

HAMPTON BOARD OF EDUCATION
HAMPTON, CT 06247
FINANCE AND OPERATIONS COMMITTEE
SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES
THURSDAY, February 16, 2023

ZOOM Recording

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 7:08. Those in attendance were Finance and Operations Committee Chair Mark Becker and committee members Maryellen Donnelly, David Halbach and John Russell. Also in attendance were Superintendent Dr. Samantha Sarli and Principal Sam Roberson. Board of Education Chair Rose Bisson attended as audience.

2. Audience for Staff & Citizens

None

3. Review of January 19, 2023 Minutes

There were no recommendations for change.

4. Discussion on Classroom Mini Split Project

More information is needed before a decision is made to install heat pumps at HES. Dr. Sarli will obtain the number of gallons and cost of oil for the last several years. The assessment of electricity usage if heat pumps are installed is being done along with the possibility and cost of a new photovoltaic installation in town that can provide money for up to five municipal buildings. The mechanism to access funds in Connecticut available from the Inflation Reduction Act (IRA) and the extension of the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA) is not yet known. The amount of incentive money available through Eversource will only be known once a proposal is reviewed by an Eversource engineer.

While more information is being obtained, Maryellen will request information on maintenance, warranty, delivery time, price on delivery, and COP and SEER rating of the equipment from the two companies that have provided HES with proposals. Once a company is chosen, it will submit its proposal to Eversource which will report the amount of money that Eversource would contribute to the project and send a letter of agreement. Committee members would like an in-person presentation/walk through to answer questions about the proposed system. The agreement, which is non-binding, must be signed in 30 days. There are 12 months to get the job done. If there are supply chain issues, as long as the order is placed and there is documentation that there are supply chain issues, the agreement can be extended. The proposal must be submitted to Eversource before beginning and before installation.

The use of federal funds available from IRA and the extension of IIJA does not effect Eversource incentives positively or negatively.

5. Review of PA System Project

Installation will begin on February 21.

6. 5-Year Plan Topics Including Library Sunroom Repair and Any Other Pressing Issues

Discussion was deferred until the February Board of Education meeting.

7. Discussion of 2022/2023 Budget

No current budget items were discussed.

8. Discussion of 2023/2024 Budget
The 2023/2024 budget was discussed at a full Board of Education meeting on February 15. Dr. Sarli suggested that the board wait until open enrollment for insurance takes place before finalizing the budget. Mark requested that the board be kept informed of any known changes in ECS and MBR.
9. Audience for Staff & Citizens
None
10. Review Next Agenda Planning Including Date and Time
The next meeting will be via Zoom on Thursday, March 16 at 7 PM.
11. Adjournment
The meeting adjourned at 7:42.

Respectfully submitted,
Maryellen Donnelly