

## **REPORT OF COMMITTEE**

### **Finance Committee**

Monday, July 24, 2017

Auditorium, Rev. Lyman S. Parks Administration Building

4:00 p.m.

Present: Dr. Baker - Chairperson, Dr. Flores, Ms. Grant, Ms. Schottke, Ms. Hawley, Mr. Helmholdt, Mr. Klomparens, Ms. Kribs, Ms. Liggins, Mr. Oberst, Mr. Teahan

### **Public Comment**

None.

## **ACTION ITEMS**

### **Purchasing Agenda**

Dr. Baker asked for questions on the Purchasing Agenda, and there were none.

Motion for Purchasing Agenda approval made by Dr. Flores, supported by Ms. Schottke.

Motion carried.

Your Finance Committee recommends the Purchasing Agenda to be placed on the Agenda for Board action at the August 7, 2017 Board of Education meeting.

### **Heart of West Michigan United Way Grant**

Mr. Oberst reviewed that the United Way has changed their focus and will no longer be funding Schools of Hope. Instead, they will be focusing on Middle School STEM programs. As we are currently implementing Discovery Science curriculum at a total cost of \$737,000 over 6 years, with approximately \$170,000 of that cost being for Middle School curriculum, the United Way is giving us \$100,000 towards that cost. This is a grant we will be eligible to apply for in future years as well, although we do not as of yet know that the amount will remain the same.

A Board Member asked if this was District wide curriculum, and Mr. Oberst advised that it is, for grades K-12, but this grant is for the Middle School grade levels.

Motion for Purchasing Agenda approval made by Dr. Flores, supported by Ms. Schottke.

Motion carried.

Your Finance Committee recommends the Purchasing Agenda to be placed on the Agenda for Board action at the August 7, 2017 Board of Education meeting.

### **Resolution Authorizing Operating Millage Renewal**

Mr. Oberst advised that the current 18 mills will expire on December 17, 2017 on non-homestead and business properties. The Operating Millage Renewal gives GRPS full state

funding. We will seek a 10 year approval for 19 mills. The current millage was an 8 year term. Asking for 19 mills allows for changes due to the Headley Rollback. Mr. Oberst advised that this is not a tax increase, this is a continuation of what is already in place, and that it affects only non-homestead taxpayers and businesses. It is also critical that it is approved as this is how our State funding is provided, and that if it were not to pass, the State will not cover the difference. This millage will go on the November ballot, but needs to be turned in to appear on that ballot in August. If approved, this will go to the BOE meeting on August 7<sup>th</sup>.

Mr. Helmholdt came forward to answer additional election questions from a Board Member. Mr. Helmholdt advised that it is likely each of the three Wards will end up on the ballot, although there is a chance that the Second Ward could be decided in August. Mr. Helmholdt advised that the current millage in place was passed with 75% approval, and they are hoping for the same continued support.

Motion for Purchasing Agenda approval made by Dr. Flores, supported by Ms. Grant.

Motion carried.

Your Finance Committee recommends the Purchasing Agenda to be placed on the Agenda for Board action at the August 7, 2017 Board of Education meeting.

#### **Extension of Purchase Option on Pine Avenue Property**

Mr. Oberst reviewed that a year ago the BOE approved the purchase option of Pine Avenue to Kent County Land Bank, whom intended to partner with Dwelling Place to build affordable housing on the property. At that time the appraised value was \$295,000. This option expires July 31<sup>st</sup>. Kent County Land Bank has had some funding for the project, but not enough to fully fund it. The Kent County Land Bank is asking for an extension until February 28, 2018 to give them time to evaluate the plan and apply for new funding sources. GRPS is currently getting all vacant buildings appraised, including this one, and the new appraised value will then become the amount for the purchase option.

A Board Member asked if West Leonard was also being appraised, and Mr. Klomprens advised that it is, as are a number of other buildings. Those new amounts should be available in late August.

Motion for Purchasing Agenda approval made by Dr. Flores, supported by Ms. Grant.

Motion carried.

Your Finance Committee recommends the Purchasing Agenda to be placed on the Agenda for Board action at the August 7, 2017 Board of Education meeting.

## REPORTS/UPDATES/DISCUSSION

### **Warm, Safe & Dry Update**

Mr. Klomparens updated that the Ridgemoor Park is moving along well aside from some air conditioning delays, but they still anticipate being fully functional by the beginning of the school year. Innovation Central's roof will also be complete by the start of school. The Franklin Campus office building on the 3<sup>rd</sup> floor is underway, but currently delayed as drywallers became unavailable due to high construction demands in the area.

### **Bond Update**

Mr. Klomparens updated that Buchanan is currently tracking one week behind due to unanticipated material found buried on site that had to be removed. They will re-evaluate the schedule, and believe they will be able to make up the time and keep with the second story portion of the building being ready to open at Spring Break.

Mr. Klomparens advised that the Museum School demolition and abatement is done, and the bid package is approved. They are evaluating a bid for masonry currently that had to be bid three times. They are hoping to bring this directly to the BOE meeting on August 7<sup>th</sup> if a satisfactory bid is received. Mr. Klomparens is also working with the city for an easement on the lawn on Washington St. for a stairway. Rockford Construction is confident that they can have the project completed by Memorial Day.

City High, GRPS University, Ottawa and Union are the next projects on the Bond timeline.

Meeting adjourned 4:17 p.m.

---

Dr. Tony Baker, Chairperson  
Dr. Jose Flores  
Kristian Grant  
Jen Schottke