

## COMMITTEE ON JOINT SCHOOL BUILDINGS

**March 18, 1998**

**7:30 PM**

Chairman Higgins called the meeting to order.

The Clerk called the roll.

**Present:** Aldermen Klock, Pinard, Girard, School Committee Members Higgins and Healy

**Absent:** School Committee Member Johnson

**Messrs:** Dick Houle, Dick O'Shea, Frank Marinace, Fred Matuszewski, John Gatsas, Bob MacKenzie

Chairman Higgins requested that copies of the minutes from these meetings be sent to all members from now on. The Committee members all agreed with this request.

Chairman Higgins addressed Item 3 of the Agenda:

*Henry J. McLaughlin Middle School*

- a) Project Summary Report
- b) Contractor's Report
- c) Architect's recommendation for Change Order #05

Mr. Marinace briefly went over the two Change Order requests. One is for additional ledge removal and the other is for additional site lighting at Green Acres School.

Chairman Higgins asked if there was money available for these Change Orders.

Mr. Marinace answered yes, in contingency.

Alderman Girard moved the item for discussion. Alderman Pinard duly seconded the motion.

Alderman Girard asked how much money would be left in contingency.

Mr. Houle referred him to the Project Summary Page, Line 54.

Alderman Girard asked if these Change Orders could wait until the end of the project in case anything else comes up that would require more money.

Mr. Marinace answered that the Change Orders should be done soon because they want the site contractor to get the work done and then leave.

On motion of Alderman Girard, duly seconded by Alderman Pinard it was voted to approve the two Change Orders.

Mr. Marinace stated that the loose equipment went out to bid and that the School Department is in the process of reviewing them. Due to time constraints, he has asked the bidders to increase the deadline. They have all agreed except for one who had stated that the price will increase on April 1. That person happens to be the vendor for the art tables. They plan on purchasing 26 of them at \$542.79 each for a total of \$14,112.54. If they don't purchase them before April 1, the cost goes up \$80 for each table. Mr. Marinace suggested that these be purchased now before the rest of the equipment is approved.

Mr. O'Shea agreed with this suggestion.

On motion of Alderman Pinard, duly seconded by Alderman Girard, it was voted to purchase the art tables for a total of \$14,112.54.

Mr. Marinace brought out the color board for the middle school. He stated that there are three color schemes, consisting of red, green and blue.

A majority of the Committee members expressed their dislike of the rust color.

School Committee Member Healy noted that he was under the impression that the Superintendent was going to be involved in picking the color scheme and asked if that has happened.

Mr. Marinace replied no.

Alderman Pinard made a motion to have the architect and the Superintendent work together to pick out the colors. Alderman Girard seconded the motion.

Chairman Higgins called for a vote. There being none opposed, the motion carried.

School Committee Member Healy suggested that Mr. Marinace come back to the Committee with the final color choices.

Alderman Girard asked what the school colors were going to be for the new middle school.

Chairman Higgins answered that the Superintendent had to pick those colors.

Mr. Marinace stated that he needed to know pretty soon in order to paint the gymnasium.

Alderman Girard stated that he has heard three different numbers in regards to the capacity of the new middle school. He asked Mr. Marinace what the bottom line number was.

Mr. Marinace answered the school was designed for 810 students, or 27 students per classroom. Theoretically, you could have 30 students per classroom. There are going to be six teams with five classrooms for each team.

Alderman Girard asked if the classrooms would be occupied at all times of the day.

Mr. Marinace replied no.

A brief discussion took place regarding team teaching versus traditional teaching and how that affects capacity.

Alderman Girard asked if anything could be done to add capacity to the new middle school now.

Mr. Marinace answered that there is a design for an addition for another two teams which would be another 250 students.

Alderman Girard asked what the dollar amount for that is.

Mr. MacKenzie answered that they don't have one. They wanted the capacity to expand the school so that had a design done, but have not put a price on it.

Chairman Higgins addressed Item 4 of the Agenda:

*Central/West Heat & Ventilation Improvements*

a) Project Summary Report

Mr. Houle noted that they are holding \$7,000 in retainers because they are having software problems.

Alderman Girard asked how many phases were left in this project.

Mr. Houle answered two or three.

School Committee Member Healy stated that he thought they were on the last phase.

Mr. Houle replied that originally, this was a \$5 million project. They are currently out to bid for Year 3 for \$1 million.

On motion of Alderman Girard, duly seconded by Alderman Klock, it was voted to accept the report.

Chairman Higgins addressed Item 5 of the Agenda:

*Central High School/Locker Room Improvements*

a) Project Summary Report

Mr. Houle noted that they have been made aware of some problems and he has asked the architect to be present at the next meeting.

On motion of Alderman Girard, duly seconded by Alderman Pinard, it was voted to accept the report.

Chairman Higgins addressed Item 6 of the Agenda:

*West High School/Special Ed Room 104 w/toilet rooms*

a) Project Summary Report

Mr. Houle noted that they are having problems with the floor in Room 104. He has asked the architect to be present at the next meeting.

On motion of Alderman Girard, duly seconded by Alderman Pinard, it was voted to accept the report.

Chairman Higgins addressed Item 7 of the Agenda:

*Memorial High School Science Lab and Other Improvements*

- a) Project Summary Report

Mr. Matuszewski stated that at the last School Board meeting it was decided to add a weight room to the outside of the gym.

On motion of School Committee Member Healy, duly seconded by Alderman Pinard, it was voted to accept the report.

Chairman Higgins addressed Item 8 of the Agenda:

*ADA Accessibility/School Elevators*

- a) Project Summary Report

On motion of Alderman Girard, duly seconded by School Committee Member Healy, it was voted to accept the report.

**NEW BUSINESS**

Alderman Pinard stated that he has been touring various schools for over a month now and will have a report to give to the Committee at the next meeting. He feels that the janitorial problems can be solved.

Chairman Higgins asked if the report could be given to the Building & Sites Committee since the Joint School Committee is not the proper Committee to deal with janitorial issues.

Alderman Pinard agreed.

There being no further business to come before the Committee, on motion of Alderman Girard, duly seconded by Alderman Pinard it was voted to adjourn.

A True Record. Attest.

Clerk of the Committee