



Finance & Operations Committee

February 9, 2023

MINUTES

Meeting called to order by Committee Chair: Kehoe 5:04 p.m.

Board of Ed members present: Kehoe, Christenson (Picard absent)

District staff: Merritt, Piesz, Emmadi, Gruszczynski, Salzer, Steinman, Jory

Also Present: B. Gesaman and N. Tindall, from McCarthy & Smith; D. Dinkeloo from TMP Architects; B. Jessie from Barton Malow

Citizen Representatives: none (Roderique, Paton, McKee -absent) **Others present:** John Johnston

Public Comments - none.

Approval of Prior Meeting Minutes – January 19, 2023 - approved.

First Look at New P-CEP Stadium (Presentation) - P-CEP-1 is the bid package associated with the new stadium construction, and BP #HS-4 is the Canton HS Phase III additions (Multi-Purpose Room, Innovation Hub, and Weight Room expansion) and renovations. The suggestion is to complete the projects in these two bid packages concurrently to save time, money, and maximize resources. Mr. Gesaman gives an overview of the process the team has followed so far, and the reasoning behind the steps we have taken to this point.

The first conceptual plans were about \$2M over budget (+37%), so we have been discussing ways to reduce the overall budget. We have reduced the original seat count, toilet fixture count, and general square footage. Instead of a standalone concession/team room building we have modified the plan to build the new concession/team rooms onto the Phase III building. This would facilitate winter and summer use, as well as allow for indoor and outdoor access. Member Kehoe would like the team to take a closer look at the existing small concession and ticket booth, to possibly use that space to reduce scope further.

Member Kehoe wants to clarify that all these facilities are not named for a particular school, and all facilities will be used for any sport or purpose among all the high schools and middle schools. To that end, the district needs to work toward naming all these facilities in an equitable way.

The recommendation is to bid all this work out at the same time. The final recommendations will come back to F&O in the fall of 2023, after the work is bid out. Construction would begin in December 2023. There will be initial stakeholder meetings beginning next week. It will be 1-2 months before a conceptual design and estimated budget estimates will be available. Mr. Dinkeloo shows drawings that highlight the upcoming projects in BP #HS-4 and BP #P-CEP 1.

Isbister Playground Equipment – Mr. Gesaman begins by sharing that the original budget for the playgrounds at Isbister Elementary was \$500,000. We are hoping to be able to order the equipment before the end of the month so we can receive it in time to install it before the start of school. This will have a first reading on Tuesday 2/14/23, with a second reading on 2/28/23 to allow the equipment to be ordered by March 1st. Mr. Gesaman will notify the vendor of that date.

Technology Package T-6 Bid Award E-Rate Network Cabling – Mr. Jessie from Barton Malow gives the committee an overview of the process so far and what scope is included in this bid award. To be compliant with E-Rate, many of these contracts need to be awarded by the end of the month. This includes cabling and network infrastructure at Isbister, Pioneer, Starkweather, and Plymouth High School.

Technology Package E-Rate Bid Award-Fiber to Educational Support Center (ESC) Pilot Drive – Originally, we went out to bid for fiber to the Educational Support Center, but we found out that it is more advantageous to lease the fiber from WOW Network for the next 5 years. The total cost for this is \$43,000, and E-Rate will reimburse us for 50% of that cost. The construction estimates we received were substantially higher. Also, if we were to go with construction rather than leasing, we would need to apply for permits, which would take a long time to complete.

P-CEP Exterior Building Sign Purchase – Mr. Gruszczynski presents the recommendation for the purchase of three new electronic exterior building signs to be placed at the three high schools on the P-CEP campus. The total cost of this is \$177,002, which includes the electronic signs, and estimates for electrical, masonry, and installation of the three signs.

Monthly Financial Reports as of December 31, 2022 – Ms. Piesz presents the monthly financial report as of December 31, 2022, which details the General Fund original budget vs. actual budget, showing the percentage of the budget, and the variances at the function and object levels. Variances between projected budgets and actual results may be due to timing differences, receipt, or expenditure of funds in a period that is different than anticipated, that will resolve over time; or permanent differences, unanticipated receipts or expenditure of resources not planned, which may require a budget amendment. receive or expend resources pro-rata throughout the year. The overall revenue received as of December is 42.22% of the total budget, which is somewhat higher than the three-year historical average. The overall expenditures through December are 47.74% of budgeted amounts, which is higher than the three-year historical average for this point in the fiscal year. Overall, the net change in fund balance is tracking slightly lower than expected. In addition, the net fund balance will be adjusted for the actual annual audited fund equity during the first amendment process.

Community Budget Feedback Form Discussion – We review the community budget survey that will be released tomorrow, with instructions to indicate a two-week window. The window may be extended one additional week if need be. Superintendent Merritt suggests a Community Budget Forum event, perhaps virtually. Ms. Piesz adds that we will need to also start building an election committee since the Non-Homestead Tax expires in June 2024, so we will need to go for a ballot renewal. Member Kehoe feels the community forum should happen first to educate the community about school funding, etc. He feels this should be kept separate from the community approving anything financial. Mr. Kehoe and Ms. Christenson will need to meet to work through some of these things to prepare for that forum.

Tanger RFP Tentative Timelines – Ms. Piesz reports that the Request for Proposal for the sale of Tanger in the final stages of completion. We plan to release it tomorrow with a due date of March 24th, which is a 6-week window. The RFP will appear on LoopNet and other real estate listings, as well as the district website. We will do interviews and evaluations in April and bring proposals back to F&O on May 4th. The Board would vote on it in May. We are also working through an RFP for the 987 Mill Street property, which will be on LoopNet, and provide the RFP directly to the neighboring business-owners, as they have shown interest.

2022-23 Mid-Year Budget Amendment Update – Ms. Piesz shares that the mid-year budget amendment will be presented at the next meeting. The open items that we are working on are some grants we received recently, just last Friday. We have received notification that we will be receiving 31aa, which is student mental health services, in the amount of \$1.880M, Section 97 Safety & Security grant in the amount of \$1.899M, and MDE adjustment for 147c (UAAL), and finally, in relation to the 11t funds, we need to work through moving some

general fund salaries off into the grant funds. Currently the paperwork indicates that all these dollars need to be spent by the end of 2023, but that would be very difficult. We have heard the date may be extended to 2024.

Member Kehoe would like to know if MDE can extend that deadline, or if it would have to be a legislative change. He can contact our state senator and representative to help advocate for that change.

Adjourned: **6:38 p.m.**