

School Building Committee

**MINUTES OF MEETING
CITY OF BRIDGEPORT
SCHOOLS BUILDING COMMITTEE
December 15, 2021**

I. CALL TO ORDER

Co-Chair Brown called the meeting to order at 4:05pm, a quorum was present.

II. ATTENDANCE

(Voting Members Bold)

Marcus Brown – Chair – City Council

Ernest Newton – City Council

Matthew McCarthy – City Council

John Weldon – Board of Education

Michael Testani – Superintendent of Schools

Albert Benejan – Board of Education

Jon Urquidi – City Engineer

Thomas Gill – Director, OPED

Jorge Garcia – Director, Building Operations BOE

Kenneth Flatto – Finance Director

Craig Nadrizny – Acting Director, Public Facilities

Michele Otero – Contract Compliance/School Construction

Larry Schilling – School Construction Program

D. Donovan – NuPower LLC

S. Gilmartin – NuPower LLC

III. Approval of Meeting Minutes from October 21, 2021

Motion: Motion by Mr. Newton to approve, second by Mr. Testani

Discussion: None

Action: Approved

Mr. McCarthy abstained as he was not a member of the committee at that time.

IV. General Matters

A. Approval of November Payment Applications; Mr. Schilling read the report.

- Aquaculture School - **\$14,719.59**
- Bassick High School - **\$437,198.27**

Motion: Motion by Mr. Newton and second by Mr. Flatto

Discussion: None

Action: Unanimously approved

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V. **Bassick High School – Hygenix – Asbestos Abatement Monitoring – ADD \$137,000**

Hygenix is the monitoring company that was retained through Perkins Eastman. School Construction is requesting that we move the contract from Perkins to the City direct to ensure timely payments and remove the ten (10) percent upcharge.

Motion: Motion by Mr. Newton to approve, second by Mr. Weldon

Discussion: None

Action: Unanimously approved

VI. **Presentation from Nupower LLC**

Mr. Donovan, Mr. Gilmartin and Mr. Waldron were present to do another briefing on the cost savings and perks to having the connection to the Thermal Loop. After numerous meetings with representation from the Board of Education, School Construction and the Architect and Engineer on the project the decision was made to engage with NuPower solely for the heating portion. Mr. Gilmartin expressed reimbursement for up to ten thousand dollars (\$10,000) for engineering fees associated with the Thermal Loop.

Motion: Motion by Mr. Newton to approve, second by Mr. Garcia

Discussion:

Mr. Testani mentioned the meeting that took place with NuPower and believes it went well. Going this route was the least disruptive to the construction schedule. Mr. Weldon expressed that this has not been vetted by the Board as of yet however he recognized that the staff had concerns. Mr. Weldon is comfortable with the arrangement that has been reached and based on that he believes that the Board will be ok with it as well. Mr. Weldon did clarify that he does not speak FOR the Board.

Mr. McCarthy questioned how much savings as would the BOE be giving up by not doing the chiller and if there was an economic projection of cost savings to just go this route. Mr.

Donovan replied that the savings were significant, but he did not have the information in front of him. The economic savings projected were seventy thousand dollars (\$70,000).

Mr. Urquidi asked if there is a possibility to retrofit for the chillers later? Mr. Donovan replied, yes. Mr. McCarthy asked what should happen if SBC authorizes the install and BOE says they would like the chillers. Mr. Brown explained that SBC decides what is installed and BOE negotiates the contract.

Mrs. Otero asked if the cost of engineering fees exceeded the ten thousand dollars mentioned, who will pay that cost. Mr. Gilmartin expressed they will reimburse for all engineering fees associated with this work.

Action: Approved

Mr. McCarthy opposed

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VII. Project Status Report

Aquaculture Floating Classroom – Coast Guard has signed off on the Crane Installation. Hoping to perform a trial run in March 2022 for the official sign off from the Coast Guard.

Bassick High School – Currently abating Bodine. Expecting to begin demolition in February. North/South clean demo will begin in a week or so.

Marin Elementary School – Awaiting Project Sign Off.

VIII. Adjournment

Motion: Mr. Newton made the motion to adjourn at 4:53pm and a second by Mr. Weldon

Discussion: None

Action: Unanimously approved

Respectfully Submitted,

Michele Otero
School Construction Program