

WACHUSETT REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

HOLDEN ♦ PAXTON ♦ PRINCETON ♦ RUTLAND ♦ STERLING

Minutes

Executive Session

Special Meeting #282 Monday, September 29, 2008

Joint Meeting of the Wachusett Regional District School Committee
and the High School Building Committee

Curriculum Center
1745 Main Street, Jefferson

School Committee Members Present:

Margaret Watson, Chair	Robert Imber
John Nunnari, Vice-chair	Stacey Jackson
Thomas Ackerman	Mark James
Cynthia Bazinet	Duncan Leith
Robert Carter	Michael Pantos
Colleen Cipro	Norman Plourde
Shirley Conrad	Michael Sherman
Melinda Coyle	Joseph Sova
Steven Hammond	Marcie Zaharee

School Committee Members Absent:

Robert Pelczarski

High School Building Committee Members Present:

Duncan Leith, Chair	Kelly Maxwell
Jack Brennan	Emerson Wheeler
Catherine Collins (7:35 PM)	David White, ex-officio

High School Building Committee Members Absent:

Maria Millett	Ralph Rondinone
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Administration Present:

Thomas G. Pandiscio, Superintendent of Schools
Susan Sullivan, Director of Human Resources
Peter Brennan, Business Manager
Rebecca Petersen, Executive Secretary to the Superintendent

Chair Watson called the executive session of the School Committee to order at 7:12 PM and turned the meeting over to Superintendent Pandiscio.

The Superintendent thanked all for attending and advised the committees of instruction previously given the School Committee by counsel that meeting minutes should record motions and votes, which is how the record of this meeting will be reflected.

Superintendent Pandiscio gave the history of the High School Addition and Renovation Project. He called the Committees' attention to the *Revised School Financing Plan (Based on the Consensus Plan)*, dated 9/29/08 (attachment 1). Superintendent Pandiscio reviewed the spreadsheet. Superintendent Pandiscio called the Committees' attention to the *Wachusett Regional High School Claims Management Accounting Form* (attachment 2) and reviewed this document with the committees. Superintendent Pandiscio called the Committees' attention to the *Claim/Backcharge Category*, dated 9/29/08 (attachment 3) and he reviewed this document with the committees.

7:35 PM High School Building Committee Member Collins joined the meeting.

Superintendent Pandiscio spoke of the two days (September 25 and 26, 2008) of mediation and gave the credentials of the mediator, Professor Eric Green. Superintendent Pandiscio reported to the committees that Wachusett's share of Professor Green's fee for the two days is \$10,000.

Superintendent Pandiscio called the Committees' attention to the *TLT Construction Corporation/Wachusett Regional School District Agreement in Principle September 26, 2008* (attachment 4). Superintendent Pandiscio read the Agreement aloud, interjecting explanations along the way.

Those present were given the opportunity ask questions of the Superintendent.

8:25 PM School Committee Member Zaharee left the table.

8:27 PM School Committee Member Zaharee returned to the table.

8:27 PM School Committee Member Nunnari left the table.

8:30 PM School Committee Member Nunnari returned to the table.

At the conclusion of this question and answer session, Superintendent Pandiscio called the Committees' attention to *Wachusett Regional High School Building Project Total Project Budget, Period Ending 9/29/08, Development of Accurate High School Project Closeout Budget, \$6.4 Million Settlement Summary 9/29/08*, and the four possible motions and one statement of advice (attachments 5, 6, 7, & 8). Superintendent Pandiscio reviewed the information contained in the attachments, after which those present were given another opportunity to ask questions of the Superintendent.

Member Sherman asked what should be done with the attachments, at the conclusion of this meeting. Chair Watson and Superintendent Pandiscio advised all to keep the paperwork in their possession, which would give them additional time to review and become familiar with the information. Chair Watson and Superintendent Pandiscio stressed the importance of keeping this information confidential. Superintendent Pandiscio explained that settlement documents need to be prepared and executed before any of this confidential information and the related numbers can be released.

Motion: To increase the High School Project appropriation by \$4,732,452 in order to account for the inclusion of the modulars in the High School Project Budget for the purpose of reimbursement.

(J. Sova)
(S. Conrad)

Member Watson asked High School Building Committee Chair if the Building Committee would wish to caucus. Building Committee Chair Leith responded in the negative.

Roll call vote:

In favor:

Margaret Watson
John Nunnari
Thomas Ackerman
Cynthia Bazinet
Robert Carter
Colleen Cipro
Shirley Conrad
Melinda Coyle
Steven Hammond
Robert Imber
Stacey Jackson
Mark James
Duncan Leith
Michael Pantos
Norman Plourde
Michael Sherman
Joseph Sova
Marcie Zaharee

Opposed:

None

(Motion passed unanimously)

Motion: To authorize the payment by Wachusett Regional School District (WRSD) to TLT Construction Corp. (TLT) in the amount of \$6,400,000 in full and complete satisfaction of all payment related claims of TLT of any kind with regard to the Project, and all known claims of WRSD.

(J. Sova)
(M. Pantos)

Member Watson asked High School Building Committee Chair if the Building Committee would wish to caucus. Building Committee Chair Leith responded in the negative, but did state, on behalf of the Building Committee, the reasonableness of this motion.

Roll call vote:

In favor:

Margaret Watson
John Nunnari
Thomas Ackerman
Cynthia Bazinet
Robert Carter
Colleen Cipro
Shirley Conrad
Melinda Coyle
Steven Hammond
Robert Imber
Stacey Jackson
Mark James
Duncan Leith
Michael Pantos
Norman Plourde
Michael Sherman
Joseph Sova
Marcie Zaharee

Opposed:

None

(Motion passed unanimously)

Motion: To increase the High School Project appropriation by \$2,280,713 to account for the settlement with TLT Construction Corp.

(M. Coyle)

(D. Leith)

Member Watson asked High School Building Committee Chair if the Building Committee would wish to caucus. Building Committee Chair Leith responded in the negative.

Roll call vote:

In favor:

Margaret Watson
John Nunnari
Thomas Ackerman
Cynthia Bazinet
Robert Carter
Colleen Cipro
Shirley Conrad
Melinda Coyle
Steven Hammond
Robert Imber
Stacey Jackson
Mark James
Duncan Leith
Michael Pantos

Norman Plourde
Michael Sherman
Joseph Sova
Marcie Zaharee

Opposed:
None

(Motion passed unanimously)

Motion: To approve the sale by the District of a \$5 million BAN to Bank of America with an interest cost of 4.25% payable on December 31, 2008.

(J. Sova)
(M. Pantos)

Member Watson asked High School Building Committee Chair if the Building Committee would wish to caucus. Building Committee Chair Leith responded in the negative.

Roll call vote:

In favor:

Margaret Watson
John Nunnari
Thomas Ackerman
Cynthia Bazinet
Robert Carter
Colleen Cipro
Shirley Conrad
Melinda Coyle
Steven Hammond
Robert Imber
Stacey Jackson
Mark James
Duncan Leith
Michael Pantos
Norman Plourde
Michael Sherman
Joseph Sova
Marcie Zaharee

Opposed:
None

(Motion passed unanimously)

Superintendent Pandiscio advised the School Committee that in the future authorization will be sought to bond at least an additional \$4.1 million to complete project financing, explaining this is not something that needs to be voted on this date.

Superintendent Pandiscio thanked all in attendance for their time and attention. Chair Watson thanked Superintendent Pandiscio for his time and attention. Chair Watson also extended thanks to the members of both the School Committee and the High School Building Committee.

Motion: To adjourn.

(M. Sherman)
(M. Pantos)

Roll call vote:

In favor:

Margaret Watson
John Nunnari
Thomas Ackerman
Cynthia Bazinet
Robert Carter
Colleen Cipro
Shirley Conrad
Melinda Coyle
Steven Hammond
Robert Imber
Stacey Jackson
Mark James
Duncan Leith
Michael Pantos
Norman Plourde
Michael Sherman
Joseph Sova
Marcie Zaharee

Opposed:

None

(Motion passed unanimously)

The executive session adjourned at 9:25 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Thomas G. Pandiscio, Ed.D.
Superintendent of Schools

TGP:rlp