

August 16, 2023

The special meeting of the South Williamsport Area School Board was called to order at 6:09 PM in the High School Library by the President, Todd Engel.

The meeting opened with a Moment of Silence and Pledge to the Flag.

Board Members Present: Bowman, Brigandi, Bukeavich, Cramer, Engel, Hitesman, Miller and Rupert.

Others Present: Dwight Woodley – Director of Innovative Learning/IT, Bill Reifsnyder – Director of Buildings & Grounds, Eric Briggs – Superintendent, Fred Holland – Solicitor, and Jamie Mowrey – Business Manager.

Visitors: Vern McKissick – McKissick Associates, Trina Gribble – McKissick Associates, Audrey Bear – Piper Sandler, Damion Spahr – SitelogIQ, John Brezan – SitelogIQ, and Brenda Trimble.

EMPLOYMENT – CENTRAL ELEMENTARY SECRETARY

A motion to approve Joshua Smith as Central Elementary Secretary effective September 5, 2023 as a 12-month, 240 day, 7.5 hours per day position at a rate of \$18.02 per hour with benefits was moved by Miller, seconded by Cramer. Roll call: Bowman-yes, Brigandi-yes, Bukeavich-yes, Cramer-yes, Engel-yes, Hitesman-yes, Miller-yes, and Rupert-yes; motion carried.

EMPLOYMENT – FOOD SERVICE WORKERS

A motion to approve Bobbi Brewer as a General Food Service Worker beginning with the 2023-2024 school year at Central Elementary for 6.5 hours per day at a rate of \$13.18 per hour in accordance with the South Williamsport Education Support Professionals Association Agreement and Margaret Yerena as a General Food Service Worker beginning with the 2023-2024 school year at the Junior Senior High School for 3.25 hours per day at a rate of \$13.47 per hour in accordance with the South Williamsport Education Support Professionals Association Agreement was moved by Hitesman, seconded by Brigandi. Roll call: Bowman-yes, Brigandi-yes, Bukeavich-yes, Cramer-yes, Engel-yes, Hitesman-yes, Miller-yes, and Rupert-yes; motion carried.

DISCUSSION OF BID OPENING RESULTS

The bid opening for the Central Elementary building project occurred on August 10, 2023. Trina Gribble from McKissick Associates walked the school board through the results of the bidding process and presented the bid results on a Bid Tabulation page. She then presented total costs of various scenarios involving the base bid which is renovating the existing Central Elementary, Alternate 1 which is the construction of a multipurpose room and kitchen addition to the east of the existing building, Alternate 2 which is to convert the existing multipurpose room and kitchen into classrooms and other usable space, and Alternate 3 which is the construction of an upper classroom addition to the south of the existing building. Trina advised the board that the costs came in below the Act 34 limits so a second Act 34 hearing will not be necessary. Trina also presented a District-Wide Budgeting Update to make the school board aware of other needs and potential construction costs that may be incurred beyond the Central Elementary building project. Vern McKissick, Trina Gribble, and Damion Spahr fielded and provided answers to many questions from members of the school board.

Members of the school board then deliberated about grade level configuration and which alternates they would want to consider. After much careful consideration and deliberation, the school board moved on to make motions in regards to grade level configuration and awarding the bids.

GRADE LEVEL CONFIGURATION

A motion to move forward with a kindergarten through grade 6 configuration at Central Elementary was moved by Miller, seconded by Engel. Roll call: Bowman-no, Brigandi-no, Bukeavich-yes, Cramer-no, Engel-yes, Hitesman-no, Miller-yes, and Rupert-no; motion failed.

A motion to move forward with a kindergarten through grade 5 configuration at Central Elementary was moved by Bukeavich, seconded by Rupert. Roll call: Bowman-yes, Brigandi-yes, Bukeavich-yes, Cramer-yes, Engel-no, Hitesman-yes, Miller-no, and Rupert-yes; motion carried.

AWARD OF CENTRAL ELEMENTARY PROJECT BIDS

GENERAL CONTRACTOR

A motion to approve JC Orr & Sons, Inc. as General Contractor with Base Bid at a cost of \$4,600,000, Alternate G-1 (east addition with multipurpose room and kitchen) at a cost of \$4,480,000, Alternate G-2 (convert current multipurpose room and kitchen into classrooms) at a cost of \$334,000, Alternate G-6 (divider curtain in new multipurpose room) at a cost of \$14,000 for a grand total of \$9,428,000 was moved by Rupert, seconded by Brigandi. Roll call: Bowman-yes, Brigandi-yes, Bukeavich-yes, Cramer-yes, Engel-yes, Hitesman-yes, Miller-no, and Rupert-yes; motion carried.

ELECTRICAL CONTRACTOR

A motion to approve Turnkey Electric, Inc. as Electrical Contractor with Base Bid at a cost of \$623,480, Alternate E-1 (east addition with multipurpose room and kitchen) at a cost of \$373,860, Alternate E-2 (convert current multipurpose room and kitchen into classrooms) at a cost of \$98,496, Alternate E-6 (provide power for divider curtain in new multipurpose room) at a cost of \$2,200, and Alternate E-9 (LED light fixtures in addition) at a cost of \$166,878 for a grand total of \$1,264,914 was moved by Bukeavich, seconded by Cramer. Roll call: Bowman-yes, Brigandi-yes, Bukeavich-yes, Cramer-yes, Engel-yes, Hitesman-yes, Miller-no, and Rupert-yes; motion carried.

HVAC CONTRACTOR

A motion to approve Silvertip, Inc. as HVAC Contractor with Base Bid at a cost of \$2,977,000, Alternate H-1 (east addition with multipurpose room and kitchen) at a cost of \$442,700, and Alternate H-2 (convert current multipurpose room and kitchen into classrooms) at a cost of \$257,000 for a grand total of \$3,676,700 was moved by Cramer, seconded by Rupert. Roll call: Bowman-yes, Brigandi-yes, Bukeavich-yes, Cramer-yes, Engel-yes, Hitesman-yes, Miller-no, and Rupert-yes; motion carried.

PLUMBING CONTRACTOR

A motion to approve Quality Air Mechanical, Inc. as Plumbing Contractor with Base Bid at a cost of \$251,000, Alternate P-1 (east addition with multipurpose room and kitchen) at a cost of \$364,000, Alternate P-2 (convert current multipurpose room and kitchen into classrooms) at a cost of \$38,000, Alternate P-6 (copper pipe in base) at a cost of \$11,000, Alternate P-6.1 (copper pipe in east addition) at a cost of \$17,100, and Alternate P-6.2 (copper pipe in current multipurpose room/kitchen) at a cost of \$1,000 for a grand total of \$682,100 was moved by Brigandi, seconded by Cramer. Roll call: Bowman-yes, Brigandi-yes, Bukeavich-yes, Cramer-yes, Engel-yes, Hitesman-yes, Miller-no, and Rupert-yes; motion carried.

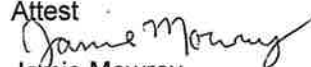
DEBT PRESENTATION

Audrey Bear from Piper Sandler presented the results of the bank borrowing RFP and compared those results to a bond issue. Two banks responded to the RFP. Muncy Bank and Trust provided an interest rate of 5.95% and Woodlands Bank provided an interest rate of 5.75%. A bond issue is currently averaging 4.69%. Because the school board passed a resolution to incur debt in June, no action is required. The school board advised Audrey Bear to initiate a bond issue of \$10,000,000.

There will be an executive session following the board meeting regarding legal advice and personnel; no action to follow.

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Miller, seconded by Rupert. All members present voting yes, the meeting was adjourned at 8:52 PM.

Attest



Jamie Mowrey
Board Secretary