

City of Rochester
Joint School Board – City Council Meeting
School Department Board Room
January 10, 2024
6:00 p.m.

DRAFT

School Board Present:

Mrs. Sarah Harrington, Chair
Mr. Matthew Beaulieu
Mr. Matthew Pappas

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
Mr. Erik White
Mr. Steven Cusumano
Mrs. Karen Stokes
Ms. Cherie Plummer
Guests and Public

Mrs. Harrington called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. and welcomed City Councilor Kevin Sullivan to the JBC Committee. Members and guests participated in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Approval of Minutes

Mr. Beaulieu moved, seconded by Mr. Hamann, to approve the November 13, 2023 minutes. The motion carried unanimously.

Architect Update

Ms. Ingrid Nichols, Banwell Architects, presented the Architect Update. She reviewed and explained the changes in the plan to get back to the targeted square footage; first and second floor. This includes two flex classrooms, one on each level. The design has stayed the same, just shrunk back a little. Committee members asked clarifying questions regarding the roof design.

Civil Update

Mr. Alexander Sellar, Tighe & Bond, presented the Civil Update. He reviewed changes to the site layout, grading and drainage. He also gave a utility plan update. Next steps for site design: submit sewer connection permit; respond to comments from AOT, and prepare for the City Technical Review meeting in February. Discussion ensued and committee members asked clarifying questions regarding the traffic pattern, parking spaces, and utility connection. The Committee requested a presentation of the traffic study at a future meeting.

Harvey Budget Review

Mr. Keith Kelley, Harvey Construction, reviewed and explained the financial spreadsheet report. The project is on budget. There were adjustments and it is trending well. Mr. Gordon Bristol explained the owners' costs.

Owner's Representative Report

Mr. Gordon Bristol explained the current budget and projected costs are well within the budget. The guaranteed maximum price will be presented in April. The amount budgeted for inflation and contingency was explained. Mr. Bristol shared that they will buy items in advance and lock in the price for as many things as they can to hedge inflation issues.

Ms. Ingrid Nichols shared that we have a revised plan and are under budget, the Team's Next Steps are: design team to complete final bidding/construction documents by the end of February; project to be reviewed by City Technical Review Committee in February; civil to complete AOT permitting; Harvey to

bid out project in March and JBC will meet in April to review final costs. Discussion ensued and committee members asked clarifying questions.

Other – Mrs. Harrington stated that it is important for the City Council and School Board to add questions to their agendas and minutes. In the past, for school board, the JBC Chair would report out under “additional committees”, give an update and review the minutes.

Discussion ensued regarding branding and naming the new school. There were many suggestions and this will be discussed at a future meeting.

The Committee reviewed FAQ’s to be posted on the website. This is a working document and will continue to be worked on and discussed at the next JBC meeting.

Mrs. Harrington asked the Committee if there is anything from this meeting they would like put into a press release. The Committee agreed that it is important to get the site redesign out to let the public know they will not be crossing wetland. Mr. Repucci will send a press release to Fosters and connect with Matt Wyatt.

Public Comment – Mrs. Karen Stokes, Rochester resident and School Board Member, congratulated everyone on their newly elected positions. She stated the first School Board meeting is Jan. 11 and the new board members were not notified of the JBC meeting. She expressed her concern about a lack of transparency.

Ms. Tabatha Davis, Rochester resident, stated there will be a School Board meeting tomorrow night with the new board members and she doesn’t understand why this JBC meeting happened before that meeting. She congratulated Kevin Sullivan on his newly elected position as City Councilor. She also stated that buses and parent cars do idle while waiting in the pick up line, and expressed concern about 71 parking spaces not being enough for events.

Mr. Raymond Wayman, Rochester resident, thanked board members for mentioning the neighbors since they do have concerns for the location of the new school. Neighbors would like to have input/suggestions regarding the design of the boundaries around the school. He also inquired about the road used for utilities and acquisition of the property next to the building site for the school.

Adjournment

Mr. Beaulieu moved, second by Mr. Hamann to adjourn the meeting at 7:26 p.m. The motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kyle M. Repucci
Board Secretary