

Approved 1/23/12

TOWN OF HAMPDEN, MASSACHUSETTS
BOARD OF SELECTMEN/BOARD OF HEALTH
MINUTES

January 11, 2012
6:30 pm

625 Main Street
Town House

Board Members: Richard R. Green, Vincent J. Villamaino, John D. Flynn
The meeting was attended by HWRSD Superintendent, Marty O'Shea, School Committee Chairman, Scott Chapman and Wilbraham Selectmen, James Thompson and Bob Boillard.

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 pm by Rick Green.
The purpose of the meeting was to discuss the ongoing building process at Minnechaug and to ensure the board members had the benefit of current numbers and to maintain better communication between all.

Marty O' Shea started by bringing the board up to date on the issues as follows:

The palette colors were approved at the last meeting.
The building committee was asked what changes they would like to see, what could be cut and what could not. They agreed that there could be no cut in the infrastructure but with technology changing so frequently, we may hold off on that purchase. The capital equipment costs must be held as well as wireless access points.
John suggested that a spread sheet be kept with a requested column and a recommended column that can be reviewed from time to time
Total borrowing to date has been 30 million, and we are currently at the 27 to 29 million mark. We cannot spend more than 34 million.
Jim Thompson made it clear that he understands who holds the reins on this project, but did state that he has never seen this amount of animosity between the school committee and the 2 select boards.
The Finishes, Fixtures and Equipment Subcommittee has voted to upgrade furniture, which allows for 2400/student.
Any additional money needed for demolitions will not be forthcoming as there is currently 3 million contingency and another 1 million for contingency.
It was a good time to start the project in that construction costs were down as well as interest rates which we were able to save a huge amount on.
Change orders to date have come in around 800k.
The main complaint of the Selectmen is the serious lack of communication
The total cost was projected at 82 million and the bids came in at 76 million.

The boards agreed that they would meet on a weekly or bi-monthly basis with the Superintendent to review these numbers.

Outdoor toilets are required, and the thought was to do the general contracting themselves. It will be a modest toilet station with heating and cooling.

There was also discussion about having another public forum to inform the residents as to the status of the building.

Rick would like to have a meeting within the next 7-10 days with the superintendent, and board members for updated numbers.

Bob Boillard suggested that if there are any other potential projects upcoming, that the committee should gather information to notify the public. Rick suggested that only if the projects exceed the approved costs, should there be a need for a meeting.

A motion was made by John Flynn to adjourn the meeting at 7:02 pm, seconded by Jim Thompson. VOTE: All in favor and so voted.

Respectfully submitted,

Pamela B. Courtney
Administrative Assistant

/pbc