

WEST BRANCH AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT

SPECIAL VOTING SESSION

JUNE 1, 2020

Members Present: Bob Seprish, , Melvin Smeal, Don Yontosh, Larry Allen, Chad Diviney, Tom Veres, Jim Emigh, Paul Carr, Christina Brown

Members Absent:

Media Present:

Administration Present: Michelle Dutrow, Erick Johnston

Others Present: Ron Mollura

OPENING EXERCISES

President Chad Diviney called the meeting to order at 5:32 p.m. All present were asked to Stand and pledge allegiance to the American Flag.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Michelle Dutrow announced Edward Dale as the Valedictorian and Elizabeth Blake as the Salutatorian of the Graduating Class of 2020.

Erick Johnston discussed refinancing opportunities. The District will look to move forward with refinancing during the 2020 – 2021 school year in the early Fall.

Mr. Seprish asked about the last refinancing that was undertaken by the school district. Mr. Johnston provided a brief summary of the previous refinancing.

PERSONNEL

R. Steffan
Middle/High
Tech Ed./Art
Teacher

Mr. Mel Smeal, in the form of a motion, recommended to approve Rachel Steffan as Middle & High School Technology Education / Art Teacher, at the starting salary of \$50,650 (M+15) effective August 24, 2020. Mr. Mel Smeal seconded the motion, and it was carried with a vote of 9-0-0.

BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS

Stadium
Project Bid

Mr. James Emigh, in the form of a motion, recommended to award Base Bid 2 – Site Work / Press Box (Stadium Project) as follows:

- General Contractor: Fred L. Burns Bid Amount: \$787,430
- HVAC Contractor: W.C. Eshenaur & Son Bid Amount: \$2,400
- Plumbing Contract: K & K Plumbing Bid Amount: \$11,484
- Electrical Contract: Hallstrom-Clark Electric Bid Amount: \$49,600

Mr. Don Yontosh seconded the motion and it was carried with a vote of 6-3-0. Voice Roll Call: Mr. Yontosh – yes; Mr. Emigh – yes; Mr. Smeal – yes; Mr. Seprish – yes; Mrs. Brown – yes; Mr. Diviney – yes; Mr. Allen – no; Mr. Veres – no; Mr. Carr – no. 6 – yes; 3 – no.

Mr. Veres questioned why the additional of the track facilities were not listed as part of the project. Mrs. Dutrow clarified that the track facility was indeed included under the "Site" portion of the bid documents. Mr. Veres indicated his continued concern with spending funds on the track facility.

Mr. Allen asked if Administration anticipated needing to spend funds for the 2020 – 2021 school year to address the COVID-19 related issues. Mrs. Dutrow indicated that Administration would recommend an alternate school reopening structures in lieu of needing to hire additional teachers.

A conversation ensued regarding waiting to replace the fieldhouse roof until the second phase of the project. Jerry Bankovich confirmed to the Board that while they might consider a new roof during Phase 1, it would require a stand alone bid process because it was not contained in the bid award presented to them at this time. Mrs. Dutrow requested that the Board moved forward with the bid award as presented and then have discussion about possibly replacing the field house roof as part of Phase 1 during the regular June Board Meeting.

OTHER ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

Mr. Smeal shared a proposal from Arnold Raymond regarding a wooden Warrior statue that they would like to place in the stadium. Mrs. Dutrow indicated that Administration would review the proposal and provide feedback to the Board of Directors after consultation with the Solicitor.

Mr. Smeal commented that people from the public have told him that people who have worked through the pandemic should be recognized in some way.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Don Yontosh, in the form of a motion, recommended to adjourn the meeting 6:32 p.m. Mr. Larry Allen seconded the motion and it carried with a vote of 9-0-0.

Respectively Submitted,

Kasi Woodring
Secretary to the Board of Education

Minutes taken by Erick Johnston and typed by Kasi Woodring.