

MISSISQUOI VALLEY SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD (MVSD)

Remotely VIA Google Meet

July 14, 2020

6:30 PM

Present: Board members joining the meeting remotely, Board Chairperson, Chris Shepard, Highgate, Don Collins (Swanton) Scott, (Highgate), Peter Magnant (Franklin), Joanne Johnston, (Franklin), Terri O'Shea (Swanton), and Jen Chevalier (Highgate), Meaghan Conly (Swanton) and Devin Bachelder (Franklin)

Others Joining Remotely: Julie Regimbal, Superintendent of Schools, Lora McAllister, Business Manager, Dena St. Amour, Principal of Swanton, Jason Butler, Director of Buildings and Grounds for Swanton School and Pierrette Bouchard, School Board Secretary

Call the Meeting to Order- Chris Shepard called the meeting to order at 6:34pm.

Swanton Storage Shed Bid

Chris Shepard stated that the only item on the agenda was the Swanton Storage Shed Bid. He asked Jason to present the bid. Jason Butler explained that they advertised the Swanton Storage Shed out in the RFP (Request for Proposal). They received only one bid from Guilmette Handyman Service in the amount of \$39,500. He thought that this was a reasonable bid.

Action

Meaghan Conly moved, seconded by Terri O'Shea to approve the bid that was provided by Guilmette Handyman Service in the amount of \$39,500.

Chris opened the bid for discussion from the board. Don Collins stated that he although he feels that Swanton does need a shed, he doesn't see the urgent need and thought with the COVID's impact on finances, he did not feel that this was the right time. Julie Regimbal explained that the Storage Shed has been in the plans for a while. The Director of Buildings and Grounds from each school were asked to prioritize the maintenance and capital projects for their schools and Jason felt that this was a priority this year. Chris Shepard stated that the storage shed was in the budget and it was deemed a priority. Jason talked about the storage shed in 2016-17 at a Swanton School Board meeting. The existing garage needed a new roof and it has been replaced since then. The existing storage shed is beyond repair and so it was proposed to be replaced in 2019. It was pushed off last year by the board as they wanted to wait until this year to replace it. This was put in the budget under the capital renovations projects. Peter Magnant understands it was in the board's projects in the past but would like more visibility in the future and felt that this should have gone out to bid earlier and perhaps if we wait, it could be put out to bid earlier next year. He felt that it was a good project but not sure it was the right time. Terri O'Shea stated that this has been on Swanton's list of things to do and

that this was not a surprise. She felt that the Director of the Buildings and Grounds and the Principal would not request this if they didn't feel they needed it. Jason Butler explained that they have 620 kids and because of trying to create more rooms in the classroom this year so that the six foot rule could be observed as best as they can, a lot of extra tables will need to come out of the classrooms and they will need to put them somewhere. They might be able to put them in the gym but is concerned that this could damage the rubber flooring in the gym. Don clarified that he is hesitant due to the circumstances and the uncertainties right now and thought that perhaps if the money was still there in the budget in January, then we could put it out to bid early and complete it before the end of June 2021 in the same fiscal year. Chris thought that the quote was reasonable. Lora said that they are not doing some other projects this year at an estimated \$65,000 savings. Julie said that everyone had a different vision that they have put together in a plan. This year they will start planning in October and then budget accordingly. Dena said if they do not build the storage shed this year, then the tables and other things that need storage can be put in the gym. Joanne Johnston recalls talking about these projects and remembered that they had budgeted for this. She expressed concern that if we waited until next spring, will lumber be more expensive and due to COVID, will we be able to get supplies needed to build it? Chris stated that if COVID continues, it is possible that lumber might be more expensive. Jen Chevalier expressed concern that if things get worse, there may have a harder time getting materials. Jason explained that he would oversee the project and make sure that it would be built in accordance to specs. Lora McCallister stated that this is a formal proposal and they would ask for insurance coverage. Chris asked if the board was done with the discussion if the board was ready to vote on the following motion:

Action

Meaghan Conly moved, seconded by Terri O'Shea to approve the bid that was provided by Guilmette Handyman Service in the amount of \$39,500. The board approved the motion on a 7-2 vote.

Several board members thanked Jason for his hard work.

Julie reminded the board that if they wanted to attend the VSA/VSBA virtually next week, there is a link that she sent in an email today for board members to register and the details are in the email.

Future Meeting Dates

The MVSD Board Retreat is scheduled for July 21st at 6:30pm all to be held virtually. Julie will put in examples of board, district and Superintendent goals in the board drive for the board's reference. She will also include a google doc starting some goal brainstorming.

Adjournment

Action

Peter Magnant moved, seconded by Joanne Johnston to adjourn at 7:16 PM. The board approved on a 9-0 vote.

Respectfully submitted,

Meaghan Conly, Board Clerk

Submitted by Pierrette Bouchard, School Board Secretary