

Gardner Waterford Elementary School
School Building Committee
Meeting Minutes
October 14, 2020
Zoom Meeting
4:00 p.m.

Members Present

Jennifer Pelavin, School Committee Vice Chair; Robert Swartz, School Committee Member; Dr. Mark Pellegrino, Superintendent of Schools; Mayor Michael Nicholson, City of Gardner; Steve Hemman, Special Projects Assistant to the Superintendent; Dr. Catherine Goguen, Chief Academic Officer; David Fredette, Principal (Elm Street School); April Yu, Business Administrator; Wayne Anderson, Facilities, Director; Earl Martin, Principal (Waterford Street School); Ashley Chicoine, Teacher (Elm Street School); Robert Hankinson Gardner Citizen & Former Engineer; Christina Thomas, Teacher (Waterford Street School); Ronald Cormier, City Council; Heidi Jandris, Engineer; Colin Smith, Executive Aide to the Mayor, City of Gardner; Alan Minkus, OPM; Tim Alix, Project Manager, Colliers International; Margo Jones, Designer, Jones-Whitsett Architects; Kristian Whitsett, Architect, Jones-Whitsett Architects.

Also Present

Brenda Smith, Administrative Assistant to the Superintendent; Recording Secretary; Joshua Cormier, Purchasing Director, City of Gardner; Steve Rockwood, Community Member;

Regrets

Richard Braks, Gardner Police Department; Jennifer Dymek, Treasure/Collector; Joyce West, Director of Pupil Personnel Service; Aviva Galaski, Jones-Whitsett Architects; Chief Richard Ares, Gardner Fire Department;

Call to order

Superintendent Pellegrino called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m.

Approve Minutes

Mr. Robert Swartz moved to approve the minutes from the School Building Committee Meeting on September 23, 2020 at 4:01 P.M.

Seconded by. Mr. Ronald Cormier

Vote - so voted.

Approve Bills & Orders

The following invoices were presented to the committee:

- Jones-Whitsett Architects, Invoice #2020048, dated September 30, 2020; in the amount of \$222,234.40

Mayor Nicholson moved to approve Invoice #2020048 from Jones-Whitsett Architects.

Seconded by Mr. Swartz

Vote - so voted

Report from OPM

Schedule:

Mr. Alix informed the committee of the bidding process and that a low bidder has been determined. Bids were due in by October 6, everything went well with bidding, where six General Contractors were pre-qualified, during the process three GCs informed us that they would not be

bidding. Mr. Alix shared a spreadsheet, showing the base bid amounts and the bid alternate amounts for the two bids received and the value of the base bid and alternates from the bidder who was not able to submit on time and who's bid could not be accepted. Based on the base bids and all five alternates the two bidders came in well under the budget.

Mr. Alix informed the committee that the low bidder, including all five alternates came in over \$9 million dollars under budget. In order to keep the City's portion of this bid savings within the budget, a letter from City Solicitor will be required to be submitted to the MSBA stating that no local ordinance or laws to prevent that money from remaining in the project. The low bid contractor chosen was, Bacon Construction Company. from East Providence R.I.

Mr. Swartz commented, Fontaine Bro's, didn't submit, but was good to have three numbers for comparison. Fontaine just didn't get their bid in on time. Mr. Swartz spoke in favor of retaining the savings, just in case, a lot of change orders to come I'm sure, leave contingency money there if we need it.

Report from Architects

Updates:

Mr. Whitsett informed the committee no new updates at this time.

Old Business

Dr. Pellegrino addressed the naming of the new school has been narrowed down with the survey to Gardner Elementary School & Chair City Elementary School. We will now put a survey out to just, Elm Street & Waterford Street School families and see what the final vote is on the new school name. We will have the survey results for the next meeting on November 19, 2020.

Mr. Hemman addressed the address for the school, as two options

- Main entrance on Pearl St. Would be 278 Pearl St. falls in existing address.
- Process re-naming driveway its own street, discussion to continue.

Mr. Fredette, mentioned as we discussed way back to naming our own street.

Mr. Hankinson, addressed if driveway, it becomes a City Street. A lot easier to except Pearl St. address.

Ms. Pelavin, suggested not a City St.

Mr. Swartz, favored leave it as an entrance drive.

Mayor Nicholson will look more into this with City Engineer, Chris Coughlin, and continue discussion at next meeting.

Mr. Hemman, stated we need address as soon as possible, always construction issues if temporary given.

Mr. Whitsett informed the committee they will be doing a Power Point Summary slide show for public presentation to committee, would like to share with School Committee and City Council. Date for this is Monday, November 9, 2020 @ 6:00 pm.

New Business

Reviewed all (5) Alternates to vote on, acceptance in order

Mr. Swartz moved to approve the review of All (5) Alternates, acceptance to take alternates in order. Motioned passed

Seconded by Mayor Nicholson

Vote – so voted.

Vote to recommend awarding contract

Mr. Swartz moved to approve to recommend awarding the construction bid with all (5) alternates to the General Contractor, Bacon Construction Co. Inc. total contract \$61,841,553.00 and request the Mayor to sign the contract. Motioned passed.

Seconded by April Yu.

Vote – so voted.

Authorize the OPM to provide letter of intent and notice to proceed

Mayor Nicholson moved to authorize the OPM to provide a letter of intent and notice to proceed.

Seconded by Mr. Fredette

Vote – so voted.

Ground Breaking Ceremony

Mr. Hemman discussed with the committee how the Ground Breaking will take place on Veteran’s Day (Schools Closed) less traffic, Wednesday, November 11, 2020 @ 1:00 with a rain date of Thursday, November 12, 2020 @ 3:00. List of invites under 100, meet at Gardner Middle School entrance where road to new school will go.

MSBA – Gardner Project Scope and Budget Agreement

Public Comments:

Next Meeting

Meeting dates for future Building Committee meetings;

Ground Breaking, Wednesday, November 11, 2020 @ 1:00

Thursday, November 19, 2020 @ 4:00

Executive Session

No Executive Session

Adjourn

A motion was made by Mayor Nicholson and seconded by Mr. Robert Swartz to adjourn the meeting. The meeting adjourned at 5:10p.m.