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City of Syracuse

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Syracuse City School District

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Charles P. Merrihew
Vice President for Engagement &
External Affairs, Syracuse University

David Rufus
Director
Southeast Gateway Community
Development Corp.

Hon. Matthew Rayo
Councilor
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Hon. Van B. Robinson
President
Syracuse Common Council

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Joseph W. Barry, III, Esq.
Secretary to the Board/Counsel
City of Syracuse

Elizabeth DeJoseph
Executive Assistant to the Mayor
City of Syracuse

David DelVecchio, CPA
Commissioner of Finance
City of Syracuse

Thomas C. Ferrara, P.E.
Director of Facilities,
Maintenance & Operations
Syracuse City School District

Mary Robison, P.E.
City Engineer
City of Syracuse

Suzanne Slack
Chief Financial Officer
Syracuse City School District

JSCB

Joint Schools Construction Board

www.jscb.us

Minutes

Thursday, April 14, 2011

8:30 a.m.

Board members present: Mayor Stephanie Miner, Superintendent Dan Lowengard, Pat Body, Matt Rayo, Pat Hogan, David Rufus, Chuck Merrihew, and Van Robinson

Board members absent: Laurie Menkin and Ned Deuel

Laurie Menkin motioned to accept the minutes of the March 24, 2011 meeting. Matt Rayo seconded the motion and it was approved 7-0.

Joe Barry delivered the report of the JSCB secretary and brought attention to a letter from bond counsel Ted Trespasz which states a more detailed swing space plan needs to be in place before going to the bond market to borrow Tranche III.

Sam Tuzza delivered the Report of the Program Manager. Built into the Fowler project are a 10% construction contingency and a 5% technology contingency. These contingencies were added because Fowler is the most complicated of the four projects, as it is phased with students occupying the building during construction. The budget has a negative variance of \$64K.

Chuck Merrihew asked Mr. Tuzza about the open item from the previous meeting in which the Board was seeking a recommendation from the Program Manager regarding the training program. Mr. Tuzza said there are no recommendations at this time and information is still being reviewed.

All five contracts for the Fowler project were ready for award and MWBE goals were met. Sharon Owens reported that \$5.3M will be awarded to 16 local companies.

Pat Hogan motioned to adopt Resolution No. 20-2011 to authorize a contract award to FAHS Construction Group as General Contractor for the Fowler High School project in the amount of \$17,190,000.00 with a contingency of \$1,719,000.00 for a total not to exceed amount of \$18,909,000.00. Van Robinson seconded the motion and it was approved 7-0.

Pat Hogan motioned to adopt Resolution No. 21-2011 to authorize a contract award to Ferraulo Plumbing & Heating, Inc as Plumbing Contractor for the Fowler High School project in the amount of \$2,503,000.00 with a contingency of \$250,300.00 for a total not to exceed amount of \$2,753,300.00. Van Robinson seconded the motion and it was approved 7-0.



Stephanie A. Miner
Mayor
203 City Hall
Syracuse, New York 13202
(315) 448-8005
Fax (315) 448-8067



Daniel G. Lowengard
Superintendent
725 Harrison Street
Syracuse, New York 13210
(315) 435-4499
Fax (315) 435-4015

Van Robinson motioned to adopt Resolution No. 22-2011 to authorize a contract award to Ridley Electric Co. Inc. as Technology Contractor for the Fowler High School project in the amount of \$2,648,000.00 with a contingency of \$132,400.00 for a total not to exceed amount of \$2,780,400.00. Pat Hogan seconded the motion and it was approved 7-0.

Pat Hogan motioned to adopt Resolution No. 23-2011 to authorize a contract award to Weydman Electric, Inc. as Electrical Contractor for the Fowler High School project in the amount of \$2,263,600.00 with a contingency of \$226,360.00 for a total not to exceed amount of \$2,489,960.00. Van Robinson seconded the motion and it was approved 7-0.

Van Robinson motioned to adopt Resolution No. 24-2011 to authorize a contract award to Siracusa Mechanical, Inc. as HVAC Contractor for the Fowler High School project in the amount of \$7,842,965.00 with a contingency of \$784,297.00 for a total not to exceed amount of \$8,627,262.00. Pat Hogan seconded the motion and it was approved 7-0.

The review of Training Program was tabled because the board members requested additional time to review the recent report.

Mayor Miner initiated discussion of the Tranche III bond issuance. She referenced the letter containing Ted Trespasz's legal opinion stating the federal government requires 85% of bond proceeds to be spent within three years of issuance. The Superintendent said the three year requirement would be met regardless of the swing space plan.

Superintendent Lowengard mentioned that the JSCB borrowed money in 2008 and there are still remaining funds. He argued that the bond counsel's letter is an attempt to slow down the bonding process, and as a result, construction will not take place during the summer. Mayor Miner restated that the board must abide by federal tax laws and the bonding process has in fact been started by seeking the opinion of bond counsel.

Swing space plans are still in flux and other opportunities, such as escalating the ITC construction schedule are still being investigated.

The Superintendent suggested to move forward with the borrowing for Dr. Weeks and wait to borrow for H.W. Smith until the escalated ITC option is settled.

Joe Barry called to the Board's attention the need for a construction schedule for federal tax purposes. Additional costs associated with these delays are extending Gilbane's contract for program management fees and capitalized interest.

Tom Ferrara presented possible swing space options in which H.W. Smith students would move to Levy once it is unoccupied by ITC students. Depending on the ITC construction schedule, the project could pick up six months and construction at H.W. Smith could be accelerated.

Mayor Miner requested a fully organized and documented swing space plan with no contingencies that meets federal tax regulations.

Pat Hogan motioned to adjourn the meeting. Chuck Merrihew seconded the motion and all were in favor.