

JULY 1, 2025 SPECIAL PLANTS AND FACILITIES COMMITTEE

CALLED TO ORDER

Mr. Foley: Called meeting to order at 5:30.

OPENING CEREMONIES

Pledge of Allegiance

ROLL CALL

Mr. Foley: Melissa Mongillo; Dan Foley.

Karla Malerba, absent.

We still have a quorum.

Also Present:

Dr. Matthew Conway, Superintendent of Schools

PUBLIC PORTION

Mr. Foley: Anyone from the public wishes to speak? Second, anyone from the public wishing to speak? And third, anyone from the public wishes to speak? Not hearing anyone, I close the public portion.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Motion to enter into executive session to review the bids for the Bradley School Playground and the Superintendent of Schools is invited to attend as well as Robbie Trainor and Sal Giannotti. Passed with a motion made by Ms. Melissa Mongillo and a second by Mr. Dan Foley.

Dan Foley	Yes
Melissa Mongillo	Yes
Karla Malerba	Absent

Back in regular session after seven minutes of Executive Session.

Ms. Mongillo: Making motion.

Mr. Foley: Second. Motion passes.

BRADLEY SCHOOL PLAYGROUND

Motion for the Plants and Facilities to recommend the bid for the Bradley School Playground to move to the full Board of Education for approval. Passed with a motion made by Ms. Melissa Mongillo and a second by Mr. Dan Foley.

Dan Foley	Yes
Melissa Mongillo	Yes
Karla Malerba	Absent

Ms. Mongillo: Making motion.

Mr. Foley: Second. Motion passes.

AGENDA ADDITIONS/DELETIONS/CORRECTIONS**IMAGINATE YOUR SPACE – CAFETERIA REMODELING**

Mr. Chair, I'd like to make a motion to move item number 11, Imagine Your Space – Cafeteria Remodeling to in place of item number 5P, Approval of Minutes. Passed with a motion made by Ms. Melissa Mongillo and a second by Mr. Dan Foley.

Dan Foley	Yes
Melissa Mongillo	Yes
Karla Malerba	Absent

Ms. Mongillo: Making motion.

Mr. Foley: Second. Motion passes. So, where are we now, Doctor.

Dr. Conway: So, Sal is going to present.

Mr. Foley: Go ahead Sal.

Dr. Conway: This is the information for the Committee as part of our efforts to uplift the cafeteria.

Mr. Foley: The cafeteria, correct?

Sal: So, this is a proposal to remodel school cafeterias. Photos on the screen that some other grammar schools have done. They paint, decorate. They call that pop art that they manufacture. They work with the school to come up with a theme. Then they'll design it. These are themes that the schools pick. Like you could do the Red Raiders, some schools

do some vegetables and fruits. It's anything you could think of and you work with them and they'll design it out for us. And then they'll show it to us digitally.

Mr. Foley: Sal, can they do all the schools at one time?

Sal: I'd have to find out. The total amount, I don't think we can cover right now anyway for all four. I was thinking about doing the grammar schools because we're figuring in around \$120,000 to spend off out of the three-month operating expense. That would be one month of the three that we have, about \$120,000. So, the pricing, they're looking at 47,000 for the grammar schools.

Dr. Conway: Each?

Sal: Yeah, each. That's if you get the whole package. We're looking at that in those photos.

Mr. Foley: Okay.

Sal: So, they want 18,500 to paint them multicolored but that's for everything, signage, all the pop art.

Mr. Foley: Now who would decide for each school what they wanted. Would it be the students, the principal or a combination thereof?

Sal: It would be a combination I think. It's whatever you guys decide who would design it and they'd work with the designer, Imagine Your Space.

Mr. Foley: The middle and the high school would be more?

Sal: Yeah, the middle and the high school would be 60,000, 65,000 roughly for the middle school and the high school is around 60,000 or 62,000 just because they're bigger. They came in and did laser scans of all four cafeterias and that's how they came up with the price quote. If we decide to do it, they'll charge just another 4,500 to see what's on the screens there. Something that we'll see what the final product is. And that's also their blueprint to do the work.

Ms. Mongillo: So, can you talk about, obviously you have a spend down in your budget and money to use that needs to be used by a certain time? No.

Sal: No. That's the tricky part. The money, we're allowed to keep three months operating expense. Our monthly operating expense right now is about 120,000 for food and labor. The State lets you keep three months, so 360,000. Right now, we still have 380,000 but I still have to close out for June. So, that could, I'm thinking it could go down a little bit. But we'll see when it's finalized. So, State rules say anything over that three month you have to reinvest back into the program and that's what we've always done with equipment,

Karla Malerba **Absent**

Ms. Mongillo: Making motion.

Mr. Foley: Second. Motion passes.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion that the Plants and Facilities Committee approve the minutes for the March 20th, 2025 meeting. Passed with a motion made by Ms. Melissa Mongillo and a second by Mr. Dan Foley

Dan Foley **Yes**

Melissa Mongillo **Yes**

Karla Malerba **Absent**

Ms. Mongillo: Making motion.

Mr. Foley: Second. Motion passes.

EAGLE SCOUT FOOD PANTRY PROJECT

Dr. Conway: I did talk to him the other day. Things are moving along. He got approval for the project through the Boy Scouts. So, he'll start moving along on it. I thought he was going to be here tonight to present.

Mr. Foley: No, I just needed an update. He works as a bus boy in one of the restaurants in Shelton over there. Very nice young man.

Dr. Conway: Yes. I ran into him the other day. He got full approval. So, he'll be moving full steam ahead.

CONNECTICUT IES GRANT PROGRAM

Mr. John Heiderscheidt: Is updating the Board on the Grant Program through the State of Connecticut. If we are able to get the grant we would get one hundred fifty million, fifty dollars. Our equipment is both health related and energy savings related for your buildings and for air quality for schools. And students can become better students for air quality. For example, C students can become B students and B students can become A students. I'm happy to show that ROI document with you. Everything we do is data driven. Our air quality monitors are very sophisticated measuring 18 different levels of air quality. On the energy side, there's multiple different layers of technology that would be tested. All provide different elements of potential savings for the school, regardless of whether your HVAC

systems were in what's called a package unit or what's called a bigger chiller type of HVAC system.

Dr. Conway: Yeah, we've listened and we met with them. And if the grant goes through, there will be no cost to the district to install the equipment. And a chance for energy savings moving forward once that equipment is in.

Mr. Foley: So, it's a win-win situation for the school system.

Dr. Conway: Yes.

Motion the Plants and Facilities Committee recommend the Connecticut IES Grant Program to the full Board of Education for approval. Passed with a motion made by Ms. Melissa Mongillo and a second by Mr. Dan Foley.

Dan Foley	Yes
Melissa Mongillo	Yes
Karla Malerba	Absent

Ms. Mongillo: Making motion.

Mr. Foley: Second. Motion passes.

FACILITIES DEPARTMENT REPORT

Mr. Foley: Skipping this item. as Jim Hoffman is absent.

FACILITIES MANAGEMENT SOFTWARE

Mr. Foley: Skipping this item as Jim Hoffman is absent.

REVIEW OF FACILITIES BUDGET

Mr. Foley: Go ahead, Robbie.

Mr. Trainor: So, as we start the new year, we're still closing out encumbrances from last year. Not too much has changed. The electricity really hit us hard this year. Looking at about 287,000 over budget. We have a bunch of line items that are significantly under budget with Jim and his team. As I've mentioned, Jim has done a wonderful job. So, we are liquidating purchase orders, making sure they are correct and the services and supplies have been delivered. And we should come in right around budget. Had the electricity not been an issue, we probably would have been about 200,000 to the good this year. So, electricity had really hurt us this year.

Mr. Foley: Any questions.

Ms. Mongillo: I don't.

Mr. Foley: Neither do I.

Ms. Mongillo: Electricity fluxuated this year, was that because of the State rates changing?

Mr. Trainor: The rates and the public benefit.

Ms. Mongillo: I just got an alert that there would be a reduction of cost in the coming year. I don't know what that means. I just saw a UI alert to my email.

Mr. Trainor: I received that as well for my personal home. I have not received anything for the district yet.

Ms. Mongillo: What did you budget it for?

Mr. Trainor: I budgeted half the difference from the overage this year and what we spent last year.

Ms. Mongillo: Okay. That's it. Thank you.

SCHOOL VIOLENCE PREVENTION PROGRAM (SVPP)

Mr. Foley: School violence.

Mr. Trainor: So, this is a grant we applied for with the help of a grant writer. The SPV Grant is a federal grant. And we can request up to half a million from the feds with a reimbursement of 25 percent from the City. The City is ineligible to help with their portion. So, we submitted a waiver. The waiver basically says, we are in a financial distressed municipality and we are hoping to get approved with this waiver. The total grant that we applied for was 667,000. It includes building PA integration systems with strobes, speakers and digital display screens. Lockdown and emergency notification systems, cell phone repeaters to increase the cell service at the middle and the high school.

Dr. Conway: Dan, I just didn't want to go through all the items publicly and upgrade security wise.

Mr. Foley: Okay. That's fine, Doctor.

Dr. Conway: This is more information we've already shared this grant. This is just where we are at this point in time in terms of waiting on answers on the waiver.

Mr. Trainor: There will be communication in November on whether we received the waiver and the grant.

Dr. Conway: Should we not get it, we're already ahead of the game to apply again next year when the same grant opens up. And hopefully at that time, the municipality will be in a better position to budget for the match funding.

Ms. Mongillo: Do we know if it is an all or nothing scenario?

Mr. Trainor: It is.

Motion the Plants and Facilities Committee recommend the School Violence Prevention Program move to the full Board of Education for approval. Passed with a motion made by Ms. Melissa Mongillo and a second by Mr. Dan Foley.

Dan Foley	Yes
Melissa Mongillo	Yes
Karla Malerba	Absent

Ms. Mongillo: Making motion.

Mr. Foley: Second. Motion passes.

DMS HEATING SYSTEM UPDATE

Mr. Foley: Skipping over this item.

DISCUSSION: PAYDEN PAVILION PAVERS

Mr. Foley: The pavers? I was the one that brought it up. Any update on that?

Dr. Conway: Yeah, they are actually installed correctly. That is the way they're supposed to be floating like that. So, they'll remain as is.

Mr. Foley: Okay. That's all I needed to know.

DISCUSSION PAYDEN PARK PROTECTIVE NETTING

Mr. Foley: I brought that up myself, the netting over the first base line. The stands next to it where the foul balls come over the fence. Any update on that?

Dr. Conway: We'll have to get some pricing on what additional protective netting would cost. I'll check in with Dennis to see if he can get a cost on that.

Mr. Foley: It doesn't have to be something spectacular, just something so that people don't get hit with a foul ball.

Ms. Mongillo: Yeah, definitely yeah.

RECEIVED

By Marc J. Garofalo, MPA, MCC, MCTC at 9:02 am, Jul 11, 2025

FOOTBALL FIELD DISCUSSION

Mr. Foley: The far end zone which is coming up.

Dr. Conway: Dennis is already on that. He discussed it with Aqua Turf who is moving it forward as of last week through their Warranty Department because they said it shouldn't have happened.

Mr. Foley: Okay. That's great.

ADJOURN

Motion the Plants and Facilities Committee adjourn it's meeting. Passed with a motion made by Ms. Melissa Mongillo and second with Mr. Dan Foley.

Dan Foley	Yes
Melissa Mongillo	Yes
Karla Malerba	Absent

Ms. Mongillo: Making motion.

Mr. Foley: Second. Motion passes.

Marianne Samokar

Recording Secretary