



Newton City Council

Committee of the Whole Report

Monday, February 12, 2018

Present: Councilors Albright, Baker, Brousal-Glaser, Crossley, Danberg, Downs, Gentile, Greenberg, Kalis, Krintzman, Lappin, Leary, Lipof, Markiewicz, Noel, Norton, Rice, Schwartz, and President Laredo

Absent: Councilors Auchincloss, Ciccone, Cote, Grossman, and Kelley

City Staff present: Josh Morse (Commissioner of Public Buildings), and David Stickney (Director of Facilities; School Department)

#129-18 Authorization to submit a statement of interest to the MSBA

SCHOOL SUPERINTENDENT FLEISHMAN requesting a vote of the City Council to authorize the superintendent of Schools to submit a request to the Massachusetts School building Authority (MSBA) for consideration of funding for boiler replacement project(s).

Action: Approved 19-0 (Councilors Auchincloss, Ciccone, Cote, Grossman, and Kelley absent)

Note: Commissioner of Public Building Josh Morse presented the request for the City Council to authorize Superintendent Fleishman to submit a Statement of Interest (SOI) to the Massachusetts School building Authority (MSBA) for possible funding for boiler replacements. The MSBA offers an Accelerated Repair Program that provides approximately 40% of the cost of replacement of boilers, roofs, doors and windows in school buildings that have not undergone major renovations and have systems that are 30 years or older. The Day and Bigelow Middle Schools meet the requirements of the MSBA and are in need of boiler replacements. The School Department needs to submit the SOI for these projects by February 16, 2018 in order to meet the MSBA's deadline for application.

Both projects are included in the Capital Improvement Plan. The Bigelow boiler replacement project is 39 on the priority list and the Day boiler replacement project is Priority 75. The anticipated total cost of the boiler replacements at both schools is \$1.4 million. The City should receive approximately \$560,000 if the MSBA accepts the project as part of the Accelerated Repair Program. The MSBA usually informs school districts whether it is accepting the SOI application by June. If the City proceeds with an application for MSBA funds and the MSBA accepts the application, the replacement projects will need to be complete by summer 2019. There is no commitment on the part of the School Department to file an application and no commitment on the part of the MSBA to accept the application.

Councilors are pleased that the School Department is looking for MSBA funding for these types of projects and encouraged them to look for future projects. Councilor Lappin moved approval, which was seconded by Councilor Markiewicz. The motion carried by a vote of 19 in favor and none opposed.