

Ashford Board of Education
Special Meeting Minutes – February 4, 2021
6:30 pm
Meeting Held Via Zoom

Note: Per CGS 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 exceptions of motions and votes recorded, the minutes are unofficial until they have been read and approved by a majority vote by 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

Chair John Lippert called the meeting to order at 6:38 p.m.

- Present were members Jane Urban, Marian Matthews, and Al Maccarone. Tess Grous joined the meeting at 6:41 p.m. Tina Fradette joined the meeting at 6:43 p.m. Kim Kouatly was absent.
- Also present were Principal Troy Hopkins and a couple members of the public.

Reports/Updates

Capital Expenditure Committee

- Marian sent out the 5-year plan. She thinks it needs some revision. For years 3, 4, and 5 there is a bus and a van. When she asked about it, they thought we would need a bus in 2023. Cannot have an electric bus until we have solar on the building and a charging station. We cannot say that we do not want a bus. The town gets a bus every year.
- CORE space cost seems high, approximately \$500,000. It could be put off and go through the bonding, as it is not critical for right now. We need to reevaluate what we are doing with that space. Cost of \$126,000 for HVAC – isn't there already heat there?
- Roof design also seems expensive.
- Marian has sent information to Jim Rupert on the people working on schools in Mansfield and Mansfield Town Hall.
- Marian wants board members to look at the 5-year plan before it is submitted. Tonight, they are submitting the requests for this year, including heat exchanger.
- Maintenance of building needs to be a priority in the 5-year plan. We could call on Mike Mellady's expertise to help develop the 5-year plan.

Town Building Committee

- Marian will send information from Jim Rupert. Jim and Dr. Longo will try to get non-lapsing fund to support the solar project because application has to be submitted to Eversource by April. Planned location for solar is the roof.
- Request from Brialee Family Campground to add something to school internet. Town Building Committee voted it down, but it should have been brought to the Board of Education.
- Next Town Building Committee meeting is 2/17/2021.

Adjournment

MOTION by Jane Urban to adjourn the meeting (6:59 p.m.). Motion seconded by Marian Matthews and carried unanimously.

Sara Wilson
Recording Secretary