

**OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS
Peterborough, New Hampshire**

CONTOOCCOOK VALLEY SCHOOL DISTRICT

BUDGET & PROPERTY COMMITTEE

Tuesday, October 24, 2006

SAU OFFICE

7:00 PM

MINUTES

Attendees: Craig Hicks, Beverly Bacon, Ray Cote, Tom Welden, Gail Cromwell, Bill McKinnon, Linda Potter, Dick Dunning, Jeanie West, Gib West, Sue Dell, Keith Burke, Marian Alese

Craig Hicks called the meeting to order at 7:03 p.m.

1. Approval of Minutes

October 10, 2006

Tom Welden moved to accept the minutes of the October 10, 2006 meeting. Bill McKinnon second. Unanimous.

2. School Resource Officer Discussion

Gail asked what the problem was that we are trying to solve. Keith said that we would try to build a better relationship with the teen population and the local police. To improve student discipline both in and out of school. To have a presence makes it easier to make referrals within the school. *Dare* has been utilized in schools. It helps keep order. Gail asked why we feel we need a better relationship. Craig said that one general assumption is that whether we call it a drug problem or an issue with drugs, we have a problem. Many kids and parents have told him that they can go into the parking lot and obtain drugs at the high school. Craig proposes that the S.R.O. for two years ought to stem that. This is just one component. We would have an officer at the high school for both parking issues, and other altercations. With the 302 calls last year, the Town of Peterborough has created a paper trail. Someone at ConVal has to fill out paperwork stating that the police have been called. We are spending money on paperwork. Gail asked how much money is spent doing this. Craig said that he doesn't know but there is a quantified cost. We are spending something. Is there a better way to be proactive? We can't measure how many have drug problems or parking problems. We want to make a change in the whole climate at the high school. Gail said that this is very different from all of this synergy. She would like to know what we are spending presently. Craig asked if we can assign a cost with issues calling the police department. Gail asked what it costs to have an officer fill out the forms. Discussion about how much time is spent filling out paperwork took place. Bill asked if the vision was to look at the officer as taking on some of the discipline at the high school. Keith and Craig said that they were not. Sue Dell said that two individuals currently handle discipline. Gail asked if they were able to do their job. Gail asked if this would limit the drug and alcohol problem down to next to nothing

Bill McKinnon said that we would never get it down to nothing. Craig said that all eight towns are supporting this initiative. The resource officer could have their own dog that could search as well as be utilized by others. Gail wanted to know what we wanted to accomplish. Craig said that he wanted to change the climate. Bill McKinnon asked if a S.R.O. would greatly reduce the work load could we reduce an assistant principal. Keith said that if we want a presentation on S.R.O.'s we can get someone in to discuss this with us. Peterborough Chief, Scott Guinard, is positive about this. Bill said that he is not suggesting that he replace an assistant principal but that we are freeing up some resources. Keith said that we will talk to other area towns to see how they looked at this. He said that he would like to have the Peterborough Chief of Police talk with other towns. Let's let them get organized. Bill said that if we had a Peterborough Police Officer they would not be able to act in other towns. Craig said that they could work with surrounding towns to initiate programs in those towns. In addition, Craig wanted the three large town principals to meet with the Superintendent to discuss how this person would be utilized. Gail said that she is frightened by reading the various job descriptions. Craig suggested we look where the merits were. Tom Welden said that he would rather see a formal proposal of a budget. The school days are 180 days vs. the regular work days of 200+. He said that a lot of money is expended by the towns and the town should formulate the cost and discount the cost of the officer to us. A credit would be realized. Lastly, no other S.R.O. is paid for by the school. We don't want to pay an officer for a year to work 180 days. Tom also wanted to discuss a Human Resource person coming on board. Marian asked if the principals should meet with the chiefs' before the next meeting. Keith was unsure if this was possible. Craig asked if it was alright for the chief(s) to meet with principals. Keith said he will meet with the principals on Thursday to discuss and he would let Craig know. Gail said that aside from drugs, an officer would get caught up with other things and there would be synergy. Gib West said that the Town of Antrim, through the selectman and chief, has already put together a proposal of how they would utilize this officer. They are also discussing how they could be proactive on safety issues. He agreed that we want to make the right choice. For example, Gib said that a young lady was given prescription pills by another student at school today. Would this have happened if an officer was in the building? He has no idea. A dog cannot search students nor can the students be walked by the dog. The dog can search common areas only. An S.R.O. would provide another caring individual in a student's life. It would be helpful to students who have tough lives. It is important. If we can't do it as a district item, then he supports trying to do it through grants. Gail asked what this officer would add. Gib said that it will add what is most needed. Bill said that we could offload from the counselors as well.

3. Preliminary CIP Discussion

Marian referenced documents included in tonight's packet. (See attachment titled Facilities Needs Assessment Overview) She said that the work that is required for ADA requirements must be completed. The number of dollars needed is about 4.7 million dollars. Regular maintenance items are included in the facilities needs assessment. It is an attempt to determine what is coming down the road. Marian said that on the last

page of the spreadsheet, under ConVal High School, figures are reflected in the separate attachment distributed tonight. The items that say priority 1, 2, 3 need to be addressed fairly quickly. She split the cost of items over the number of years. Craig asked what was reflected under ConVal weight room walls. Was it painting? Marian said that the walls are crumbling. The band room walls are also crumbling. CVHS, GBS, and several other schools have had roof replacements done. Carpeting is ongoing, it happens every year. The HVAC controls do not interface with the SAU which means that someone has to go to the building to manually adjust. Figures reflect tying the computers in to take care of that problem. She said that the life span of different items varies.

Craig asked if anyone had any questions. Tom Welden asked if we have projected out the bundling of capital improvements. Do we do a major capital improvement and layer it on with debt retirement. Marian said that this does not take care of the field needs at the high school. Craig said that we want to get a handle on utilizing land for fields.

Marian said that the N.H. Saves recommendation will be compared to what we have arrived at. She said that because a number of our facilities are designated as emergency shelters, funds may be available to us. Ray asked if generators existed in the buildings. Keith said that fixed generators exist in some of the buildings. When we start talking about emergency management, the high school is well equipped for a generator. Craig said that some of the lighting and heat will come on with the generators.

Marian said that this does not include some of the general maintenance that takes place all of the time. It includes big ticket items that we might want to plan for. She said that the HVAC items have been placed in different years to spread the cost out.

Ray said that one thing to think about is to use the internal school internet and increased security in the systems. Gail asked if these items were normally under line item #430 and clarified that the items discussed tonight were not included in this line. Marian said that some of it is but not regular routine items. Gail asked about the 07/08 item. Taking out the \$325,000 for the bleachers does not leave us with a terrible number. Gail asked if we have taken money out of the capital reserve account for maintenance items. Marian said that we have for roofing. Gail asked if a hearing was necessary to do that. Keith asked if it came out when it was still in the building fund. Marian said that it was. From now on it would have to be a public hearing. Gail said that the roofs are now off of the table. Marian confirmed. Gail said that we should be budgeting an amount to cover routine items in the budget. We should be looking more carefully at programs that we want to add on. Marian said that typically the 430 account would have items in it other than big ticket items. Gail asked about the timing of this. It seems that it is all August of 2004. Discussion took place. Marian said that the next step is for Mike Kammer and maintenance to go back and verify what is done, what needs to be done, and re-quoting to provide more accurate information. Gail asked what the assessment cost was. \$42,000 was the response. Tom said it would be nice to see an integrated plan with the fields and everything else. The bonds will drop off and if we lay it right we can do some through the budget and part through the bond. Keith said that the key to this is timing and what is ultimately going to happen with the funding for building aid. The timing is the most difficult. When first creating the bonding scheme, the bond failed and everything had to be restructured.

Craig said that he knows that people are thinking about a theatre.

Craig agreed that timing was key. He said that historically we have gone after a bond and got 55 cents on the dollar. What if we bonded this thing now and got our 55 cents

on the dollar now and capitalized. Marian asked whether or not we were going to put money into the budget to hire an architect to do the design of what we plan to do. Craig said that a conversation needs to take place. We have a lot to think about. Tom said that he thinks we need to spend some serious time discussing the revenue side. Corporate sponsorship has been discussed. We need to put a game plan together. We need to put it as an agenda item. He would like to get people together to discuss donations in areas that could help us out. These projects should not just come off of our bottom line. Marian said that the community use of the facilities as well should be discussed. We are getting more and more requests from non-profits to use our facilities. Marian asked what the next step is. Craig said that she and he need to get together and discuss and bring it back to the next meeting.

Craig referenced several handouts he handed out. Under the "It was in the Ledger" 25 years ago and the handout about SAU #34 Proposed Budget Up Only 4.4%. In addition, he referenced the Dublin taxes on the rise in 2005 article; officials cite education, other costs. Craig said that they have shut down building in the town and economic development. The cost of doing business is going up so they are blaming education for the increase. Gail said that town's do have legitimate needs. Temple decided to purchase a piece of land in Temple for future development. The schools rising costs impact us. She said that the 4.4% increase reflects gross budget. Craig said that he found it interesting how it was reported.

Ray Cote said that town's can raise revenue and we are very restricted how we raise revenues. He said that towns can raise money by charging per bag at the recycling center. Gail said that we could do the same in the schools with charging for athletics etc.

Keith said that Marian and he met officials from Peterborough to view the NEBS facility. From his perspective, it has potential for the school district. We should explore what the possibilities might be. We could not duplicate the space for the cost. He sees a performing arts potential with some revisions as well as other possibilities. He feels we should explore this as a viable option. Craig said that if we could do something down there with performing arts or ball fields it would save us down the road.

On another note, Marian said that the high school no longer has a sign. Tomorrow at 11:00 the bids for maintenance facilities are due. Keith said that Jon Hall had the possibility of having an electronic sign. According to Jon, the town has said that they have no problem with the sign. Craig asked if location was discussed. Keith and Sue thought that the location would be the same. Craig asked if we could have a meeting to discuss location.

Meeting adjourned at 8:13 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Brenda L. Marschok