

Minutes of School Committee Meeting dated June 28, 2010 regarding MSBA Project

Superintendent Cassin started to inform the committee that the Dept of Elementary and Secondary Education would classify the payments in a Power Purchase Agreement to an energy Service company as capital and would be Non Net School Spending. This would have a negative impact on the district and put us below required NSS therefore he recommended that to the SC that we pursue the renovation/ upgrades via the MSBA at 77% reimbursement rate.

Mr. Garabedian followed with discussion of a telephone conversation he had with Mr. John (Jay) Sullivan at DESE and also the follow up email explaining the Dept.'s classification of these types of expenditures. Even though the concept is budget neutral, the energy savings are paying for equipment and building upgrades which are capital expenditures and thus Non NSS.

The committee questioned the possibility of seeking a waiver from the DESE. Mr. Cassin and Mr. Garabedian indicated that any possible waiver would be very short term. The committee expressed their desire to look into seeking a long term waiver. Mr. Garabedian stated he would contact Mr. Sullivan to find out what the process is and the likelihood.

Mr. Cassin stated he would send a letter to the MSBA to pause the district's collaboration efforts for a minimum of 3 months while the district continues to explore the Energy Management Service option per MGL 25 sec 11I.

The committee instructed Mr. Garabedian to continue to work on the RFQ with the Energy Engineering consultant to have ready by mid to late August so it will be available when a meeting is scheduled with D.E.S.E officials, the state delegation and member communities, in September.