

Town of Coventry
School Building Energy Efficiency Committee Regular Meeting
June 3, 2021 6:30 PM
Minutes

1. **Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order at 6:38 pm by Mary Kortmann, Vice Chair. Present via Zoom were: Mary Kortmann, Joe Malon, and Jenn Reilly. Others present via Zoom were: John Elsesser Town Manager, Amanda Backhaus Finance Director, and Bill Trudelle, BOE Facilities Director.
2. **Approval of Minutes:** Motion made to approve the minutes from April 1, 2021 made by Joe and seconded by Jenn. Motions to approve the minutes as presented passed unanimously.
3. **Project Financial Status:** Amanda noted that the financial status report has been updated to include the encumbrance to ICDS.
4. **School Roof Update:** Bill noted that we are waiting to the fall to file the paperwork with the State. This will result in only a one-year decrease in the grant reduction we will receive. One will be done in September and one will be done in December. He is hopeful pricing will have returned to normal levels by then. John notes we will probably need more money regardless. He noted the Council would need to put this forward by early August in order to get a bonding question on the November ballot. He mentioned we need funding in place in order to go to the State. Bill notes he will try to get that for the next meeting. John thinks we have enough money for Robertson but will need more for the High School. Joe asked if we are getting bids with different life increments. John confirmed we are. Bill confirmed Mansfield's lowest bid was \$21/square foot and they had estimated \$24. John noted our previous estimates were closer to \$17.
5. **Fire Door Update:** Bill noted they are meeting at 3 pm on the 9th. The products are all being stored in their warehouse and they are ready to get started. They are estimated about a 6 week turn around.
6. **Unit Ventilator/HVAC Project Update:** Bill noted the air handling units are scheduled for the week of August 12. This should only take a week and be up and running before school starts. John asked if the control work in the front office was completed and Bill confirmed that it was and it seems to work much better.

John noted we will email out the report from ICDS tomorrow. The Town just received it today. John noted the base bid is \$6.2 million and they recommended another \$485k to add air cleaning to the project as well. John thinks we had estimated around \$1.8M based on the numbers that BL had given us. He noted the report was very thorough. They did evaluate the chilled beam option and deemed it not the best option. They are recommending replacing the unit ventilators with ceiling fan coil units. Mary asked about air conditioning. John confirmed air conditioning is not included but the units are capable.

John noted we are getting rescue act funding however that will not cover this. The Town is getting \$3.6M and has at least a million to spend before we can even start reviewing school projects. He is also hopeful that perhaps school construction grants will start to cover some of this work. Bill noted he spoke with ICDS today and the plan is very detailed. They do need to do a little site work to ensure there is adequate room in the ceiling for the duct work that they would like to do.

Joe asked about the filtering. Bill noted the dedicate site air will have a 13 Mer filter on it. The in-room units cannot handle that and keep the noise down. The system will use a UV system to kill any bacteria in those rooms. Jenn asked if maintenance would be an issue. Bill said no – twice a year filter change – very similar to the amount of work we currently do.

Jenn stated there must be more funding for this since it will be a nationwide problem. John is hopeful that the school construction grants will be modified to allow HVAC repair. In addition, there is funding in the proposed infrastructure bill but who knows if that will get out of Washington.

John noted we will invite ICDS to our next meeting to have them present it and discuss next steps.

7. **Other Matters:** John provided a quick update on the CHS walls. They did the scanning and they will be moving forward on additional walls over the summer. They are working on getting revised numbers.
8. **Adjournment:** Motion made to adjourn at 6:55 pm by Jenn and seconded by Joe. Motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,



Amanda L. Backhaus, CPA
Finance Director

Note: These minutes are draft/not official until approved by the Committee at the next Committee meeting. Please see subsequent meeting for approval or changes to these minutes.