defined on the footprint of each building. It is designed based on the functionality.

The second phase is the window security film. This film will only be proposed for SHS, SIS, and Perry Hill Schools. Bid specs will be going out soon, but this can be done with relatively minor funding. Superintendent Burr showed photographs of this film after being shot with several types of bullets, hit with pick axes and shovels. The BOE will be able to manage in its own budget the security film for Booth Hill and Sunnyside Schools.

The third phase, and perhaps the most important phase, which is a comprehensive building redesign to Long Hill, Mohegan and Elizabeth Shelton Schools, which Mayor Lauretti committed to last December in the aftermath of Sandy Hook. This would include redesign of entryways, replacement of windows and exterior door change outs. There may also be a need for asbestos abatements and PCB removal. There are three architectural proposals who have responded to RFQs, who have the qualifications. This project will be fully reimbursable through the state's SFU. These three schools are original and obsolete. Therefore, there will be no security film on these schools

Board of Education Finance Director Allan Cameron was introduced. He informed the group that only phase one, Surveillance Monitoring and Communication, has been assigned to the PIBC. The BOE has hired Joe DeSanti to write a performance spec for. Then they are going out to bid. This will be a reimbursement grant, which means they have to spend the money first, then get reimbursed later from the State. The expectation is that this project will be complete by December 2014; Mr. Cameron indicated that it could be sooner. All the surveillance will be recorded and backed up on computers for the option to look back at a certain date and time. There may also be a panic button system, which would alert the Central Office Security department as well as the Shelton Police Station. Mr. Cameron explained that there is more than the film. There is a stainless steel mesh weave. This will be used on doors that are not the front doors, so as to not impair the appearance of the building. This will be used on the back and side doors to deter break-ins. Unfortunately, the vendor at the BOA meeting was not an exclusive vendor, therefore they will need to go out to bid, as per the City Charter. They would like to ask the BOE if they would hire Joe DeSanti to write this spec for this stainless steel mesh as well. The cost of the mesh will be taken out of the BOE budget. The mesh can be installed by BOE employees, whereas the security film needs specially trained installers.

Arthur Gaughran would like to question the architects, when the time comes. Chairman Simons asked to be apprised of future meetings, so that some members of the PIBC could attend. At the very least, get a copy of the minutes. It would be much more helpful for them to know what is going on as it happens.

Joe DeSanti is the owner of Construction Management & Consulting Services, LLC. He has been in this business for 30 years, specializing in schools. He is experienced in security issues as well as the reimbursement process. He commended the City of Shelton, as they are ahead in this process. He noted that the Town of Hamden has not addressed the issue yet. He is committed to getting the job done correctly, which is why he recommended a performance spec. Then you can tell the vendors specifically what they want, which is the best system on the market today. The Performance spec is ready to go out now, after one more meeting with the BOE. It should have a quick turnaround. He is also recommending to possibly use more than one vendor to complete the job, just in case there is a problem with one. He is also recommending that they decommission the equipment that is there, as well as an extended maintenance contract, and training program. Superintendent Burr mentioned that the system has already been replaced at SIS. The reason being money was tight and they went with a less expensive system, without any maintenance contract. Chuck Cogswell asked Joe if two different systems would be wise He wanted to know if they would be using a proprietary or non proprietary system. Joe said it would be proprietary, and that the way everything is managed now, being web based, they may be able to "talk" to each other. There was also discussion regarding the ongoing training of the systems.

Superintended Burr informed the group of all the meetings and conferences that have been being attended this past year, and the most important item is delay. The longer it takes an intruder to enter a building, the less severe the casualties will be. There are commitments from the city, parents and BOE to keep our children safe, which is the bottom line. The Superintendent told the PIBC that the next meeting would be with Joe when the specs were ready for the security film. He will also make sure that the committee is informed of any other meetings.

Carla Bucherati, representative from Long Hill School, commended the committee and the BOE, for knowing how important this project is to the parents. The parents appreciate everything being done.

Chuck Cogswell made a motion to approve the meeting minutes of October 7, 2013, seconded by Francis MacIlvain, vote 4-0, motion carried.

Pool Chemicals ~ RFP

Chairman Simons will be meeting with Gene Sullivan this week and will be hand delivering paperwork to him. Chairman Simons will ask what the time frame is and what is the issue with this? Arthur Gaughran asked about the humidifier. Ken Bouchard has the information on that. He is not at tonight's meeting, but Chairman Simons will add it to the agenda for next month. It should also be a part of the RFP.

Special Committees:

Finance Committee:

Francis MacIlvain made a motion to approve the clerical invoice for \$108.89, seconded by Chuck Cogswell, vote 4-0, motion carried.

New Business:

Francis MacIlvainn asked about getting the information from Allan Cameron regarding the utility usage, for the Comprehensive Energy Management Study, as discussed last month. Chairman Simons will request the information and forward to ken Bouchard.

Chuck Cogswell asked about getting information out regarding BOA and other meetings that the PIBC is invited to.

11/19/2013

CITY OF SHELTON

4

Judson Crawford asked the committee about the bidding process. Chairman Simons and other members explained how the process works.

A motion was made to adjourn the meeting by Francis MacIlvain, seconded by Ken Bouchard, vote 4-0, motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 7:37 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Tina Coppola ~ Recording Secretary

November 19, 2013