

November 18, 2002

I. CALL TO ORDER

Finance Chairperson, Mary Jo Rossetti, called a Finance and Facilities Committee of the Whole Meeting of the School Committee to order in the committee room at city hall at 6:30 p.m., to discuss Quarterly Operations Expenditures, Lincoln Park Community School Educational Specifications and Comprehensive Study of Somerville Public Schools PK-8.

II. ROLL CALL

Present were Mr. Sullivan (arrived 6:38), Ms. Bauer, Ms. Cardoso, Ms. Harris (arrived 6:42), Ms. Murray, Ms. Rossetti, Ms. Taylor, Mayor Gay (arrived 7:12 p.m.) and Alderman White (arrived 7:16 p.m.)

No one was absent.

Dr. Albert F. Argenziano, Superintendent of Schools, Ms. Marie B. Ferrari, Assistant Superintendent for Finance and Administration, Mr. Anthony C. Caliri, Human Resources Manager, Dr. Steven F. Jenkins, District Administrator for Student Services were also present, along with five members of the audience.

III. Quarterly Operations Expenditures

A copy of the *Review of FY2003 First Quarter Operations Expenditures* was provided for members. Ms. Marie Ferrari, Assistant Superintendent for Finance and Administration gave a summary of the operations budget report for the Somerville Public Schools. She advised that the school department has encumbered and/or spent \$6.8 million (64%) of its operations appropriations for the 2002-2003 year. It is anticipated, following normal spending patterns that by the end of the calendar year, December 31, 2002, about eighty percent of the funds will be encumbered and/or expended. Brief discussion took place and Ms. Ferrari and Dr. Argenziano answered questions asked by members. No action followed.

IV. Lincoln Park Community School Educational Specifications

Ms. Rossetti explained to members that Alderman White requested the Lincoln Park Community School Educational Specifications be put on this evening's agenda in order to receive input from Ms. Maryann Heuston, Ward 2 Alderman. Ms. Heuston was not in attendance this evening. In her absence Ms. Cardoso reported that she spoke to Ms. Heuston following the November 4, 2002 Finance and Facilities of the Whole meeting and brought her up to date with what members discussed. Ms. Heuston let Ms. Cardoso know she was in agreement with the committee.

Dr. Argenziano provided members with a revised (November 5, 2002) Educational Specifications for the Lincoln Park Community School. He gave an overview of these specifications and compared them to the previous ones submitted to members. Discussion followed.

MOTION: Ms. Taylor made a motion, seconded by Ms. Cardoso, to accept the revised educational specifications for the Lincoln Park Community School at 74,700 sq. ft., with the new school to be built on the existing site, and the motion was approved by voice vote.

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V. Comprehensive Study of Somerville Public Schools PK-8

Mr. Sullivan gave an update on the last Long Range Planning Committee of the Whole Meeting held on November 14, 2002. At that time it was decided that members would bring their ideas and suggestions for additions or deletions to be made to the education specifications listed under the Scope of Work for the *Request for Price Proposals* to be sent to Vendors. Lengthy discussion took place. Members gave input on their suggestions for a more specific, detailed proposal to be submitted to the consultant who would be completing the study. Conversation also took place on whether or not to have the comprehensive study of the Somerville Public Schools PK-8 actually take place.

MOTION: Ms. Harris made a motion, seconded by Ms. Bauer, to move forward with the Comprehensive Study of the Somerville Public Schools PK-8 Long Range Master Plan of School Facilities utilizing the quoted contract process for under \$25,000.00 and the motion was approved by a roll call vote of: Yes–5–Gay, Bauer, Harris, White and Sullivan; No–4–Cardoso, Murray, Taylor and Rossetti.

The next Long Range Planning Committee of the Whole Meeting is scheduled for Thursday, December 5, 2002. At this time the school committee will meet with the Consultant completing the Comprehensive Study.

VI. ADJOURNMENT

Before adjourning, Dr. Argenziano briefly informed members of a matter concerning phone calls he received from three school committee members relating to a custodial issue. He wanted members to be aware of this situation in the event it is brought up in the near future.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:03 p.m., by voice vote.

Dr. Albert F. Argenziano
Secretary