

NESHAMINY SCHOOL DISTRICT
Langhorne, Pennsylvania

PUBLIC BOARD MEETING MINUTES
NESHAMINY BOARD OF SCHOOL DIRECTORS
(PUBLIC MEETING)
June 1, 2006

The Neshaminy Board of School Directors met in public session on June 1, 2006, in the Board Room of the Maple Point Middle School. The following persons were in attendance:

BOARD MEMBERS:

Mr. Richard M. Eccles, President
Mrs. Sue C. Barrett, Vice-President
Mr. Joseph R. Blasch
Ms. Irene M. Boyle
Mrs. Susan Cummings
Mr. Frank J. Koziol
Dr. William H. Spitz
Mr. Ritchie Webb

ADMINISTRATORS:

Dr. Louis T. Muenker
Dr. Sandra Costanzo
Mr. Joseph V. Paradise
Mr. Bruce Wyatt

SECRETARY:

Mrs. Anita E. Walls

SOLICITOR:

Thomas Profy, III, Esquire

OTHERS: Approximately 18 persons from the public, staff and press

1. Call to Order

Mr. Eccles called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

2. Pledge of Allegiance

Mr. Eccles requested those in attendance join in the salute to the flag.

3. Announcements

No announcements.

4. Public Comment

No public comment.

5. Item for Approval

a) High School Construction Bids

Mr. Tack advised the Board that the contract for Drywall and Acoustic Ceilings was rebid. Ernest Bock was the only bidder for the contract and will subcontract the work out. Based on the information that is being received the bid seems like it is a fairly reasonable number.

Mr. Tack advised that the Board can at this time make some choices with the alternates. Mr. Tack directed Board members to the Recommended Alternates Summary. Mr. Tack suggested that the Board approve accepting the following:

- Base Bid with Insurance provided through the contractors

- Add Unit A Gym – upgrades to Gym 1, new flooring, bleachers and ceilings, motorizing the backstops
- Add Unit H Gym – upgrades similar to Gym 1
- 2 x 4 acoustical ceiling tiles
- Science casework to be plastic laminate
- ATC Alternate manufacturer – change manufacturer
- Wireless clock system – controlled by radio signals

Dr. Spitz inquired regarding the 8.7% and will there be any concerns with Act 34. Mr. Tack feels that this will still be within the limits.

Mr. Profy inquired whether the determination will be made by PDE as part of the PlanCon approval process. Mr. Tack stated that the numbers will be determined when put into the PlanCon G and Department of Education basically just needs to verify same.

Mr. Webb advised that one requirement is obtaining approval from the Middletown Township Supervisors. Mr. Webb is concerned about time deadlines. Mr. Tack advised that the district is coming close to the time issues. The rebid of the drywall has set the project back a bit. The schedule is tight, however, the commitment is to make the dates and make the project happen. Mr. Tack advised that the project needs to keep moving forward and approvals are necessary tonight, and also Township approvals are necessary in order to keep the project otherwise the project will be in serious trouble.

Mr. Eccles was concerned that Township approval was not obtained. Mr. Tack advised that a couple of issues are still outstanding with the Township. The Township provided conditional approval back in February.

Mr. Larry Young, Gilmore Associates, provided the Board with the following information:

- February 14th received conditional approval at the Board of Supervisors meeting
- Subsequent to the meeting a resolution was issued with 64 comments
- Most comments were generic and appear on every project
- 19 comments were plan issues
- Traffic Impact Study was requested
- The plans were resubmitted on April 28th addressing the plan comments and have still not received any review or sign-off by the Township Engineer. The district is satisfied that all 64 comments have been addressed
- Traffic Engineer has reviewed the Traffic Study and provided a list of comments
- Since May 24th the comments from the Traffic Engineer have been addressed on the internal part of the site
- The remaining comments are improvements on Old Lincoln Highway
- Estimated improvements will be approximately \$440,000 for the right and left turn lanes on Old Lincoln Highway, closing access from Route 1 and flashing signs in both directions on Old Lincoln Highway
- Approval is needed at the June 6th Board of Supervisors meeting

Mr. Young advised that there will be no increase in traffic at the school in the next 40 months.

Mr. Tack advised that the following will occur during the summer months in order to have the project on schedule:

- Demolish two of the existing wings of the building in order to make room for new classroom additions
- Asbestos removal

The Department of Education will not let the school district enter into any contracts until all the approvals are in place. The Township approval is critical to the project.

Mr. Eccles inquired whether approval issues occur on other projects of this type. Mr. Tack advised that every project has its approval issues to deal with. Every project has challenges. This project has been a bit more difficult from a company standpoint in trying to determine the needs and expectations. This project would suffer significant impacts if it were delayed.

Mr. Eccles is hoping that the Board of Supervisors is aware that this is a project for the community and students and it is not a mall or vacant big box building in the township. This has impact in the community.

Mr. Tack stated that if approvals are not received it would be necessary for the Board to determine whether to compromise the safety of the students and staff, or delay the project. Delaying the project has its own issues, i.e. significant cost increases.

Mr. Eccles feels that demands have been put on this project for no other reason than to slow the project.

Dr. Spitz noted that the purpose of the meeting is not to lay blame. The district is very close and right at the finish line of this portion of the project. Dr. Spitz would like everyone to keep the ultimate goal in mind and get the project moving.

Mr. Tack noted that Mr. Paradise, Mr. Young and others have worked tirelessly during the last few weeks with the Township to address the concerns, find compromises and keep the project moving.

Mr. Bowman agreed that the Administration and the professionals have done an excellent job in keeping the project moving. Recently, the members of the Board of Supervisors have made an effort to work with the school district. It is imperative that the district has the Township's approval on June 7th to keep the project moving.

Dr. Spitz requested that the Board discuss the alternates as a Board. Mr. Tack addressed any questions or concerns that Board members may have.

Mr. Profy stated that by adopting the resolution Additions and Alterations to Neshaminy High School the Board will be approving as Exhibit A to that resolution the contractors and alternates which have been selected.

Ms. Boyle does not feel that the 8.7% figure is clear and requested clarification. Mr. Tack advised for the new construction the district is in the 5% range.

Mr. Paradise advised that the alternates have been gone through internally and the decisions and recommendations are summarized on the handout. The following alternates were questioned:

- 8A - Projecting Aluminum Windows
- 7A - Clock Tower
- 12A - RTU Air handler Alternate Manufacturer
- 18A - Alternate Transformers
- 22A - Add Sound Field Speakers

An in depth discussion ensued regarding the sound field speakers. After much discussion the Board did not have consensus to include the sound field speakers.

After Board discussions the Board desires to accept add alternates 1, 2a, 3a and 5a and deduct alternates 7a, 10a, 13a, and 23a.

Mr. Profy advised that a typographical error exists in the Additions and Alternations motion on the last full line which should read "at **this** time". Further, "**7a**" will be added to the deduct alternates.

Motion: Additions and Alterations to Neshaminy High School PA Dept of Education Project No. 3215

Mr. Bowman presented the following motion:

WHEREAS, the Neshaminy School District ("School District") did, on May 9, 2006, receive bids for the construction contracts for the project designated as Additions and Alterations to Neshaminy High School Pennsylvania Department of Education Project No. 3215; and

WHEREAS, the School District did, on May 31, 2006, receive bids for construction contract for Drywall and Acoustical Ceilings Contract 06-37 after a re-bid for Contract 06-37 since no bids were received on May 9, 2006 for the Drywall and Acoustical Ceilings Contract; and

WHEREAS, the School District desires to accept Add Alternatives 1, 2a, 3a and 5a and Deduct Alternates 7a, 10a, 13a and 23a; and

WHEREAS, the School District intends to proceed with the Project designated as Additions and Alterations to the Neshaminy High School Pennsylvania Department of Education Project No. 3215, and intends by further action of the School District to award the construction contracts for the Project; and

WHEREAS, the School District, at this time, desires to authorize the issuance to contractors of notices of intent to award the construction contracts.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the School District authorizes the issuance of Notices of Intent to Award the Construction Contracts set forth on the Schedule of Contracts annexed hereto and incorporated herein as Exhibit "A" and states that the School District intends by further action of the School District to award the construction contracts set forth in the Schedule of Contracts provided that the School District receives, on or before June 7, 2006, from Middletown Township, Bucks County, Pennsylvania ("Township") the commitment of the Township that the Township will, upon application of the School District

or contractors of the School District and upon payment of the building permit fees of the Township, issue without conditions or qualifications all and not less than all building permits and other permits required for the construction of the Project and that the Township will notify Pennsylvania Department of Education that the Project is consistent with applicable comprehensive plans and zoning ordinance, and that the land development plan submitted by the school district complies with the ordinances and regulations of the Township to the extent that the Township will, at this time, issue all building permits and other permits required for the Project.

Mr. Koziol seconded the motion.

Mr. Eccles requested a roll call vote on the motion. The roll call tally indicated the motion passed with nine ayes (Mr. Webb, Dr. Spitz, Mr. Koziol, Mr. Eccles, Mrs. Cummings, Ms. Boyle, Mr. Bowman, Mr. Blasch and Mrs. Barrett) and zero nays.

Dr. Spitz presented the Neshaminy High School Traffic Study Improvements motion and after reading same discussion ensued regarding changes to said motion. Dr. Spitz made a motion to make the changes to said motion. Mr. Bowman seconded the motion. The motion as follows includes the amendments to said motion.

Motion: Neshaminy High School Traffic Study Improvements

Dr. Spitz presented the following motion:

WHEREAS, the Township did, on February 26, 2006, grant conditional approval of the Preliminary/Final Land Development Plan for the Neshaminy School District Additions and Alterations Project dated December 5, 2005, subject to certain conditions, including the requirement that the School District submit a Traffic Impact Study; and

WHEREAS, the Traffic Impact Study dated April 28, 2006 of Gilmore & Associates, Inc. was submitted by Neshaminy School District ("School District") to the Township of Middletown, Bucks County, Pennsylvania ("Township") on April 28, 2006; and

WHEREAS, Pennoni Associates, Inc., as Traffic Consultant to the Township, has issued a Traffic Engineering Review dated May 24, 2006, of the existing and proposed plans for Additions and Alterations to Neshaminy High School prepared by Gilmore & Associates, Inc. dated December 5, 2005, last revised March 20, 2006; and the Traffic Impact Study prepared by Gilmore & Associates, Inc. dated April 28, 2006; and

WHEREAS, the Traffic Impact Study dated April 28, 2006 and Traffic Engineering Review dated May 24, 2006 addressed 2006 existing traffic conditions and the impact of the additions and alterations of the Neshaminy High School Project upon the existing traffic conditions, and recommended certain traffic improvements; and

WHEREAS, the School District, after review and consideration of the Traffic Impact Study, dated April 28, 2006 and Traffic Engineering Review dated May 24, 2006, has determined that certain recommended road improvements should be made after completion of the Project and after approval of said improvements by Pennsylvania Department of Transportation ("PennDot").

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the School District will, at the time of completion of the Additions and Alterations to the Neshaminy High School Project make the following traffic improvements:

- i. Installation of a 15-mph school zone speed limit with flashing warning devices along Old Lincoln Highway in the vicinity of the school, provided that the School District receives the approval of PennDot of the school zone flasher application and Plan of the School District;
- ii. Construction of a northbound left-turn lane and a southbound right-turn lane on Old Lincoln Highway for traffic entering the school entrance driveway and closure of northern most access roadway; provided that the School District receives the approval of PennDot of the road improvement application and Plan of the School District;

The cost of device and its installation of the 15 mph school zone speed limit with flashing warning devices shall be borne exclusively by Township and School District will not be obligated to make the installation, if Township does not agree to pay the cost of the installation.

The maximum construction cost of construction and development, including design, engineering, review and permitting of the northbound left-turn lane and the southbound right-turn lane to Old Lincoln Highway shall be \$420,000. The School District will not be obligated to make the road improvements if the costs exceed the said maximum. Seventy-Five (75%) of costs shall be paid by the School District and 25 % of costs will be paid by the Township, each of which shall have the right but not the obligation to pay the costs in excess of \$420,000 to complete the road improvements.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the School District shall provide 812 parking spaces at the project and shall take such action as necessary to develop and construct said parking spaces prior to completion of the construction of the Project.

Mr. Blasch seconded the motion.

Mr. Eccles requested a roll call vote. The roll call tally indicated that the motion as amended passed by a vote of nine ayes (Mrs. Barrett, Mr. Blasch, Mr. Bowman, Ms. Boyle, Mrs. Cummings, Mr. Eccles, Mr. Koziol, Dr. Spitz and Mr. Webb) and zero nays.

Mr. Webb made a motion that since the Board is optimistic that the Board of Supervisors of Middletown Township will meet next Tuesday evening and approve the project, the School District cancel the June 6, 2006 meeting and reschedule the meeting for Thursday, June 8, 2006 at 7:00 p.m.

Mr. Blasch seconded the motion.

The Board unanimously approved the motion.

b) Bid # 07-11 – School Agendas

Mr. Webb made a motion to table the item. Mr. Koziol seconded the motion. The Board unanimously approved the motion to table.

6. Adjournment of Meeting

Mr. Bowman moved the meeting be adjourned and Mrs. Cummings seconded the motion. The Board unanimously approved the motion. Mr. Eccles adjourned the meeting at 8:00 p.m.

Respectively submitted,

Anita E. Walls
Board Secretary