

Minutes from Russell School Committee Meeting

Monday, April 3, 2023, 5:30-7:00 pm

Attendees - Courtney, Dan, Dragon, Carolyn via Zoom, then in-person at 6:15pm

Citizen - Greg Kwolek

Meeting began at 17:35

1. Approval of minutes - Passes unanimously
2. CPA update - presented 3/27 project and approved for 1.362 million @ town meeting
Dan and Courtney presented to CPA
 - a. 4/27 forum for pre-town meeting
 - b. 5/4 town meeting
 - i. Waiting for information regarding how much time for presentation.
 - ii. Scripting w/ town meeting for questions we do not have answers to: "that is beyond the scope of this warrant article"
 - iii. Carolyn questions w/ stretch code. Dan explained that stretch code is an energy efficiency code, not ADA code.
 - iv. Dan - question regarding IBEC from prev chair of municipal building committee
 - v. Carolyn - maybe we should have architect to look at proposal
 - vi. Carolyn - we are just looking to make the building stable.
 - vii. Dan - current building code does have certain remedies for historical buildings.
 - viii. Greg review of 3-13 CPA minutes
 1. Courtney states minutes do not show the study proposal. Greg says there is no room for study. Must make understood that they are soft figures. Dan explains that the study is built into the costs
 2. 2 quotes for feasibility studies for \$25,000 to determine the cost of repairs to building and what to do with the building even down to what rooms to put things in
 3. Rationale for feasibility study and repairs
 4. \$\$ money to go to select board
 - a. Who has the authority to withdraw from account?
 5. Greg - goal for this committee and project to go somewhere and do this without hesitation
 6. Courtney states that CPA is drafting the warrant. Courtney to contact Mary Thayer to see when we can review warrant.
 7. Greg thoughts on what to do with land 1.9 acres of land, portion abuts Hopkins Academy. ?: why things are historic if in place of where things that burned down? Said "Best to start anew"

- a. Courtney states met with Annie Mckenzie and could potentially be used for new tech program
- 8. Greg question about cost. Dan response r/t cost being inflated and pure function. We want to spend the tax payers money efficiently cost effectively
- 9. Courtney 3/27 meeting with CPA was going over the different types of grant funding.
- 10. Dan - What can the building be used for? Previously was slated to be a town hall. Historical discussion. OPM recommended this project to keep it moving. Clerk of the works in the OPM for the project.
- 11. Scope of the project: The town owns the building. It's the town's responsibility to maintain the building.

3. Panoramic Photography Project

- a. Courtney speaking about 360-degree virtual access tour of the school
- b. Greg asking about possibility to go into building?
 - i. Dan responds regarding problem w/ ADA compliance, Dragon speaks about liability and insurance
 - ii. Greg states would be very helpful to open people's eyes

4. Historical Commission continues work with Hadley Media to put together a video for russell school to compile

- a. Question about presenting it at town meeting? Courtney will ask Alex about timeline. Could present on large screen or small laptop at table entering town meeting

5. New Business

- a. Question regarding initial charter and mission - SB doesn't seem to have one, but RSC spelled it out in a 9-27 meeting to the SB.

Next meeting: April 25, 5:30pm, Senior Center (TBD)