

City of Rochester
Joint School Board – City Council Meeting
School Department Board Room
February 14, 2024
6:00 p.m.

DRAFT

School Board Present:

Mrs. Sarah Harrington, Chair
Mr. Matthew Beaulieu
Mr. Matthew Pappas
Mr. Steven Cusumano
Mr. Shane Downs

City Council Present:

Mayor Paul Callaghan
Mr. Donald Hamann
Mr. Alexander de Geofroy
Mr. Timothy Fontneau
Mr. Kevin Sullivan

Others Present:

Mr. Kyle Repucci
Mr. Dave Totty
Ms. Sandy Keans
Ms. Cherie Plummer
Guests and Public

Mrs. Harrington called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. and welcomed School Board members Shane Downs and Steven Cusumano to the JBC Committee. Members and guests participated in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Approval of Minutes

Mr. Hamann moved, seconded by Mr. Pappas, to approve the January 10, 2024 minutes. The motion carried unanimously.

Architect Update

Ms. Ingrid Nichols, Banwell Architects, presented the Architect Update. She reviewed the current plan and explained the changes. She reviewed the floor plan and site renderings. They are working on developing a list of additional alternates that can be priced out and added on. She reviewed the electrical outlets in classrooms; additional outlets were added as power strips are not allowed. Discussion ensued and clarifying questions were asked by committee members.

Civil Update

Mr. Patrick Cimmins, Tighe & Bond, presented the Civil Update. He reviewed the site layout, grading and drainage, high-level changes and improvements, wetland buffers, and utilities.

Greg Lucas, Tighe & Bond, presented the Traffic Study Review and reviewed the process for the study. Mr. Repucci, Superintendent, explained that the left hand turning lane coming from the north is now 100 feet; 50 additional feet were added. Mr. Dave Totty, Facilities Director, shared that they reached out to Terra Estates about any future construction planned so that could be considered. He also spoke with the Police Chief Boudreau about beacons to make drivers aware of how fast they are going and a reminder to slow down. Discussion ensued regarding traffic concerns and emergency vehicles being able to get through if necessary. Mr. Cusumano expressed concern that the traffic study did not include the traffic on Portland Street. Mr. Lucas explained that the traffic study was to evaluate the impact of traffic on the new school. They were not asked to evaluate the traffic at an existing school.

Construction Manager Report

Mr. Keith Kelley, Harvey Construction, reviewed and explained next steps; site work scope of work, site electric (above vs. below ground). He also reviewed the preconstruction schedule. Discussion ensued. Mr. Fontneau moved, seconded by Mr. Beaulieu, to continue with underground utilities. The motion carried unanimously.

Owner's Representative Report

Mr. Gordon Bristol explained the timeline for the guaranteed maximum price bid process and review of bids, review of kitchen equipment and review of all building furniture. Discussion ensued and clarifying questions were asked by committee members.

The team's next steps are for the design team to complete the final bidding/construction documents; Harvey Construction to bid out the project in March; review final costs at the JBC meeting in April.

Other – Mr. Pappas asked if there is enough data for the school to plan for future needs. Mr. Totty explained that they have already planned for that. Mr. Pappas also asked about water runoff. Mr. Crimmins explained that they have designed a storm water management system. Discussion ensued regarding safety and security measures for windows and entrances. Mr. Totty stated that they have met with Homeland Security and will meet with them again in the future.

Public Comment

Carol Mairs, Rochester resident, reviewed and explained her concerns with the traffic study.

Peter Leduc, Rochester resident, shared that after listening to the traffic study, he feels that the parameter of the study was short sighted. There are times in the morning when traffic is backed up and he cannot get out of his driveway at 732 Salmon Falls Road. His take away from the discussion is that it is our responsibility to anticipate the problems and do due diligence to prevent traffic backup.

Shirley Wilson, Rochester resident, shared that more houses will be going into Terra Estates. She expressed concern with traffic being backed up on the southbound side of Salmon Falls Road, cars getting rear-ended and issues with cars crossing traffic to turn into the new school. She asked the committee to figure out how to take care of traffic issues before the school is built.

Adjournment

Mr. Beaulieu moved, second by Mr. Pappas, to adjourn the meeting at 7:45 p.m. The motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kyle M. Repucci
Board Secretary