

ACTON-BOXBOROUGH REGIONAL SCHOOL COMMITTEE MINUTES

Library
R.J. Grey Junior High School

April 11, 2005
7:35 p.m.

Members Present: Rebecca Neville, Marie Altieri, Jo-Ann Berry, Michael Coppolino,
Terry Lindgren, Liz Markiewicz, Sharon McManus, Bruce Sabot
Also Present: William Ryan, George Frost, Susan Horn, Sharon Summers, citizens

The meeting was called to order at 7:35 p.m.

CHAIRPERSON'S INTRODUCTION

The chairperson stated that there was one item on the agenda.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION - None

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

1. Recommendation to Approve Leary Field-Artificial Turf Proposal

- Bill Ryan noted that Acton Town Meeting had approved CPA funds for the project. He thanked Bill Mullin and the Friends of Leary Field (FOLF) for their extraordinary work in bringing this plan to the school committee and community.
- George Frost gave a brief summary of how the proposal was developed.
- Mr. Bill Seymour, Gale Associates, commented that they assisted the committee with the engineering plans and the turf selection process. FOLF discussed thoroughly with Gale the many performance parameters in selecting a reputable turf product and supplier/installer. Mr. Seymour noted that there are about 35 different products available. They looked for a company that will be around for the 8-10 years of the product's guarantee. They looked at certification qualification, how many fields they had done, visited fields to see quality of work, received references, checked out safety records, third-party insurance warranty, and responsiveness to owner requests. Gale recommended going with a company that was vertically integrated. After FOLF made many field visits and called other owners, they developed a rank order. After discussing procurement and bid processes, it was decided to go with TLT Construction Corp, by doing a change order. TLT is a known contractor, having just completed the High School renovation project on time and within budget, both of which were important factors. The material that will be used is Field Turf Pro Series, which meets the criteria.
- Bill Mullin, chair of FOLF, praised the Committee's and community's work, and thanked the Committee for the opportunity to serve the schools and town. He supported Mr. Seymour's statement, and noted that the overarching principal was to go with prime quality, with the lowest risk in all aspects.
- Jo-Ann Berry moved, Michael Coppolino seconded, and it was unanimously voted as follows:
"The School Committee (i) having had presented to it information regarding (1) the history and background of this portion of the High School addition and renovation project; (2) available alternatives for undertaking this work (by change order to the construction contract for the ongoing and not yet completed High School addition and renovation or by separate public bidding) including the issues and concerns related to each approach; (3) the expected continuation and completion of remaining building work and site work by TLT Construction Corp. ("TLT") this spring and summer on the High School project; (4) the negotiations and reduction of the change order price by TLT to an acceptable level; (5) the importance and availability of obtaining appropriate warranty assurances for the turf product; and (6) the relative desirability of various artificial turf materials; (ii) having been notified that CPA funds of the Town of Acton for a portion of the cost of

such work has now been voted by the Town at the recently held Town Meeting (which vote was not possible last year when first considered for legal reasons); (iii) having reached a point in the High School project where contingency funds can safely be allocated towards additional elements of the project such as Leary Field and (iv) having been advised that the Friends of Leary Field has raised a certain portion of the additional needed funds and has committed to raise and donate the needed amount to cover the costs of the change order in excess of the Town's contributed funds and the funds authorized by this School Committee to be used from the remaining budget for the High School project for the Leary Field work; with such advice on this matter, and after due deliberation and consideration of the same, hereby votes to authorize a change order be entered into with TLT for the proposed work on Leary Field including the installation of an artificial turf surface using Field Turf material.

The School Committee further authorized that a change order be entered into with TLT Construction Corp. for the proposed work on Leary Field including the installation of an artificial turf surface using Field Turf material. The School Committee further authorizes and directs William L. Ryan, as Superintendent, to sign on behalf of the School District the change order for the foregoing Leary Field work, when the same is properly prepared, with the conditions that (1) the commitment for funds with respect thereto from the Friends of Leary Field be confirmed in writing before the change order is signed and (2) the School District has received satisfactory assurances (in the reasonable opinion of the Superintendent) regarding the raising and payment of donated funds for the work by such group to the School District when and as needed for the work, and upon signing by William L. Ryan the terms of such change order shall be deemed hereby approved and the same shall be conclusive evidence that the terms thereof have been duly authorized by the School Committee and are binding on the School District."

JOINT EXECUTIVE SESSION

At 8::05 p.m. it was moved, seconded and unanimously

VOTED: To go into joint executive session to discuss strategies relative to collective bargaining under Chapter 39, Section 23 B, paragraph 3. Each member was polled individually and each voted in the affirmative to go into executive session for the stated purpose.

The Committee returned to open session at 10:16 p.m. and adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,
Sarah T. Lawton, Secretary