

NORTON BOARD OF EDUCATION - 15-12
Committee of the Whole Meeting of June 22, 2015

President Bennett called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. in the Administration Conference Room.

Mrs. Bennett referred to Board Policy BDDJ which states anyone recording a meeting must inform all parties involved that they are recording and asked if anyone recording would please inform the room.

Mrs. Bennett led the Pledge of Allegiance. The Treasurer called the roll:

Mrs. Jennifer Bennett, President – Present
Mr. Patrick Santelli, Vice President – Present
Mr. Rob Knight, Member – Present
Mr. Jason Sams, Member – Present
Mrs. Cindy Webel, Member – Present

Also present were:

Mrs. Stephanie Hagenbush, Treasurer

15-131 Mr. Santelli moved that the Board of Education approve the agenda as presented.

Mrs. Webel seconded the motion.

ROLL CALL: AYES: Mrs.Bennett,Mr.Knight,Mr.Sams,Mr.Santelli,Mrs.Webel
NAYS: None – Motion Carries 5-0

BOARD BUSINESS

Matt Collier – Building Project - Reviewed the Guaranteed Maximum Price (GMP) meeting facilitated by state. There were significant bid day savings allowing alternates to be added. The footer installation has begun (when there is no rain) and the masons will start work next week.

Water Issues - The builder and architect have been working with the civil engineer to address the excessive water flow off the property – they are trying to be part of the solution. Although the water flows onto the property from the northwest and off to the east, they are looking at ways to slow the water down and keep it on property – adding or changing the north detention basin and making better swales for the water to flow. They are researching the issues on the south side of the property - with the detention basins in place, the water is released more slowly instead of rushing across the property, therefore it stays wet longer. Also the water should run under Pleasant to a ditch and then to a clay tile pipe that is broken. Need to keep talking with the City of Norton to find a resolution.

Mr. Sams questioned water issues on Shellhart. Mr. Collier has walked the area to look at it. He explained the flow of the water – the ditch line on Shellhart is not maintained and the culverts are full and not allowing water to flow through them so it goes around them. There was water shooting out of a yard drain on the corner of Cleveland Massillon and Shellhart – nowhere for it to go.

Mr. Sams suggested a letter should be sent to residents telling them we are looking at this and trying to figure out a solution.

Mrs. Bennett questioned since the project is under budget, at what point do we sit down and review what else could be included.

Mr. Collier explained - in 60 – 90 days, after the biggest part of the earth work is finished we will look at budget and decide on the next steps. The OFCC would be included in this discussion to see what else will be co-funded – this can then also include some contingency funds that will be returned to the district – the contractors have used very little contingency money on the earthwork which is usually where the most contingency money is spent.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Community Engagement – No meeting – question about whether we do signs on electric poles, the brackets cost \$75, banners are \$30 - \$40 and NCTA will donate \$500 towards this – hang up seems to be with Ohio Edison – maybe just put them on our own light poles. Mr. Knight made some phone calls about a newsletter, but did not receive return calls.

Technology & Instruction – No meeting – will schedule one for July or August. Textbook adoption on agenda – books outside Mrs. Herchik’s office if anyone wants to review them. Look at shipping costs, will we pick the books up ourselves if possible – a few years ago, Mrs. Hagenbush found a shipping company that will ship the books for significantly less – now the book companies are refusing to ship that way because they make money on the shipping. OAA test scores are in – we did really well.

Operations – Athletic Council Meeting was on the 17th. Stadium Grand Opening, Saturday, August 22nd before soccer; will look at an alternate date if necessary. “N” in middle of stadium, Mr. Miller checking with Forever Lawn to see what they recommend on the direction of the turf. Mr. Knight questioned what the official school colors are, he has had questions from parents – the colors are red and white. Many years ago, a football coach added black as a trim color, and the black has grown in use. Discussed outstanding Track performance at PTC. Mr. Knight wants to encourage athletes to participate in multiple sports. Concern about students doing too much and being discouraged by coaches to participate in multiple sports. Mrs. Bennett will have Mr. Dunn speak with Mr. Miller about this and relay it to the coaches.

Finance – No meeting; waiting on state budget.

Policy – No meeting – update should be out in August.

DISCUSSION

Mr. Sams questioned SRO position. Are we answering questions from City Council together? The Board could vote for this and show the city we support it. He thinks the city will pass the proposal 4-3. At the first meeting regarding the SRO with the city, Mrs. Bennett, Mr. Dunn and Mr. Santelli, Mr. Rodgers was in favor of the shared SRO.

Mrs. Bennett is not sure if this is way to go – not sure if citizens will support this.

Mr. Knight – We need to decide as a Board if we want this.

Mr. Sams thought we were moving forward - 68/32 is a fair split.

Mrs. Webel thinks the city is not helping us, they are trashing us.

Mr. Santelli- the hoops we have to jump through are ludicrous.

Mr. Sams thinks this is our chance to give people a person on site. It is on tonight’s city council meeting for 3rd reading. The Chief told council that he’d like to increase presence in the school. Barberton does this by using part-time officers.

Mrs. Webel – People she talks to doesn’t like idea. Thinks the Board should pull the offer, the backlash will be bad if we do this.

Should we just do it on our own?

Mr. Santelli- Do we tell the city that we don’t want to do this?

Mrs. Bennett – Board could do a survey on website and ask the question if this is something that is wanted.

Mrs. Webel – We already surveyed staff, most said no. The Safety Committee said no, they just want training and changes to buildings. Board doesn’t have responses from parents and community.

Mr. Santelli – A survey is a good way to go. The Board could explain what the position is and what it would do.

Mr. Sams asked if all were in agreement.

Mrs. Bennett will ask for consensus to continue this with the city or not - Mr. Sams – continue with the city, Mr. Knight – continue with the city, but with a counter offer, Mr. Santelli – No, Mrs. Webel – No, Mrs. Bennett – No, but ask the public through a survey – city has attacked board so we need to see how public feels.

Mr. Sams asked if someone will deliver message to city.

Mrs. Bennett will have Mr. Dunn tell the city the Board will “pull the offer until we gather more information.”

Mr. Sams and Mr. Knight agree with asking parents.

Board agrees that Mr. Dunn will be the one to contact the city and notify them the Board is withdrawing the offer and will have a meeting with the Chief of Police and the Finance Director to discuss options. The Board will develop survey questions to ask parents and community members.

Discussion continued concerning ways to have an SRO at a reduced cost - Rittman & Barberton – hire part-time officers to fill in for the full time SRO – this cost is much less.

ADJOURNMENT

15-132 Mr. Santelli moved that the Board of Education adjourn the Committee of the Whole meeting at 8:20 p.m.

Mrs. Webel seconded the motion.

ROLL CALL: AYES: Mr.Knight,Mr.Sams,Mr.Santelli,Mrs.Webel,Mrs.Bennett
NAYS: None – Motion Carries 5-0

“Notice of this meeting was given in accordance with the provisions of Policy and Regulations of the Board of Education which was adopted in accordance with §121.11 of the Ohio Revised Code and the Ohio Administrative Procedures Act.”

Jennifer Bennett, President

Stephanie Hagenbush, Treasurer