

**UP-ISLAND REGIONAL SCHOOL COMMITTEE
OF MARTHA'S VINEYARD
6:15PM, Monday, January 25, 2021
By Zoom Cloud Conference**

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Present: Chair – Alex Salop, Roxanne Ackerman, Kate DeVane, Robert Lionette,
Skipper Manter,

Others: Supt's Shared Services Office: Matt D'Andrea, Mark Friedman, Ruda Stone,
Principals: Donna Lowell-Bettencourt, Mary Boyd, Susan Stevens,
Press – MVTV *Late arrivals or early departures of UIRSC members

Call to Order

(Agenda Item #I)

The Up-Island Regional School Committee (UIRSC) meeting was called to order.
(Recorder's Note: Some discussions have been grouped for clarity and brevity.)

Approval of Minutes

(Agenda Item #II)

A. Including But Not Limited To: December 21, 2020; January 19, 2021

The January 19, 2021 Minutes were not available.

• *SKIPPER MANTER MOVED TO APPROVE THE DECEMBER 21, 2020; ROXANNE ACKERMAN SECONDED; MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY: 5 AYES, 0 NAYS, ABSTENTIONS AS ABSENT: KATE DEVANE—AYE, ROBERT LIONETTE—AYE, SKIPPER MANTER—AYE, ALEX SALOP—AYE, ROXANNE ACKERMAN—AYE.*

Finance

(Agenda #III)

A. Fiscal Year 2022 (FY22) Warrant Articles (See documents on file.)

- Articles were assessed by the Capital Formula: 80% for the host town and the remaining 20% by the other two Towns' enrollment.
- All articles carried a 15% contingency reserve and a 12% Owners Project Manager (OPM) fee.
- \$ 191,720 was for the last 32 of 96 Chilmark School windows. The previous construction phase came in below the Article amount and this figure had been adjusted slightly downward accordingly.
 - On a question about the need for an OPM, Head of School Susan Stevens reported the OPM was vital in the previous phase when windows arrived broken and several errors had to be corrected.
- \$65,253 for 4 exterior and 4 interior Chilmark School doors included materials from a local quote. The article could be split into two parts but all 8 doors presented both damage and security issues.
- \$322,000 local estimate for 13,000 sq. ft. of the West Tisbury School (WTS) roof construction (see 9/16/19 Minutes p.3 #E) was the next step after the design (\$69,316) passed at the November Aquinnah Special Town Meeting (STM). The estimate (\$19 per sq. ft.) was checked against a the 2013 Martha's Vineyard Regional High School (MVRHS) project (\$18 per sq. ft.) adjusted at 5% annual construction inflation compounded.
 - As a one story building the WTS had a lot of roof, and repair had been a constant capital item, however after this final piece the entire roof would be under warranty.
 - Design constituted engineering examination and updates on the various flat rubber roof layers, fastening and structure and bid specifications.
 - The UIRSC discussed whether schematics were needed at for the Annual Town Meeting (ATM) presentation but it was felt that:
 - ATMs were already long enough; and
 - any voter interested in such details could attend UIRSC meetings or ask school officials.
- WTS outdoors walk-in fridge (\$74,704) estimate was checked with recent MVRHS fridge purchases.
 - The previous conversation on a more comprehensive kitchen design was revisited (see 12/8/20 Minutes p.2). The current fridge was actively failing and timing was an issue. WTS Principal Donna Lowell-Bettencourt was exploring grants with the Cafeteria Director.

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- The UIRSC discussed the assessment method re:
 - part of a regional lunch program and therefore assessed by the districtwide formula;
 - the physical item housed at the WTS with the rest of the kitchen equipment;
 - the item as a capital expenditure.
- IT WAS THE CONSENSUS OF THE UIRSC THAT THE FRIDGE BE ASSESSED BY THE UIRSD CAPITAL FORMULA.
- The WTS lift to the stage was outdated and repair parts were becoming a problem. The estimate for a new lift (\$45,226) was higher than expected partially due to lack of companies in the field. (The original lifts from 1996 cost \$4-6,000). This was an important item required for universal accessibility and to include all WTS students in school activities
- On the overall picture the UIRSC discussed the following issues.
 - The articles totaled about \$700,000 in capital spending for the two buildings, which along with the \$580,000 budget increase constituted \$1,280,000. The facilities had spent a number of years catching up on building needs and maintenance and were now in excellent shape. The taxpayers understood and supported the need to maintain municipal buildings in good shape. If possible the UIRSC asked for a 5 year look-back at capital spending. The operating budget had been carefully examined and was confined without extravagance to what was needed to educate UIRSD children.
 - There were questions on the both the 12% OPM and the 15% contingency for every project, some of which seemed small and/or straight forward. Prin. Lowell-Bettencourt offered to remediate some contingency on the lift. However, it was noted that the UIRSC were not construction experts, and possible glitches should be the purview of professionals.
 - *SKIPPER MANTER MOVED TO INCLUDE THE FIVE ARTICLES IN THE TOWN WARRANTS WITH ANY MODIFICATIONS AND CONFIRMATION ON THE ALLOCATIONS; KATE DEVANE SECONDED; MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY: 5 AYE, 0 NAYS, 0 ABSTENTIONS: SKIPPER MANTER—AYE, KATE DEVANE—AYE, ROBERT LIONETTE—AYE, ROXANNE ACKERMAN—AYE, ALEX SALOP—AYE.*
 - Mr. Lionette expressed his appreciation to Administrators Lowell-Bettencourt and Susan Stevens for their work on the facilities, but particularly to Skipper Manter for his advocacy and remarkable commitment over the years to the importance of municipal building maintenance and upkeep.

Topics Not Reasonably Anticipated by the Chair (Agenda Item #IV)

- The UIRSC thanked and commended Superintendent Matt D'Andrea for yesterday's letter on surveillance testing (see documents on file & Supt. Office website), written with advice of counsel.
 - Student families not agreeing to testing were required to move to Cohort D—remote learning.
 - Refusal by staff was negotiated in the Memorandum of Agreement (MOA): remote learning positions were not guaranteed (e.g. if already filled) but individuals could exercise a series of options.
 - There were no UIRSD student or staff refusals.
 - The letter responded to a number of questions that Supt. D'Andrea and Program Manager Molly Houghton had fielded. For example: as a random sample some families might be chosen several times in a row, or procedures to follow if a family tested positive in the pool.
 - The Supt. Shared Services Office was in conversation with the Martha's Vineyard Hospital (MVH) about staff vaccinations, and were preparing first steps (dissemination of information, lists of who wanted it, and scheduling of appointments) so all would be ready when the vaccine became available.
 - Concerns were reiterated on vaccinations for special needs children between 16 and 18 years, whose challenges made Covid-19 restrictions difficult and might endanger themselves, their families and staff.

Meetings/Events: (By Zoom)

- MVRHSC – 5:00PM, Monday, February 1, 2021 – Zoom
- UIRSC – TBD – Zoom

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Adjournment

- *KATE DEVANE MOVED TO ADJOURN AT 7:23PM; SKIPPER MANTER SECONDED; MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY: 5 AYES, 0 NAYS, 0 ABSTENTIONS: KATE DEVANE—AYE, SKIPPER MANTER—AYE, ROBERT LIONETTE—AYE, ROXANNE ACKERMAN—AYE, ALEX SALOP—AYE.*

Documents on File:

- Agenda 1/25/21 (2 p.)
- Friedman cover email re: UIRSD FY22 Warrant Articles Draft 1/22/21
 - UIRSD, FY22 Budget Process, Warrant Articles
- Friedman cover email re: UIRSD S.C. Meeting – Warrant Articles 1/25/21
 - UIRSD, FY22 Budget Process, Warrant Articles
- Friedman cover email re: UIRSD FY22 Warrant Articles Final 1/26/21
 - UIRSD, FY22 Budget Process, Warrant Articles
- D'Andrea letter re: Miramus Surveillance Testing Program (2 p.) 1/24/21

Minutes approved 2/16/21