

Winslow Junior High Building Committee Meeting Agenda

January 10, 2013

6:00 P. M. to 7:30 P. M.

Winslow Junior High Library

Members present: Kevin Michaud, Shelley Phillips, Susan Walters, Peter Thiboutot, Paula Pooler, Earl Coombs, Pat Poulin, Dan Wildes, Jack Nivison, Mike Fortin, Henning Stabins, Ben Clark for Linda Lambert, Kyle Price, Eric Haley

1. Review minutes of 12/4/12

Miscellaneous- Eric highlighted some points from the previous meeting.

A. School Debt service chart has been completed and will be sent to committee members.

B. Steven Blatt has estimated \$250,000 to \$300,000 savings by converting to one building. That along with debt service ending will offer some funding opportunities

C. Do we want to invite Steve Blatt to a future meeting?

2. Review Town of Winslow capital debt service schedule-

3. Update of possible funding options for summer of 2014 via QZAB and QSCB

Shelley- QSCB money will end after this round. QZAB will not finance new construction. They can finance renovation projects. In order to qualify for this money, 35% of the students in the building you are renovating must qualify for free and reduce lunch. 1.4 Million available. Competitive. Closing round on Feb. 15. Another 1.4 million available in 2014. They will only fund projects that are "shovel ready."

4. Straw vote on options: Eric would like to narrow down the options so that we spend our energy on the selected option(s). Whatever we decide, Eric asks that we wave the bid process on architectural plans and strongly consider awarding the work to Steven Blatt due to all the work he has already completed. Jack asked if we should review the information in No. 5 below before taking a straw vote. Eric made the assumption that regardless of the option(s) selected we would need to consider the information in No. 5 below

5. Straw vote

A. Renovate Existing Junior High. Received 2 votes

B. Build new Junior High. Received 0 votes

- C. 6th graders moved into WES and 7th/8th grade wing built on WES. Received 14 votes
- D. 6th graders moved into WES and 7th/8th grade wing built on WHS. Received 0 votes

According to the votes, the vast majority of committee members want to spend their time on option C. With that said, conversation ensued about possible uses for the existing jr. high school and the required renovations that would need to take place absent student habitation. Ideas discussed ranged from turning the existing building into office space for municipal offices to some type of recreational center for citizens of the community.

- 6. Additional construction/renovation work needed beyond options listed above e.g. expand ½ gym; redesign entrance to WES for security reasons etc.

The above topics mentioned in option 5 are the auxiliary pieces that will need to be fully discussed and considered as we move forward with this process. Concern was raised regarding space beyond the areas mentioned above. Kyle Price noted that declining population at the elementary school will provide for additional space needs. Steve Blatt had provided expansion ideas for the elementary school building if the jr. high were to relocate. Parking space/student pick up drop off will need to be considered. Loss of a recreational ball field will occur with the addition of a wing. Current locker room facilities at the jr. high are not feasible for sports such as football.

Kevin Michaud points out that although its important to have age separation in a k-8 facility, the benefits of having k-8 together far outweigh the concerns. Jack asked if the current space at the elementary school is conducive for the music program or other specials (extra curricular activities) that occur in a middle school? These needs would all need to be reviewed as part of the process. For example, do the current areas need to be expanded or new areas developed?

- 7. Public informational meeting

Premature at this point in time. Will wait until later in the process.

- 8. Invitation to Stephen Blatt and Associates to next meeting

Suggestion is made to invite Stephen Blatt to our next meeting to discuss his thoughts on option C. The committee was asked to write down their concerns for Stephen Blatt to answer. We also need to decide on payment for Stephen Blatt's work. Joel suggested that we may want to invite someone from the town as well to discuss field space. This may require some type of survey to see what is currently being used and the needs. Kyle mentioned a few concerns with the existing elementary school. Roof and the water sprinkler system are two concerns he feels

- 9. Future agenda items

Invite Stephen Blatt to the next meeting.

10. Other thoughts

Does the town charter give the town council the authority to bond? If the charter doesn't grant that authority to town council then we would need to go to Referendum. Otherwise, we could simply hold public meetings.

11. Next Meeting Date The next planned meeting is January 24th, 2013, 6:00pm Winslow Jr. High School. Eric will contact Stephen Blatt.