

Hanover School Committee Meeting Minutes
January 29, 2014
Hanover High School

Present: John Geary, Michael Phillips, Libby Corbo & Ruth Lynch

Also Present: Matthew Ferron, Clinton Rowe, Deb St. Ives, Tom Raab, Adam Colantuoni, Jane DeGrenier, Bob Murray

Call to Order: Meeting was called to order by 7:00 pm by Vice Chairman Geary.

Vice Chair Geary read a statement in support and prayer for the Cox Family.

Public Comments: None presented.

Approval of Minutes:

Motion by Phillips to approve the minutes as written for January 22, 2014. The motion was seconded by Lynch. The motion carried unanimously.

Action Items:

MOU between Hanover Police & HPS

- Motion by Corbo to authorize Superintendent Ferron to enter into an agreement with a with the Hanover Police Dept. The motion was seconded by Lynch. The motion carried unanimously.

Report of Superintendent:

District Events and Updates

- Superintendent Ferron would like to reiterate Mr. Geary's message and send prayers to the Cox family

MSBA Update- Center/Sylvester

- Superintendent attended the MSBA vote to move forward with the project
- The next step will be to wait for a letter stating that the vote was approved and then begin the feasibility study
- Libby Corbo would like to recognize some of the members- Kimberly Mills-Booker, Jay Cavallaro, Reverend Eric Stroshine, Kristin Dailey, Robert Murray, Chris Martin, Jane DeGrenier, Principal Center Sylvester School

Presentation and Update on HHS Athletic Field Improvement Project

- Bob Murray, Town of Hanover and Shawn Boyd, Gail Associates Project Manager
- 2 major issues: baseball field and track & field
- Given the history of the baseball back stop- a 45 foot high safety netting system would be installed and would carry the length of the tennis court
- Existing javelin and discus area- both are undersized and do not meet regulations- they can be run concurrently near the little league field
- However, some playground equipment will need to be moved at the elementary school
- Additional shot-put event can be added where javelin is now
- As an alternate- the javelin could be moved near some conservation land- however, waiting to hear back from Conservation Commission to see if that's possible

- Question by Geary- Baseball- do you have an expected date of completion for baseball? - Track and Field, Scenario A- date of completion? And also Scenario B- date of completion? Response by Mr. Murray that he can't give a date, given that the manufacturing company can't give a date on when the steel posts are complete
- Mr. Murray stated that his initial targeted completion date was March 15
- Mr. Geary would like a estimated date of completion presented to him next week
- Question by Corbo regarding where would the equipment be moved? It would be shifted.
- Question by Corbo regarding will the elementary children be impacted and not able to use the playground while there is a javelin match? Response by Mr. Ferron that the children will be able to use the playground
- Question by Corbo- is there any additional costs for one scenario over another? Response by Mr. Boyd that additional costs are to remove trees and grate land if you put javelin near conservation land

Public Comment:

- Comment by a javelin player- the practice for javelin throw is only 45 minutes and it shouldn't interfere with Cedar playground.
- John Balzarini- question on the baseball field- is it a vertical net?? Or cap over tennis fields? Response by Mr. Boyd- it's vertical net and straight up 45 feet – Response by Mr. Balzarini that he does not think 45 feet is enough? Who recommend 45 feet?
- Recommendations are from engineers in the firm- Gail Associates have specialized in athletic issues
- Question what is the alternative if the netting doesn't work? Response is the back stop can be moved and changed which is less cost effective
- Also comment regarding who is responsible for any field damage while installing netting? Response by Mr. Boyd that the contractors were responsible for all damages
- Also comment regarding what is the tolerance regarding foul balls if 45 foot netting installed?
- Don Cornell—Is there any reason why you wouldn't want to have the netting behind the backstop versus in front? He has seen 65 games and he thinks the net isn't high enough. Would interfere with dugouts and batting cages
- Michelle McDonald- Softball – softballs went o the tennis court many times
- Comment by Mr. Geary that baseball coach, softball coach, track coach, Dr. Raab and Kristen Parnell should be involved in the decision making process and would like them to have some feedback in the process

Report of Finance Department:

FY15 Budget: Report & Discussion on Revolving Accounts & Budget Impact

- Would like to make the athletic trainer full time
- Increase community engagement
- Revolving Beginning Balance \$60,622.00- Operating Funds- \$266,730.00, Gate Receipts- \$8,000, User Fees- \$218,300.00, Donations- \$61,353.00- TOTAL \$615,005.00
- Totals Actually Spent for Revolving Balance \$604,493.00
- Projected Revolving Ending Balance for FY14 \$10,512.00
- FY15 Proposed Athletic Budget is \$631,556.17 versus Level Service Budget would be \$595,182.01
- Increase over level service is due to increased coaches and athletic trainer

- FY15 Proposed Expenses are \$631,556.17 and Total Revenue is \$589,507.00, which is a shortfall of \$42,049.17
- Mr. Rowe stated that he hopes to be able to offset the shortfall
- A breakdown was presented by sport including coaches, insurance/fees, supplies, transportation, etc.
- Mr. Rowe plans to engage with Ms. Parnell and is hoping to reduce transportation costs
- Comment by Corbo regarding user fees and how they seem unfair- maybe going forward for next year, we can form a subcommittee to study these and determine how a user fee is formulated
- Comment by Corbo – what do we need to survive versus our wish list- do we need additional coaches and trainer? Response by Mr. Rowe that it's a liability and safety issue
- Comment by Phillips- the \$30,000 increase that you are proposing could be self-funded. Response by Mr. Rowe that he is hoping to do that
- Comment by Phillips – DO we know what surrounding towns charge for user fees? Response by Mr. Rowe that we do and he can post that, but it's not an apple-to-apple approach. Further comment by Lynch that Hanover's fees are extremely high and that we should look at user fees and understand the reason behind them and why they are so high
- Question by Geary- do we project on supplies and when we need to replace them? Response by Mr. Rowe that it's a rotating cycle, about 5 years for replacing uniforms etc.

Public Comments:

- Paul Zaylor- Boys Lacrosse coach- doesn't see anything excess in the budget- he feels that the uniforms look terrible
- Rachel Keating- Girls Lacrosse Coach- This budget is realistic budget but uniforms are needed are very old
- Kevin McLeod- Outside funding is necessary and to have a committee to help make partnerships is necessary
- Peggy Westfield- Teacher- does have significant needs for updated textbooks
- Dave, Resident of North Street- Winter Track Transportation in error on budget for \$900- Also, time table for Athletic Fields?- Response by Geary to stay tuned to see what next steps are and he hopes to have response from Mr. Murray by next week.

Motion to adjourn the meeting at 8: 35p.m. by Phillips. The motion was seconded by Corbo. The motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted

Andrea Holmes
1/30/14

Documents Used:
Minutes 1-22-14
Draft MOU between Hanover Police Dept & HPS
HHS Athletic Field Improvement Presentation
FY15 Athletics Budget Proposal