

CITY OF NEWTON

IN BOARD OF ALDERMEN

PUBLIC FACILITIES COMMITTEE REPORT

THURSDAY, APRIL 25, 2013

Present: Ald. Salvucci (Chairman), Lennon, Albright, Crossley, Danberg, Laredo, and Lappin

Absent: Ald. Gentile

Also present: Ald. Fuller and Johnson

City officials present: Maureen Lemieux (Chief Financial Officer), Josh Morse (Interim Commissioner of Public Buildings), and Arthur Cabral (Budget and Project Specialist; Public Buildings Department)

**REFERRED TO PUBLIC FACILITIES AND FINANCE COMMITTEES**

#137-13 HIS HONOR THE MAYOR requesting authorization to appropriate an amount that is yet to be determined from bonded indebtedness for the purpose of installing a sprinkler fire protection system at the Mason-Rice Elementary School. [03/25/13 @ 3:58 PM]

**ACTION:** **APPROVED 7-0 @ \$480,000**

**NOTE:** Public Buildings Commissioner Josh Morse provided an overview of the sprinkler project at Mason-Rice Elementary School. The addition of a sprinkler system in the school is required, as the addition of the two or four modular classrooms triggers the building code requirement for sprinklers. The other elementary schools already have sprinkler systems and the modular classrooms have pre-installed sprinklers. The project is not a complex building project but there is a very tight timeframe for completion. The sprinkler installation needs to be complete by September 1, 2013.

The project went out to bid and the bid was awarded to Carlyle Engineering. The bid came in at approximately \$457,000. Carlyle Engineering did the most recent sprinkler installations for the last modular classroom project, which came in on time and 20% under budget. The Mayor is requesting \$480,000 for the construction and administration associated with the sprinkler project. The \$480,000 includes a 10% project contingency.

Ald. Laredo moved approval at \$480,000 for the sprinkler installation project, which carried unanimously

**REFERRED TO PUBLIC FACILITIES AND FINANCE COMMITTEES**

#136-13 HIS HONOR THE MAYOR requesting authorization to appropriate an amount that is yet to be determined from bonded indebtedness for the installation of up to ten modular classrooms at the Burr, Horace Mann, Mason-Rice and Bowen Elementary Schools. [03/25/13 @ 3:58 PM]

**ACTION:** **APPROVED SUBJECT TO SECOND CALL 7-0 @ \$2.4 MILLION**

**NOTE:** Commissioner of Public Buildings Josh Morse presented the request for funding for up to ten modular classrooms to address increased enrollment and space issues at the Bowen, Burr Mason-Rice and Horace-Mann Elementary Schools. The plan is to install four modular classrooms at Bowen Elementary School, one modular classroom at Burr Elementary School, one modular classroom at Horace Mann Elementary School, and two or four modular classrooms at Mason-Rice Elementary School. The Board of Aldermen approved the site plans for the modular classrooms at each school on April 16, 2013.

The base bid was for eight modular classrooms with an alternate for two additional modular classrooms. There were two bids submitted for the installation of the modular classrooms at the elementary schools. The bid was awarded to Triumph Modular Inc., as the low bidder. Their base bid came in at \$1,865,900 and the alternate bid came in at \$324,000, which is substantially below the estimated cost of the project. Therefore, the request for funds includes the two alternate modular classrooms to be placed at Mason-Rice Elementary School.

The School Committee still needs to take a vote on the two additional modular classrooms at Mason-Rice Elementary School. School Committee Member Jonathan Yeo was present and explained that the School Committee will take an action before the Board of Aldermen meeting scheduled for May 6, 2013. There was some concern that the School Committee had yet to determine whether the additional modular classrooms were needed. Mr. Yeo explained that the School Committee wanted to be sure that the funding was available for the two modular classrooms before approving them. As the bid was so favorable, there is now funding available for all ten modular classrooms.

Committee members were not comfortable approving the funding for ten modular classrooms without knowing whether the School Committee would approve the two additional classrooms. It was suggested that a motion to approve the item subject to second would be appropriate in order to move the project forward, while waiting for the School Committee to approve the additional classrooms. Ald. Crossley made the motion to approve the \$2.4 million for ten modular classrooms subject to second call, which carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Anthony J. Salvucci, Chairman