

COMMITTEE ON JOINT SCHOOL BUILDINGS

November 16, 1998
PM

6:30

Chairman Higgins called the meeting to order.

The Clerk called the roll.

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

Messrs: R. Houle, D. O'Shea, F. Marinace, F. Matuszewski, R. MacKenzie, S. Page

Chairman Higgins addressed Item 3 of the agenda:

Minutes of meeting held on September 21, 1998.

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

Chairman Higgins addressed Item 4 of the agenda:

Henry J. McLaughlin Jr. Middle School

Mr. Houle stated there is a contingency balance of \$5,600. Frank has a couple of recommendations he would like to make.

Chairman Higgins asked when does our warranty start. Did it start yesterday or did it start in August?

Mr. Houle answered it started when we took occupancy of the building which was when school opened I believe.

Mr. Marinace stated no there are about four different start dates because we punched out parts of the building at different times. The mechanical electrical systems is one week and different parts of the building have different start times. When we punch out the building and take it over, that is when the warranty starts.

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Mr. Houle stated and it hasn't started on the two fields yet.

Chairman Higgins stated the fence is down over there by the way. I don't know if you noticed it yesterday. There is a big sign that says "Don't go on this field, it is under construction" or something like that.

Mr. Houle replied I didn't notice. Parks & Recreation put that fence up and I will call them.

Mr. Marinace stated the fence is up around Field A and the contractor wants to wait until spring to paint it because we missed the weather window. We want to wait until spring and get a good job. That is one thing. Also, the sod has gone down on the field and we would like to hold some money until spring in case the sod doesn't work.

Alderman Girard asked when did the sod go down.

Mr. Marinace answered it was completed a few weeks ago.

Alderman Girard asked and it is not past the time when things like that are non-viable.

Mr. Marinace answered the sod is okay. What we want to do is wait until spring.

Alderman Girard asked is it going to take over the winter I guess is my point because we are pretty much past the growing season.

Mr. Marinace answered yes, we will see. We are going to hold money until spring to see if that comes in. Then there is some money left to be paid to the general contractor plus Change Order #10 which you have already approved but we are waiting for a price to come in. We are recommending holding \$50,000 plus any amounts for uncompleted work until it has been demonstrated that the sodded fields will be acceptable in the spring.

Alderman Girard asked did we irrigate those fields.

Mr. Houle answered yes.

School Committee Member Healy stated I am looking for the money that would have been allocated for the tennis courts. Never mind, I found it. Item #99 it says amount encumbered \$38,400. That is money that is going to be sent over to Parks & Recreation?

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Mr. Houle replied correct.

Chairman Higgins asked did they already pay the architect.

Mr. Houle answered that partial payment was for some phase of design I believe. I think for clarity, Mr. MacKenzie may want to step in. This has now become part of a larger project, correct?

Mr. MacKenzie replied yes, when they took the tennis courts out they felt that they could maintain them much better with one larger group of tennis courts, a full six courts, at Memorial High School and they are trying to find the balance of funding to do the full project at Memorial. This \$40,000 is a chunk towards that but they still need some additional money to finish it.

School Committee Member Healy stated my concern is that that doesn't get lost in the shuffle somewhere and that they just don't find the money and the \$40,000 just disappears. We have already lost most of the courts on the southern part of Manchester.

Mr. MacKenzie stated we have been encouraging them but of course they can come back to us and say can you give us the rest of the money to do it so we are looking for ways to fund it. They probably need another \$60,000 to do a nice job.

Mr. Houle stated we at PBS are controlling and we will not let the money be used for any other purpose but this one.

Chairman Higgins asked but if it has already been earmarked, doesn't that money belong to this Committee.

Mr. Houle answered technically, I suppose.

Chairman Higgins stated I am just saying that we will have to be made aware of any expenditures.

Mr. Houle replied right because we have been carrying this right along.

Chairman Higgins stated because it says right here JSBC Balance in Contingency. That is where that money came from.

Mr. Houle replied right but that is the subtotal of lines 81 through 94.

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Chairman Higgins stated \$1,600 is actually spent but the rest is being held. The point I am trying to make is it wouldn't just disappear, it would have to go through this Committee, wouldn't it?

Mr. Houle replied well it has not gone through this Committee to this point. \$12,500 has been earmarked for the architect and design. I certainly can bring it to this Committee. The money has been allocated to this Committee.

Chairman Higgins responded that is all I am saying. We would oversee it so that if there was any...if somebody tried to use it, it would have to come back here.

Mr. Houle replied yes, no question.

On motion of Alderman Girard, duly seconded by Alderman Pinard, it was voted to withhold \$50,000 on this project until it has been demonstrated that the sodded fields will be acceptable in the spring.

Chairman Higgins addressed Item 5 of the agenda:

Jr. High School Tech Ed

Mr. Houle stated there are some problems, minor problems, but between the School Administration and myself I am sure we are going to be able to resolve them. Mr. O'Shea advised me today that he is trying to set-up a meeting with some other interested parties to review the situation and Tom Brennan has agreed to join us as well.

Chairman Higgins asked is this something that you can share with us.

Mr. Houle answered mainly it is miscommunication.

Mr. O'Shea stated some of the things were problematic within the wiring in that they have the safety switches, they usually call them hot button switches and what they did to safeguard the computer equipment they put them in the office area of the Tech Ed Directors and when they hit the hot buttons it shuts down all of the computers so what we have to do is just run some wiring for the computers alone directly out at the sub panel. That should be resolved.

Chairman Higgins asked is this the letter that the Board received.

Mr. O'Shea answered yes.

Mr. Houle answered that particular item Frank has already agreed to take care of, the wiring, because that should not have occurred, so that will be corrected. As you know, there were several issues in that letter and I think most of them were miscommunication.

Chairman Higgins asked but you are working on them.

Mr. Houle answered yes, we are.

School Committee Member Healy stated I am sure you received a letter from Tom Brennan, I'm sorry, from the principal, Mr. Donahue, over at Hillside to Tom Brennan and he had a number of the same concerns that were addressed in that other letter that was sent to Board members from Mr. Bruce Lemire. Power switches, the computer server file, the heater and the three rooms that were loud.

Mr. Houle replied some of those things were taken care of the day he wrote the letter. I mean the boiler was off and when they turned the fan on they got cool air so by the following day that was corrected.

School Committee Member Healy responded I was just following up on the letter.

Mr. Houle stated any problems that we cannot resolve we will report back to the Committee.

Chairman Higgins addressed Item 6 of the agenda:

Parkside Jr. High School Addition

Mr. Houle stated in your package that was handed out tonight, there are two items that relate to this. One is the bid results and the second is a tentative budget to be approved. Basically, I will let Frank review the bid results. The bids were opened Friday afternoon at 4 p.m. and Frank reviewed them over the weekend. He met with the SCIP Committee this afternoon and we spent a couple of hours reviewing this project and the attached budget reflects what we agreed to.

Mr. Marinace stated we have Steve Page from Bonnette, Page & Stone here to answer some questions about the project itself but lets do the bids first. Bonnette, Page & Stone was the low bidder. With any combination of alternates, they would still be the low bidder.

Alderman Girard asked are they the low bidder by the \$12,000 difference between them and North Branch. Is that what you are basing it on, the base bid or is there another total in here somewhere that we should be looking at?

Mr. Marinace answered we are basing it on the base bid and I said even if we take any combination of alternates they would still be the low bidder. Now we have a breakdown on roofing, electrical and mechanical prices. Those prices are included in the base bid. We just wanted a breakdown and an idea of who the contractor proposed to use for those things. So those numbers for roofing, electrical and mechanical are already included in the \$1,976,000. If anyone has a problem with any of those subs they can speak up.

Chairman Higgins asked what does LDG stand for.

Mr. Marinace answered they are the mechanical contractors that did the McLaughlin School. It stands for Luke D. Girard.

Alderman Girard asked is there a reason, Mr. Marinace, why some of the same contractors have got different prices.

Mr. Marinace answered yes, this was not a sub bid job which meant that we didn't get bids from subcontractors and open them so the general contractor can put any price he wants for the subs. I assume you are looking at North Branch. They took the subcontractors price and marked it up a little bit. That is all they did. That doesn't mean they get more money, they are just showing more money for that sub, that is all.

School Committee Member Herbert asked what are the alternates #A4, SP-1, etc. Am I supposed to know what those mean?

Mr. Marinace answered I will tell you what they are. Laminate Casework. This means taking all the casework we have that is specified as in the McLaughlin School and changing it to plastic laminate.

Alderman Girard asked could you explain casework please.

Mr. Marinace answered cabinets, shelving, etc. We don't recommend the plastic laminate casework. It is a cheaper material, cheaper product. As you can see it is \$9,000 cheaper but we don't recommend that. Alt. #A2 is to delete casework on the first floor only. The second floor has sinks. Two sinks in every room. The first floor didn't have sinks so instead of base cabinets they would have open

frames which are countertops with wall shelves above. So we can eliminate all those and save some money. That is a \$16,000 credit. Again, we would have no casework in those classrooms except for a teacher's wardrobe storage shelf. If we don't have to, I would recommend not taking that.

Alderman Girard stated you were talking about putting sinks in the classrooms on the second floor and not the first. Why wouldn't we want to organize the building such that any plumbing stayed on the first floor. It seems to me it would be less expensive to put it in and it would cause less damage if it ever broke.

Mr. Marinace replied on the damage question, possibly but the advantage of putting sinks on the second floor is we can get at all the piping. You don't have all the piping under the floor, under the slab. The less piping under the slab, it is easier to get at because you can get at it under the ceiling.

Alderman Girard asked so this addition is being built on a slab and the plumbing would have to go under the slab.

Mr. Marinace answered right. Instead of that, we could put it up in the ceiling. There are advantages and disadvantages. You can get to it but if it breaks you mess up the ceiling, but if it breaks under the floor you have got a bigger problem.

Alderman Girard asked is there any way to run the plumbing on top of the slab.

Mr. Marinace answered in cabinets but not the wastelines, not easily. You need to get a certain pitch.

Alderman Girard replied I am not thinking the wastelines so much as I am the actual plumbing. I mean if there was a way to run the water lines on top of the slab and take care of the wasteline underneath it, would that make more sense.

Mr. Marinace stated well we would do that anyway. The only thing under the slab would be the waste piping. All the water piping is above the floor.

Alderman Girard asked so if all the water piping is above the floor, wouldn't it be more piping and more potential problems if you were to put all of that plumbing up to the second floor rather than keep it on the first.

Mr. Marinace answered it is not a big deal and the Administration wanted them all on the second floor.

Alderman Girard stated well the Administration is not always known for practical things.

School Committee Member Herbert asked are most schools built on slabs.

Mr. Marinace answered yes. We rarely see a basement.

School Committee Member Healy asked why is that.

Mr. Marinace answered it is expensive to build that whole floor structure. You have to support the floor. You have to put all that steel and columns.

School Committee Member Herbert asked is there any advantage to a basement.

Mr. Marinace answered more space but you are paying for the space . It is cheaper space then up above but if there is a basement space you can't use it for students.

School Committee Member Herbert stated so practically there is no advantage to it.

Mr. Marinace replied if you want to spend the extra money it is storage space. I think contractors would rather build everything on slab and give you an extra room. You are dealing with great big spans. In a house, you have small spans but in a classroom there is a 30' span and you need some pretty good steel to hold up the floor for a lot of columns.

Chairman Higgins asked is the library staying where it is or is it moving to the addition.

Mr. Marinace answered we are not touching the library.

Chairman Higgins asked are there going to be any food and nutrition classes in the new addition.

Mr. Marinace answered we didn't plan on that. The original program was for 18 plain classrooms and then we were asked if we could take these classrooms and put two sinks in them that can be used for a variety of things such as science.

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Alderman Girard stated I don't know if Mr. O'Shea could answer this question, but is there a reason why the Administration wants sinks on the upper floors as opposed to the lower floors.

Mr. O'Shea replied I couldn't answer that.

Chairman Higgins stated I have some correspondence from Ed Wade to the Administration when all this was being worked on and, do you remember that Dick. I don't know if I shared it with you.

Mr. Houle replied well I know that this conforms to what Ed Wade wanted and what the Administration supported.

Alderman Girard stated well the concern I have is I own some multi-unit dwellings and I know that every opportunity I get to pull plumbing out of an upper floor for a washer hook-up or something like that and put it in the basement, I do it because if a washing machine overflows on the third floor I have a mess and if it overflows in the basement, generally I have a wet basement. There is a big difference and potential liability to the building, not to mention maintenance costs.

Chairman Higgins stated in view of that, what is the disadvantage.

School Committee Member Healy stated I don't think they are going to put a washer and dryer up on the second floor of a building. Look at this building, we have sinks, we have bathrooms. I don't think we are looking at a major wash area. We are looking at putting a sink on a second floor. I don't think it is a major issue and a major deal.

Alderman Girard stated I am noting it for the record because I don't care what is up there but if a pipe breaks it is going to destroy a ceiling when it comes down.

Chairman Higgins replied well water is destructive wherever it is.

Alderman Girard responded that is my point, Madam Chair.

Mr. Marinace stated Alt. #A3, Single Windows, means that we specified the windows as we have in McLaughlin. The double windows. One of the reasons that we put them in McLaughlin was because of the airwaves sounds. Another reason was because it does save a little on hit but I told the SCIP Committee that the extra expense for those windows doesn't have a great payback. The payback isn't seven years. It is probably a 20 year payback. We also put them in because of vandals. If somebody breaks the outside window, you still have another window inside. Now they are saying that it costs \$6,000 more to put those double windows in. The existing Parkside building doesn't have anything like even

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insulated glass so if we went to the single windows, they would still have insulated glass which would be a lot better than what they have now. That is a decision you

have to make. Alt. #A4 is Passage Doors. We laid out the classrooms to meet the code and we didn't want to spend extra money anywhere we didn't have to so we didn't put doors between the classrooms because it is not required by code. The Administration came to us after the building was mostly designed and said we would like to have doors between the classrooms so we put it in as an alternate and what this alternate does is puts passage doors, with no locks on them, between all the classrooms.

Chairman Higgins asked do those have to be fire rated doors.

Mr. Marinace answered no.

Alderman Girard asked why aren't there any locks.

Mr. Marinace answered because they are passage doors between the classrooms. There are locks on the corridor doors but we don't put locks on passage doors.

Alderman Girard stated you don't put locks on the doors but if someone gets into one classroom they can shoot through a whole group of them so the locks on the outside door are no good.

Mr. Marinace replied that is the way it works, beside which side would you lock.

Chairman Higgins stated well it is an alternate so you can vote whichever way you would like.

Mr. Marinace stated Alt. SP-1, Sprinklers, what this alternate does, right now in the existing building there are no sprinklers and in the addition we did not put in sprinklers because we are not required to by code. The Fire Department requested that we put sprinklers in the addition. We put that in as an alternate and to fully sprinkle the addition and include a sprinkler entrance which is the main part coming in and big enough to sprinkle the whole building, that would cost \$42,000 above and beyond the base bid. Alt. E-2 is almost in the same category because it deals with fire alarms. We have designed a fire alarm system in the new building with its own panel. The Fire Department requested that the fire alarm system in the old building be upgraded to meet all the current codes which means a lot more detectors and they would be in every room. That was an alternate. One fire alarm panel, old building and new building, and bringing it up to code which is \$55,000 in addition to the base bid. Those are the alternates you have to decide on.

Mr. Houle stated essentially it is up to the Committee, but the SCIP Committee is recommending all of the alternates. I mean it is recommending that we not take A1, A2, and A3 and it is recommending that we take A4, SP-1, and E-2. Now the attached sheet indicates a budget with a contract recommended for Bonnette, Page, & Stone of \$2,083,600.

School Committee Member Herbert asked that is with all the alternates.

Mr. Houle answered that is rejecting the deducts and accepting the adds.

Alderman Girard asked we have a total budget of \$2,473,000.

Mr. Houle answered correct.

Chairman Higgins asked that is what we actually have.

Mr. Houle answered yes, that is one of the things we reviewed with SCIP this afternoon. We would have to bring some additional funds in. As you know, I think we started with \$2.2 million.

Chairman Higgins asked do we have the money, Bob.

Mr. MacKenzie answered yes.

Alderman Girard stated the completion time for all of the contractors except North Branch Construction gives a number of days where North Branch gives a date. If we were to go with Bonnette, Page & Stone, what is the expected completion date?

280 days from what?

Mr. Page replied that is always a question when we are asked to put down the number of days because it is 280 days from the notice to proceed but we have no way of knowing whether you are going to issue that notice to proceed last Friday when the job bid or at the end of the seven day period, so we calculated it from last Friday when it bid and I believe it puts our completion date at August 20. The 16th I believe is a Monday and we were looking at that Friday.

Alderman Girard stated so you are projecting a longer completion time or a longer date than anyone else here.

Mr. Page replied it depends on when that date goes from.

Alderman Girard responded I understand. I wonder if you are being conservative here or if you are being...I mean obviously the goal is to make sure that this addition is ready for school next year. Are you going to meet that?

Mr. Page replied yes we are going to meet that. The way we looked at the project, we would turn the building over to you in two phases. The second floor first which would probably be the Friday prior to that, August 13 and then the lower floor the next Friday, August 20.

Alderman Girard asked, Mr. O'Shea, do you have any idea how long it is going to take the department to make sure that desks and books and all the needed school supplies are going to get over to Parkside. How long is it going to take to get this addition up to speed?

Mr. O'Shea answered it usually takes six months from the time we bid until delivery on school furnishings. If we start in January, we would have delivery in July.

Alderman Girard stated I guess the question is once the building is completed, how long is it going to take the department to get everything physically into the building.

Mr. O'Shea replied it will only take us approximately a week for the simple reason that you don't have all kinds of specialties such as labs, etc. These are straight classrooms.

Alderman Girard asked so if they are completed by August 20 then you don't foresee a problem with having the building ready for school.

Mr. O'Shea answered there should be no problem in getting the equipment in the building.

Chairman Higgins stated we have to take the low bidder so it is Bonnette, Page & Stone at this point. Even though they give us a 280 day completion date, can we ask for a shorter time period.

Mr. Houle replied yes, we can. I don't know what Steve is going to say and, Frank, you may also want to advise the Committee as to what liquidated damages are for this project.

Mr. Marinace responded we included in the specifications that if the building is not complete on August 16, the City may lease portable classrooms for a year billable to the contractor. That is a safety precaution in case it is not complete so there is someplace to house the kids.

Chairman Higgins asked and then what happens.

Mr. Marinace answered and then the contractor will finish up his contract and you can get rid of the portable classrooms.

Chairman Higgins asked so it is to your (Mr. Page) advantage to complete it as soon as possible if you are the one paying the bill for leasing.

Mr. Page answered yes.

Chairman Higgins stated that is all I wanted to make sure of. So if there is a notice to proceed, when do you break ground?

Mr. Page replied I stuck my neck out a little bit and assumed I would get a notice to proceed tomorrow and I lined up subs and called Dig Save so we could actually start excavating on Thursday.

Chairman Higgins asked this Thursday.

Mr. Page answered yes. Every day counts at this time of year.

Alderman Girard moved to accept the low bid from Bonnette, Page & Stone to include Alt. #A4, Alt. SP-1, and Alt. E-2 with a completion date of August 16, 1999. Alderman Pinard duly seconded the motion.

Alderman Klock stated I have a question about the budgeting for the additional teachers. Has the School Department budgeted for that and how many new teachers are we looking at?

Mr. O'Shea replied that would be in next year's budget.

Alderman Girard stated in theory there shouldn't have to be too many additional teachers because in theory they should just be relocating the sixth grades to this space.

Chairman Higgins stated actually when we began the McLaughlin School, that was one of the questions that the Aldermen asked and Bob MacKenzie had prepared a letter as to what the impact would be. We got one from the Administration and one from the City, I think. One on the tax rate and the other on the budget. Does this Committee want such a report?

Alderman Girard stated I don't think it falls within the purview of this Committee to be perfectly honest with you, Madam Chair. I would love to see that and as an Alderman I will ask for it, but I don't think it falls within the purview of this Committee.

Chairman Higgins replied well it does in so far as we are voting on an amount of money.

Alderman Girard stated the staffing questions and what not are beyond the bricks and mortar issues that we deal with. I agree with you that it is information that we should have but...

Chairman Higgins replied I am asking the question. If you want the report, we can get it.

Alderman Klock responded yes.

Alderman Girard stated it should be sent to both Boards.

Chairman Higgins asked, Mr. O'Shea, is that doable.

Mr. O'Shea answered yes.

School Committee Member Healy stated going back to where they are eliminating some of the shelving.

Chairman Higgins replied no we are not allowing that. Alt. A1 was plastic casework which they don't recommend, deleting casework on the first floor and using single windows which they don't recommend.

School Committee Member Herbert asked, Mr. Page, is an August 16, 1999 completion date going to cause a problem.

Mr. Page answered no.

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Chairman Higgins asked well can we move it up to August 10 then.

Alderman Girard asked the bid specs required August 16.

Mr. Marinace answered the specifications said the owner has need for the building on August 16.

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

Mr. Marinace stated we need to hire a soils and concrete testing company. In our contract there is an allowance for testing.

Chairman Higgins asked I thought we already did that.

Mr. Marinace answered that was soils testing. It is the same pot of money, but it is going to be a different contractor. We had three bids and the low bid was Miller Engineering, the same company that did McLaughlin. We are recommending that we go with Miller Engineering.

Alderman Girard moved to approve Miller Engineering's bid. School Committee Member Herbert duly seconded the motion. Chairman Higgins called for a vote. There being none opposed, the motion carried.

Chairman Higgins addressed Item 7 of the agenda:

Memorial High School Science Lab and Other Improvements

Mr. Houle stated part of the packet you were giving out was an update of the Memorial High School Science Lab. The basic difference with this one and the one in your packet is a \$680 bill from Honeywell for rewiring which is in the process of being paid by PBS.

Chairman Higgins asked didn't that come before us before.

Alderman Girard asked why are we paying them to rewire, what are we paying them to rewire.

Mr. Houle answered their equipment.

Alderman Girard asked did they screw up the first time.

Mr. Houle answered no, Honeywell has an intrusion alarm and other types of alarm systems in the building and the work that Fred had done required this equipment to be rerouted. I got the bill from Mr. O'Shea.

Chairman Higgins stated this came up before this summer, didn't it.

Mr. Houle stated we will hold it and get back to you at the next meeting. If we can't resolve it, I don't think we have enough information to operate on it today. The bill was sent over to us from the School Department. I believe the services are rendered. We will research it.

Mr. Matuszewski stated you voted to approve, I guess, \$4,520 for Information Technology and TNT to relocate existing communications cable and data. I don't know if this is part of that.

Mr. Houle replied we will check it out. I suspect it is not but I will check it out.

Mr. Matuszewski stated first the contractor has completed his work and we are in the process of reviewing operation and maintenance manuals. As built drawings presently are at our engineers being reviewed. I fully expect that these items will be resolved within the next week. I have two items, Item a is the laboratory casework as installed at #305. It was installed after Labor Day. It does not conform to the documents of what we had requested or the shop drawings. The City standard that we had adopted at Central and then continued on at West had called for a steel reinforced top that is cantilevered over a pedestal base. We had marked up our shop drawings and returned them. The casework arrived on site and in lieu of this steel reinforcing they added legs to the cantilevered condition to which we said this is unacceptable. We are still trying to find a solution to this.

Alderman Girard asked are there funds we can withhold. I am not inclined to pay for anything that wasn't specified out at all.

Mr. Matuszewski answered we are withholding a retainage right now which certainly covers the scheduled amount. The laboratory casework is worth \$30,000 and as we speak we are still withholding \$90,000. I don't have any progress on this. I would have to get back to you on the casework. Item b is the band uniform clothes racks that we had designed in Music Storage #705-A and it failed under the load of uniforms and whatever else they put up on the shelf. We don't understand this because the contractor was doing chin-ups on the shelf. We have proposed

and I have forward to Harvey Construction a redesign of this in lieu of the heavy duty wire shelving to furnish and install wooden casework that is not just anchored to the wall, but rests on the floor. I guess fundamentally or sarcastically speaking it might support a house.

Alderman Girard asked did these racks collapse with stuff on them. Was anyone able to go in there and take a look at what caused it?

School Committee Member Healy answered I had the opportunity to talk to the principal. Now apparently the uniforms weigh approximately, putting them all there, 1,500 pounds. It was very heavy.

Alderman Girard asked what are they putting on there, suits of armor.

School Committee Member Healy answered every uniform probably weighs...they are very heavy. I don't remember the exact weight but it was somewhere in the vicinity of...it was poundage, a significant amount of poundage and when you put 100+ of these uniforms together, it came up to a significant amount of weight. Apparently they put them all on the racks and came in the next day and these brand-new uniforms, well not brand-new but they are a few years old and cost thousands of dollars, were all on the floor.

Alderman Girard asked and that was the only thing on the rack, those uniforms.

School Committee Member Healy answered apparently, to my knowledge.

Alderman Girard asked, Fred, were you aware of the weight of these uniforms when this was designed.

Mr. Matuszewski answered I knew that we had uniforms and the wire shelving that we had installed was supposed to take this weight. If I can finish with my proposal, we, CMK, are willing to pay for the wire shelving. It failed. It is wrong. I have a proposal from Harvey Construction for \$1,200 for the new casework. Obviously what the wire shelving is worth I don't have an answer for you right now. I am sure it is a few hundred dollars. I am requesting, I guess, that the City pay for the difference of this plywood construction that we had forwarded to Harvey.

Chairman Higgins asked do you know what the difference will be. You don't know because they haven't told you how much the wiring cost?

Mr. Matuszewski answered well I can go out on a limb and put a ceiling of \$1,000. I will make sure that the difference doesn't exceed that.

Alderman Girard asked do you have any way of knowing, Fred, whether or not the shelving that was installed was defective in any way.

Mr. Matuszewski answered well not now, no.

Alderman Girard asked did you get a chance to look at it and make any kind of evaluation or was it gone before you...

Mr. Matuszewski answered it was gone.

School Committee Member Healy asked, Fred, the metal shelving that was in there isn't that basically the same type of metal shelving that you see in a lot of the new homes. Your basic metal shelving that is screwed into the wall?

Mr. Matuszewski answered yes but it was anchored into the wall with a stud there.

Alderman Klock asked, Dan, how much does one weigh.

School Committee Member Healy answered I don't know the exact weight, but it is considerably heavy. They have all kinds of garments that they put on and the hat. I am not sure but I know they are heavy and there is 100+ of them.

Alderman Girard moved to accept Mr. Matuszewski's proposal. School Committee Member Herbert duly seconded the motion. Chairman Higgins called for a vote. There being none opposed, the motion carried.

Chairman Higgins addressed Item 8 of the agenda:

Highland Goffs Falls School Elevator

Mr. Matuszewski stated the elevator is complete. Once again, the elevator was inspected by the state elevator inspector and the work was reviewed by Dan Lemariere of Dick Houle's staff and myself and the contractor. We presently have as built drawings, testing and balancing reports. Once again we have a retainage, a full 10% retainage that we will be forwarding. I expect that we will be approving the as built drawings and testing and balancing reports and I guess I have a question as to the final approval and acceptance of this project. Will I be accepting this?

Chairman Higgins asked what is our policy, Dick.

Mr. Houle answered well what we talked about in general was establishing a policy and then having the architect, school administration and myself making a recommendation to the Joint School Building Committee to accept the project.

Chairman Higgins stated that way everybody gets to see it.

Mr. Houle stated including the school principal.

Alderman Girard asked this is going to be the policy that we apply to every project now because before the policy was the building administrators got to sign off and we didn't like that policy. We have a new policy now.

Chairman Higgins answered right. Well there wasn't really a policy, that is just what happened and because there was an issue that hasn't yet been resolved, we decided that we were going to have an official policy. This is how we accept things.

Alderman Girard asked could we have that policy sent to us. Can someone type it up and say that this is the new acceptance of projects policy or something?

Chairman Higgins asked Dick.

Mr. Houle answered we will have the Clerk draft something up.

Chairman Higgins addressed Item 9 of the agenda:

Central/West Heat & Ventilation Improvements

Mr. Houle stated the water and air is currently in the process of being balanced. There was some concern early on that the air was a little noisy at West, but the engineer is confident that balancing will take care of most of the problems. We are holding \$53,000 retainage. Basically, the project is complete. All the hardware is installed, the controls are in, etc.

Alderman Girard asked, Dick, how are we going to proceed with accepting things like heating and ventilation projects. I mean obviously that is something that is probably beyond the technical expertise of everyone at this Committee and of most administrative posts. Locker rooms and things like that are one thing, but how are we going to do these?

Chairman Higgins answered normally we don't go and accept things. We leave it to Dick and the Administration and our architect. Obviously, I don't know anyone here who is a heating and ventilation specialist or any kind of construction specialist so we leave it to the experts to do that and when they tell us the job is complete to their satisfaction, we have to accept it. That is what they get paid for.

Alderman Girard stated I just want to be clear. So things that we can see and evaluate visually we...

Chairman Higgins interjected well we go and take a look at it. In the past that is what we have done. We went over to Central and saw the locker room and went over to West and got a tour of all that and last year we saw the new rooms for special ed and the handicapped bathrooms. That is what we do, but we don't actually go and inspect and accept.

Chairman Higgins addressed Item 12 of the agenda:

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

Chairman Higgins asked do we have a resolution to this.

Mr. Houle answered no we do not, but hopefully by the next meeting I will have a recommendation for you. We have \$5,000 that we are holding. What we can do is go out and do it ourselves. There is enough money to do that and at the next meeting if we don't have a satisfactory resolution from the contractor and the architect, that is what I will recommend.

Chairman Higgins addressed Item 10 of the agenda:

NORESCO Performance Contract

Chairman Higgins stated we have a report on NORESCO's progress which is really good because I know a lot of people have been asking for it. Would it be possible to have this sent to both Boards because I know that our Board was asking about it.

Mr. Houle replied we can. This is a preliminary type report. By the next meeting, hopefully, we will tie it to money as well. As you know, these are the four facets of the project. The lighting is moving ahead. The facility management system, we pretty well know what we are doing. This really gets technically complex, this portion is the most difficult. Security, we have had one preliminary meeting. We

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hope to meet with the School Administration or more of the School
Administration

people to further develop the elements of the security system and to prioritize and treat all schools alike. Somewhere we know we are going to run out of money. The motors and variable speed drives, we will bring those to you as they occur. These are not big items.

Alderman Girard asked, Mr. Houle, if we know we are going to run out of money somewhere but we don't know where, how are we going to be able to treat all schools alike.

Mr. Houle answered well, what we would say is that all schools will have a controller, all schools will have motion detection in certain areas, we will protect corridors, we will protect offices, we will protect computers. Then the next level or one of the next levels would be the access system into the school. We hope to be able to have card access, proximity card readers, and we also hope as part of that system, at least some of us are aware of it but we have not spoken to all school administrators yet, but that there be a simple administrative decision made that all school doors will be locked during school hours and there is limited access and from that limited access if the personnel from the office can't see the front door we will have to think about installing a television camera and a remote sensor. That would be the type of standard. My sense is that all schools will be treated alike with basic equipment. Some of it will tend to get complex and expensive and I think we can delay some of that for a period of time. We have somewhere in the \$300,000 range available for security. We will be picking up grants from PSNH as we move along for work we currently are doing. Certainly this can be forwarded to both Boards.

Chairman Higgins stated I think it is interesting and people have been asking questions so it would be good to know where we are at right now.

Chairman Higgins addressed Item 11 of the agenda:

Central High School Locker Room Improvements

Mr. Houle stated I spoke to the City Solicitor's Office today and he promised that for the next meeting he will have considered it and have a response.

Alderman Girard asked that is the one where we signed off and accepted the stuff.

Chairman Higgins answered yes.

School Committee Member Healy stated there was a letter that we received in reference to Hallsville, the Title I Room ventilation. What is the progress with that?

Mr. Houle replied well we did discuss that at SCIP today. First of all, this is not a Title I Room. This is a storage room and it was designed as a storage room. I can't keep people from putting people in storage rooms, but that is what happened. I did tell the individual that I would do what I could to help. We have some preliminary design information. We know that there is a price tag associated with the work at this point time of \$11,000. When I reviewed this at SCIP, the School Administration folks, namely Mr. O'Shea and Mr. Brennan, well Mr. Brennan was there but we know it is not his area, they are going to raise questions with the principal relative to the use of the room. Tied to this is another instance we have at another school where the principal adds a wall in the middle of a classroom with the heat on one side, the thermostat on the other, and calls and tells us that we have no problem. Now, State law says that any building modification be approved by the Board of School Committee. I don't think people should be building walls. No permit has been pulled. Then we run into situations with heat on one side and the thermostat on the other. This is not the first time this has happened so I would hope that the Board of School Committee would look favorably on supporting...

School Committee Member Herbert asked did they go in on the weekend and build this or what.

Mr. Houle answered we found out about it today.

Chairman Higgins stated so what you are saying is that in this particular instance at Hallsville, this is a storage room that has been sort of converted into a classroom and now they need ventilation and heat and so forth.

Mr. Houle replied correct but there is plenty of internal heat. Ventilation is the issue now. It will cost \$11,000 to provide adequate ventilation in that room. I don't have it in the annual maintenance budget. I am in trouble already for the year. If I had it, I was going to do what I could. I did bring it to SCIP's attention today.

School Committee Member Healy stated so if I can, then the response is that we go back to the school and tell them to take their Title I people and move them out of there and my next question that they are going to ask me is well where do I put

them. If you go to Hallsville School, they are already utilizing 90% of the basement. They have makeshift classrooms all over. If you go up to the second floor of the building, their library is in the hallway. This school just has absolutely no room and no place to go. We need to address some of the needs of that school.

Alderman Girard asked didn't we just put a million dollar addition on that school.

School Committee Member Healy answered we did not put any classrooms at that school. They should have built classrooms on top of that school when they needed it because that school needs some attention. This is a room that is in the basement area. It is a pretty good size room. It is a Title I classroom where they bring kids in on an individual basis and work with them.

Chairman Higgins stated the other issue is that somebody else at another school built something, a wall, and nobody knew about it.

Mr. Houle replied right, except for the principal.

Alderman Girard asked which school.

Mr. Houle answered Hillside.

Alderman Girard asked they took a regular classroom and dropped a wall in it.

Mr. Houle answered I haven't seen it yet.

Alderman Pinard stated they did that at McDonough School too.

Mr. Houle replied that was done some years ago. I think all school changes should be made by the Board of School Committee. Now this one here, frankly, I was moving on it. I don't know how it is going to happen this year. I don't have the money. That is straight forward. Frankly, he could have called before writing the letter. I agree with the need. I am not quarreling with that.

Chairman Higgins stated actually it is not really your problem. All you are being asked to do is provide ventilation and if you don't have the money then we have to figure something else out.

Mr. Houle replied I think the way it stands now is School Administration is going to be looking into it and move on the funding request.

Alderman Girard asked they can't make any classroom space or they can't do anything in the community room or the community side of that building to set-up classrooms.

School Committee Member Healy answered the community side of that room is the gymnasium where the kids, during the course of the day, eat lunch and have their gym class. That is not appropriate space.

Mr. MacKenzie stated as of next year, once the full middle school program is implemented, all of the sixth graders will be leaving Hallsville and I think there are three classrooms that would be freed up. That would be additional space in that school.

Chairman Higgins stated the Administration is looking into this right now. Maybe we need to have more information.

Alderman Pinard asked do we have a timetable.

Alderman Girard asked does it belong at this Committee.

Chairman Higgins answered no, not right now.

School Committee Member Healy stated before we adjourn, I would just encourage Board members to go in and walk Hallsville School and take a look at the secretary who is out in the hall, the guidance department is out in the hall, the library is out in the hall, all special needs classes are down in the basement.

Alderman Girard replied I don't doubt it but I don't remember how many years ago it was now we spent \$1 million and we stuck an addition onto Hallsville and we put an addition onto Wilson and nobody even started to address the issue of Chandler. Within, I don't know, three or four blocks of each other we have three 100+ year old buildings that clearly aren't suited to the need and if there was going to be an expansion, I believe the School Board approved all expansion plans, there should have been either classrooms or in my opinion they should have bombed them all flat, taken a couple of blocks and built a real school that would handle the neighborhood's need. So now we are all complaining about all the things that weren't done when, in fact, what was asked at the time was, in fact, done at the time.

School Committee Member Healy stated if I could just follow-up. That is not so. I have been around awhile. When they were first talking about it, and I think I was on Building & Sites then, originally there was some discussion about adding classrooms to Hallsville. If you look at the start of how they were going to divvy up the money, I think we might have even talked about adding classrooms to Hallsville, but because of lack of funds it was decided not to and to put it at Wilson at the time. I am just addressing his comment. In other words he is basically saying that you didn't ask for it, you got what you wanted and now you have what you have. I am saying no, that is not the point. The bottom line is go into that school, see what is happening and I will tell you if it was happening over here at some of the other schools it wouldn't happen and it wouldn't happen on the north end of town and it is happening over on Jewett Street and it shouldn't.

Chairman Higgins stated it is also incorrect that we weren't doing anything about Chandler because the whole five years I have been here we have...

Alderman Girard interjected but those additions were put on before you were on the Board, Madam Chair.

Chairman Higgins stated well they finished when I was on the Board.

On motion of Alderman Girard, duly seconded by Alderman Pinard, it was voted to adjourn.

A True Record. Attest.

Clerk of Committee