Claymont City Schools
Board of Education
Special Board Meeting – Work Session
January 25, 2017
6:30 p.m.

The Claymont City School District Board of Education met in special work session on Wednesday, January 25, 2017 at 6:30 p.m. in the Administrative Office with Mrs. Host presiding.

ROLL CALL: Present – Mr. Abbuhl, Mr. Cottrell, Mr. Shamel, Mrs. Grant, Mrs. Host

Visitors and Personnel – The following personnel and visitors were present: John Rocchi, Superintendent; Lori Statler, Treasurer; Jodie Miles, Curriculum Director; Donna Andrew, Legal Counsel; and, Austin Beckley, member of the public.

Stadium Project Presentation – Mr. Rocchi introduced Mr. Steve West, architect with The Precedent Group. Mr. Rocchi and Mr. West met last fall to look at plans for the stadium renovation project. They looked at the plans that Claymont Booster Club had prepared. They used those plans as a starting point to condense the overall renovation project.

Mr. West discussed the following: He gave a presentation of new drawings. The drawings were discussed in detail and he presented the proposed changes. Mr. West described the proposed new additions and the rehabilitation of the existing facilities. He began work on the project in 2013 when he was originally contacted by Eric Henry who at that time was the head football coach. The current drawings are a result of 2 revisions. He explained that there would also be roof replacement over some of the existing areas. The press box would be elevated above the current bleachers by approximately 10 feet. This elevation would allow for a conference room to be constructed in the vacant space underneath the press box. To ensure compliance with ADA rules, an elevator would be required.

Mr. Rocchi asked what was taken out of the 2013 plans. Mr. West responded that approximately 2,000 square feet was removed from the original drawings due to budget constraints.

Mr. Abbuhl asked how far from the road would the addition be and if it would affect the shot put area. Mr. West indicated that the addition would be 40 feet from the current structure and leave adequate space from the road. It would also not impact the shot put area.

Mr. West indicated that the project focused mainly on the locker room facilities and that the press box could be added at a later date. The current press box would remain in place for use by the media.

Mrs. Grant inquired as to the estimated cost. Mr. West responded that the budget in 2013 was a little over $2,000,000 and he is estimating the current project cost to be $1.8 - $1.9 million dollars.

Mr. Beckley asked if the sound system could be improved. Mrs. Host also indicated that a new sound system was necessary. Mr. West responded that a new system could be incorporated into the project as new IT equipment would need to be added.

Mr. Shamel asked the age of the existing press box. Discussion ensued and Mr. Beckley stated that it was built in 1962, the year he graduated from high school.

Mr. Shamel asked how long this type of project would take. Mr. West responded that from start to finish it would take approximately 1 ½ years. This would include finalizing the architectural/engineering plans, bidding/awarding contracts, and construction.

Mrs. Host asked if the facilities could be used during construction. Mr. West responded that there should be no issues with using the facilities during construction as barricades would be set up as needed. He would recommend starting this type of project during the late fall.

Mr. Cottrell asked what the next step was. Mr. Abbuhl asked where the money would come from. Mr. Rocchi responded that they would look into possible grants. He would also bring the original organizing group together to look at the new plans.

All of the board members agreed that they would like to see the renovation project accomplished.

Capital Improvement Discussion – Mr. Rocchi discussed the following: He met with Gary Kimble to obtain specifications for the demolition of the Northside building. He is looking into having a garage sale for items in the building not in use but is consulting with legal counsel to ensure that all statutory requirements are followed.

Mrs. Statler handed out flash drives with updated board policies to all board member. Once the policies are approved they will be available on-line.

Legal Update – Donna Andrew, Pepple & Waggoner

A. The Role of a Board Member
B. Sunshine Law
C. Types of Board Meetings
D. Executive Sessions
E. Effective Use of Legal Counsel
F. Policy Issues
G. Non-renewal of Employment Contracts
H. Family Educational Rights and Privacy Acts
I. School Related Ethics
J. Laws Affecting the Daily Operations of Ohio Public Schools

Ms. Andrew provided all in attendance handouts with the aforementioned information.

Mrs. Grant asked for clarification as to the duties of the President and Vice-President of the Board. Ms. Andrew explained that the President runs meetings, enforces the by-laws, and communicates most with the Superintendent. The Vice-President takes over when the President is not available.

She went over in detail the Sunshine Law handout and the Employment Contracts handout.

Mr. Rocchi asked if there policies that addressed social media postings by staff. Ms. Andrew responded that she expects laws to be passed to address this issue; however, at this time there are no standard policies to address this situation. She stated that it is also difficult to get this type of wording into a negotiated agreement. She also added that if employees are talking about their employer and if affects the operation of the school district, there can be consequences. If the posts are defamatory or impugns the reputation of someone it could result in civil litigation.

17-012 EXECUTIVE SESSION TO DISCUSS THE EMPLOYMENT OF PERSONEL

Mr. Shamel made the motion, and Mr. Abbuhl seconded the motion that the Board go into Executive Session to discuss the employment of personnel with no action to follow, time 8:14 p.m. On roll call vote: Mr. Shamel, yes; Mr. Abbuhl, yes; Mr. Cottrell, yes; Mrs. Grant, yes; Mrs. Host, yes. Motion carried.

Mrs. Host declared the executive session ended at 9:21 p.m.

Meeting Adjourned
Mr. Shamel made the motion, and Mrs. Grant seconded the motion that the special board meeting of the Claymont City Board of Education be adjourned. On roll call vote: Mr. Shamel, yes; Mrs. Grant, yes; Mr. Abbuhl, yes; Mr. Cottrell, yes; Mrs. Host, yes. Meeting adjourned at 9:22 p.m.

Approved: _____
President

Attest: _____
Treasurer