

Date: 16 August 2017

Budget Subcommittee Meeting Minutes

Members Present: W. Hodges, T. Cooper, P. Fitzsimmons, K. Prentakis

Others Present: K. Lyons, S. Givens

W. Hodges called the meeting to order at 4:41pm.

1. Reviewed minutes from 19 June budget subcommittee meeting. T. Cooper made a motion to accept, with P. Fitzsimmons seconded it. The motion passed unanimously.

2. Discussed development of long-term capital plan. Consensus of group was that even the development process would be a multi-year (3-4 year?) process, including communications and community engagement, warrant articles, and culminating in one large bond request. S. Givens committed to becoming more familiar with MA School Building Authority's process and timeline. The subcommittee agreed to thoroughly understand what the Facilities Assessment Report says what needs to be done and when, and what we could take care of prior to a large bond request, hopefully in "chunks" that would be suitable for warrant articles.

3. Discussed facilities usage policies. K. Lyons said that while we're awaiting report and recommendations from attorney Naomi Stonberg, our approach (through end of calendar year) is to "do as we have done" in the past. One source of community concern is that booster groups are being charged to use facilities or fields. Agreed that we need to better define the district's relationship with the boosters. K. Lyons also discussed a recently held Masco Coaches Summit, where several points raised by Naomi Stonberg were highlighted: 1) no checks should be made out to a coach; 2) coaches are not agents for boosters; 3) boosters can't raise money to pay for "volunteer" or assistant coaches. Discussed the perception that district won't pay for all of an athletic team's needs, so they will need to go to the booster to get it. Also discussed that coaches can't be paid by boosters, as that would be a conflict of interest. The need to develop guidelines for coaches and others was clear. Another point made was the perception that fundraising seems to be out of control. K. Lyons pointed out that this wasn't a "witch hunt" seeking wrong-doers, but all about fixing things.

3. T. Cooper moved to adjourn the meeting; seconded by P. Fitzsimmons. Passed unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 5:35pm.