

A special meeting of the Members of the Board of Education of the Goshen Central School District, Orange County, New York was held in the Board of Education Room at the Main Street School on Wednesday, October 19, 2016, at 6:30 p.m.

Present: Mrs. Judy Green, President
Mrs. Martha Bogart, Vice President
Mr. Jeremy Cassel
Mr. Michael Lorenzo
Mr. Thomas Mullane
Mr. Jason Pucci

Absent: Mrs. Allison Salte

Superintendent of Schools Mr. Daniel T. Connor
Assistant Superintendent for Business Mr. Robert Miller
Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum, Instruction, Personnel and Technology Mr. Kurtis Kotes

The special meeting was called to order by President, Mrs. Judy Green at 6:36 p.m. Mrs. Green led the Pledge of Allegiance followed by a moment of silent meditation.

On a motion by Thomas Mullane and seconded by Jason Pucci, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board of Education approves the draft of the minutes for the meetings of September 26, 2016 and October 3, 2016.

AYES-5 NAYS-0 Motion carried.

Mr. Kotes reviewed with the Board the Smart Schools Bond Act Application process. He outlined the following timeline:

- November 2014- Voters approve a statewide issuance of \$2 billion general obligation bonds to finance improved educational technology and infrastructure.
 - Allocation for Goshen Central School District- \$1,343,184
- Ongoing – Plan developed to meet the needs in relationship to strength of current network infrastructure and ability to expand capacity in the future. Discussions involve internal Technology Department and Board Technology Committee.
 - Ability to handle more devices.
 - Ability to expand security.
 - Ability to improve/replace phone system (VOIP).
- Summer 2016- District decision to use SSBA allocation to address technology infrastructure upgrades in larger capital improvement project to address some of the issues identified in the Building Condition Survey.
- July 2016 – Letter of Intent (LOI) is filed by Goshen Central School District to express intent to use SSBA allocation for a School Connectivity Project. The LOI is the first step to obtaining the SSBA funds. Under the School Connectivity Project, the state gave guidelines as to a variety of different items that a school could choose from to use the SSBA monies on (e.g. replacing modular classrooms, construct/ improve pre-kindergarten classrooms, install high-tech security features in buildings, or install high-speed broadband or wireless connectivity to schools). We chose school connectivity. According to stipulations of the SSBA, if we accepted the Smart School Bonds allocation of \$1,343,184 and did not include it as part of a larger project, the District would not have to obtain voter approval, but because we will be including the allocation in a larger project, voter approval is needed.
 - School Connectivity Project – Install high-speed broadband or wireless internet connectivity for schools.
 - State assigned a project number – 44-06-01-04-7-999-003
- September 2016 – Community Engagement Meeting – planning process must include consultation with parents, teachers, students, community members, and nonpublic schools located in the District and other stakeholders.
 - Meeting included 13 of the above named stakeholders including 2 school administrators from Burke Catholic High School and St. John’s Elementary.
 - Unanimous consent to upgrade network infrastructure with SSBA allocation.

Meeting Called to Order

Approval of Minutes

Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum, Instruction, Personnel and Technology’s Report:

Smart School Bond Act

- October 2016 – Once community engagement had taken place, a Preliminary submission of Smart Schools Investment Plan (SSIP) was developed. This is the application to the state.
 - Preliminary posting of SSIP on school district website. This step is complete.
 - Preliminary presentation of the SSIP to the Board of Education. This is being fulfilled this evening.
 - Plan available for public comment.
- November 7, 2016- Board of Education formally adopts Smart Schools Investment Plan.
 - 30-day public comment period will be met and any public comments can be addressed.
 - Formal submission to NYSED for approval to proceed with plan for capital improvement project.

Mr. Miller had concern that since the Smart School Bond allocation is included in the larger \$4.3 million district-wide technology project, the District would have to wait for the larger project to complete before we could receive the Smart School Bonds portion. The state has indicated that once work is complete, as outlined in the SSIP, the District can submit bills and be reimbursed the \$1,343,184 within 90 days of submission.

Mr. Pucci inquired if we would be using general fund monies for budgeting purposes. Mr. Miller advised that is it a requirement to use capital funds, which is why voter approval is needed. The District will need to borrow the Smart School Bond money until we get reimbursed once the work is complete. There are three sources of revenue for the entire capital project: \$1.3 million from the Smart School Bond, \$9 million or so from capital reserves, and the remainder in state aid. Mr. Pucci asked how we will bond. Mr. Miller responded that he anticipates at least two years or more of BANs, until such time as the project is complete, then a bond.

Mr. Jeremy Cassel entered the meeting at 6:48 p.m.

Matt Milnamow from LAN Associates Engineering, Planning, Architecture, Survey, LLP (LAN) joined the Board to discuss LAN's opinion letter related to the State Environmental Quality Review Act (SEQRA) process regarding the classification of capital improvement projects proposed as part of a bond referendum. It is LAN's opinion, the "Proposed Action", consisting of site improvements, renovations and building additions at the Goshen High School and the District-Wide IT infrastructure upgrades, do not meet or exceed the thresholds contained in New York State Environmental Quality Review Act's list of Type I Actions contained in Section 617.4. The scope of work to be performed as part of the proposed bond referendum would not be classified as a Type I Action or a Type II Action and therefore is an Unlisted Action. While the Proposed Action is Unlisted, LAN suggests the Lead Agency still perform a Coordinated Review. Other agencies which have permitting authority for this Action include the New York State Education Department (NYSED) & New York State Department of Environment Conservation (NYSDEC). LAN recommends the Goshen Central School District declare itself as the Lead Agency for the State Environmental Quality Review (SEQR) to analyze if the proposed action will have an adverse environmental impact. LAN recommends the Board of Education undertake a Coordinated Review of the proposed Unlisted Action with all involved agencies, which include the New York State Education Department (NYSED) & New York State Department of Environment Conservation (NYSDEC). The involved agencies should be provided with the Notice of Intent and long form Environmental Assessment Form (EAF). The involved agencies will have (30) days to respond with any comments. If the involved agencies do not respond or comment, the Board of Education may pass by resolution a "negative declaration" which would complete the SEQR process and allow the Board to approve the plans for the proposed capital improvements.

On a motion by Jeremy Cassel and seconded by Thomas Mullane, WHEREAS, the Board of Education of the Goshen Central School District ("Board of Education") has under consideration a capital project consisting of Districtwide IT infrastructure upgrades at all of the buildings, and an addition, renovations and other improvements to the Goshen High School ("High School") hereinafter referred to as the "Proposed Action"; and

Declaration as Lead Agency for SEQRA coordinated review

WHEREAS, the Board of Education proposes to use funds allocated to the Goshen Central School District through the Smart Schools Bond Act ("SSBA") for the Districtwide IT infrastructure upgrades as well as use capital reserve funds and issue obligations (bonds and notes) for the Proposed Action; and

WHEREAS, the Proposed Action requires that an environmental review be conducted in compliance with Article 8 of the Environmental Conservation Law and its implementing regulations (Part 617 NYCRR, State Environment Quality Review Act [“SEQRA”]); and

WHEREAS, the Board of Education wishes to take all actions necessary in connection therewith in order to comply with SEQRA; and

WHEREAS, the Proposed Action is classified as an Unlisted action for purposes of this review; and

WHEREAS, the District’s Architects, LAN Associates (“LAN”) have prepared Part 1 of the Full Environmental Assessment Form, annexed hereto, and other preliminary documents for the Proposed Action; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Education believes that it should be designated as Lead Agency for this Unlisted Action for the purpose of undertaking a coordinated review of the Proposed Action to determine whether the Proposed Action will have a significant impact on the environment; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Education has reviewed the proposed scope of work and views the collective scope of work as one Proposed Action;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the Goshen Central School District hereby formally declares its intention to serve as Lead Agency for purposes of the SEQRA coordinated review of this Unlisted Proposed Action to determine the environmental impact of the Proposed Project and authorizes LAN to solicit Lead Agency Status on behalf of the Board of Education by distributing a copy of this Resolution and the Environmental Assessment Form to all Involved Agencies, who shall be given 30 days from the mailing of the Lead Agency Notice to challenge the Board of Education’s Lead Agency Designation; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board of Education shall hereby forward an official copy of this resolution to the New York State Education Department and New York State Department of Environmental Conservation.

Discussion regarding resolution:

Mr. Pucci asked Mr. Milnamow for clarification of the classification of an Unlisted Action. Mr. Milnamow noted that the scope of this project, which includes district-wide IT infrastructure upgrades and capital projects at the high school are Unlisted, meaning they do not meet or exceed the thresholds contained in New York State Environmental Quality Review Act’s list of Type I or Type II Action contained in Section 617.4. The scope of work to be performed as part of the proposed bond therefore is an Unlisted Action.

Mrs. Green asked for a roll call:

Thomas Mullane	Voting: Aye
Jeremy Cassel	Voting: Aye
Martha Bogart	Voting: Aye
Michael Lorenzo	Voting: Aye
Jason Pucci	Voting: Aye
Judy Green	Voting: Aye

AYES-6 NAYS-0 Motion carried.

The general timeline of the project was discussed. Mr. Milnamow thought a bond vote could occur possibly in April. It cannot be determined at this point for sure. It will all depend on how long information will get back to us from NYSED of our submission of the scope of work. The District will be working with a new project manager at NYSED and there is a backlog of projects for NYSED’s review. A firmer bond vote date can be set once the District hears back from the state.

Mr. Pucci would like to have some information on the website regarding the project. Mr. Connor noted that our Public Relations Specialist is returning from her leave next week. We have slated website communications on this project as her first focus upon her return. A public meeting on the project was also discussed. A late November timeframe was considered, although a firm date was not decided.

Mr. Mullane would like to have Danielle Dziedzic come to a future Board Meeting to discuss the Internship Program she oversees at the high school. There is a growing interest in this program. Mr. Mullane would like to see the program expanded. He sees this as a valuable class in that it helps student realize whether they like or dislike a profession before they study it in college. Mr. Kotes noted that Ms. Dziedzic is willing to get a Workplace Learning Certification. If she becomes certified and the school becomes certified, the high school can be a school that can offer CTE Certification on diplomas. Mr. Lorenzo spoke about how having a strong internship program will also help with the Career Development and Occupational Studies (CDOS) program as well.

Board Member Issues

The meeting was adjourned at 7:22 p.m. on a motion by Thomas Mullane and seconded by Jason Pucci.

Meeting Adjourned

AYES-6 NAYS-0 Motion carried.

Mrs. Green thanked everyone for attending.

Respectfully submitted,

Maureen Farrell
District Clerk