

May 8, 2013

The Board of Finance held a special joint meeting on this date at the Police Department meeting room. Members present were Glenn Frishman, Chairman; Dudley Wheeler; Sandy Grimes and June Strunk. Board of Selectmen, Board of Police Commissioners; Superintendent Dr. Riley and several members of the Board of Education. Also present Maryanna Stevens, Director of Finance; Bill King, BOE Operations Manager; Nikki Gullickson, Assistant Superintendent and Town residents.

Mr. Frishman called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. The Board of Selectmen and Board of Police Commissioners were also called to order.

Bid Waivers

- **SPS Curriculum Materials** – Nikki Gullickson spoke regarding the two requests. The first request for New Connected Math problem 3 materials for grades 3-8, included both Student and Teacher materials; these are non-consumable text for regular and special education, which includes online licensing. The second request is for consumable Math materials for Gr. K-5 student activity books. Mr. Grimes asked why it is K-5. Ms. Gullickson replied that the common core is a K-5 alignment with Connected Math.
- **SPS Maintenance Van** – Mr. King spoke to the bid waiver request for a Maintenance van. Mr. King stated that there is a current CIP line item for \$30,000 for a maintenance van. He has received a quote for \$23,000, but would like to offer the purchase to Valenti to match. They did use the State bid list.

Mr. Wheeler made a motion to approve the bid waiver for the purchase of Curriculum materials. Mr. O'Brien seconded and voting was unanimous. Mr. Wheeler made a motion to approve the bid waiver for the purchase of a Maintenance van. Mr. Grimes seconded and voting was unanimous:

Safety & Security measures for district schools discussion

Chairman Bates stated that they have been working with Board of Education and other officials in education to come up with a reasonable response to the tragedy in Newtown. This has three components: pro emergency protocol which is already in place; infrastructure, which with the approval of the Pilot project at West Vine Street School is a great start and increased presence at all the schools. The periodic checks to the schools has been received well and he believes it to be a standard response as well as sustainable to the taxpayers. The original \$100,000 request from March 15, 2013 had two main components- *training exercises* to include the response from the whole of government to an active shooter scenario and *increased presence overtime*. After looking at the

resources it was determined that \$63,000 was reasonable. Visits to the schools would not be every day but 140 days out of the year and would include tabletop exercises critical to keeping all parties coordinated and prepared. Chief Stewart added that the Police department has had regular meetings with all the schools since Newtown. They have received good feedback from parents, administrators and officers. He mentioned that the original \$100,000 request was made immediately after Newtown and with research since the new figure of \$63,000 has been determined as a more realistic and sustainable plan.

Chairman Bates wanted the residents to know that literally within minutes of the Newtown shooting the First Selectman was in contact with him and the Police Chief to discuss potential solutions. BOE Chairwoman MacDonald and Superintendent Riley are pleased with the successful response. Protocols have been updated along with increased communication and the WVSS Pilot project is an excellent start. Waiting for the State is not a good idea.

Mrs. Strunk asked about what changes were made after Columbine. Mr. King stated that this prompted the security protocols in place now: coded flip charts (Blue, yellow and red) with procedures. He added that a few minor adjustments are required with the new plan but he would prefer not to discuss in this forum. She also mentioned the Aurora, CO shooting and asked what has been done here. Chief Stewart stated that there is security at the cinema.

Mr. O'Brien asked when the other schools would be addressed. Mr. King replied that he really wasn't sure at this time; the focus was on implementation of the WVSS pilot project. Members also discussed, training with the local hospitals, reaction plans, state mandates and space for the officers at the schools. Chief Stewart provided for the members a confidential synopsis of the Pilot project. Chairman Bates asked the Board for \$20,000 to get started on the training. Mr. Frishman replied that the Special agenda item posted was as a discussion only. He added that when the Board is provided with a more detailed analysis they would be happy to address at that time.

There being no further business to come before the Board, Mr. Grimes made a motion to adjourn. Mr. Wheeler seconded the motion. The Board of Selectmen and the Board of Police Commissioners also unanimously adjourned at 7:26 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,


John O'Brien
Secretary

lp



Faith Leitner
Board of Education Secretary


Frank Pucci
Secretary, Board of Police Commissioners