

**MINUTES OF WAPAKONETA CITY BOARD OF EDUCATION
SPECIAL SESSION
FACILITIES COMMITTEE MEETING
Tuesday, March 9, 2021
3:44 PM**

The meeting of the Board of Education of the Wapakoneta City School District was called to order by Gregg Ruppert.

ROLL CALL

Upon the roll being called, the following were present:

BOARD MEMBERS:

Ron Mertz
Gregg Ruppert
Willie Sammetinger

Also in attendance were Aaron Rex, Superintendent; Angie Sparks, Treasurer; and Mike Watt, Director of Operations.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Gregg Ruppert.

ROUTINE BUSINESS

A discussion was held regarding the upcoming facilities projects. A complete list of projects presented by Mike Watt, Director of Operations, can be found attached to the minutes.

Item 1: WHS Scoreboards / Videoboards

Mr. Watt indicated that he also checked with OES for a quote on the scoreboards, but has not received it yet. He stated that Daktronics may be a little more expensive, but is better quality. He also stated that the two boards at the high school could be moved to the middle school to upgrade them. The installation at the middle school could be between \$5,000 and \$8,000. He also indicated that he would like to have it done this summer if it is possible.

Item 2: WMS Second Floor AC Supplemental Help

Mr. Ron Mertz asked what the difference in equipment was between the two systems. Mr. Watt indicated that the full capacity has a larger compressor.

Mr. Ruppert asked if this would help on the utility costs as well. Mr. Watt stated that it possibly could.

This project could be funded with the ESSER II funds that the District received.

Mr. Watt also mentioned that if they go with the full capacity, he is not sure at this point if they would be able to leave the current ventilator in place and still install the new one, or if the old one would have to be demolished. He will need to look into that and get the demolition cost if it has to be removed.

Mr. Mertz also voiced his concern with the amp loads. He asked if there is enough power in the building to run the full capacity system. Mr. Watt believes there is. They looked into it and he said the electrical system was upgraded in 2010.

Mr. Ruppert also asked what they would do if they had to build a new building due to capacity issues. Mr. Watt and Mr. Aaron Rex indicated that what typically happens is that a new high school is built. If that were to happen, the middle school would be moved to the current high school building and serve grades 5-8. The new high school would house grades 9-12. However, Mr. Rex indicated that at this point in time he did not see that happening. The District just refurbished the middle school back in 2010 so they will keep utilizing it.

Mr. Rex asked Mr. Watt what his recommendation is. Mr. Watt stated that he would go with the full capacity system because if something happened, we would still be covered because we would still have that backup if the main system went down.

Mr. Ruppert stated that he felt that the full capacity was the best way to go, especially since the cost of it was not much more than the supplemental unit.

Item 3: Women's Restroom at the Football Stadium

Mr. Watt stated that the estimate came back from the adjustors at \$54,000. The adjustors will work with the contractors to negotiate the price. Mr. Ruppert asked if the adjustor is working with all contractors that gave estimates. Mr. Watt stated that they are working with just one group, Hume, which he recommended.

Item 4: Concrete/Brick Around the Flagpole at the High School

Mr. Watt stated that the concrete/brick work seating areas by the flagpole are deteriorating. They were built on top of the sidewalks with no footers. They were constructed in 1988-1989. Mr. Mertz also stated that the sidewalk going into the side of the high school by the large group room needs repaired because it is a safety hazard. It is raised in some areas and crumbling in areas. Mr. Watt indicated that they are looking into repairing that as well.

Item 5: Signage at Football Field

Mr. Watt indicated that it was brought up a year ago that we should add some signs along the front of the new grandstand as well signs for the football, track, and wrestling teams on the north side of the wrestling complex. He would like to know how much they were wanting to spend, and how far they wanted to go with the project. He will come up with a design and get a price from IC Signs for them.

Item 6: LED Lighting at the Soccer Field/Additional Lighting

Mr. Watt stated that a group approached him about placing LED lights at the soccer field. He also brought up the additional lights needed at the football field for safety issues. They would be

directed at the grandstand area and the track. A discussion was held about how dark it is in the grandstand and they felt that it could be a safety concern in the future if more people are allowed to attend next year.

Mr. Aaron Rex stated that his suggestion is to put the lights at the soccer field on hold for now, especially since we need some new scoreboards as well, because it all adds up, and to proceed with the lights at the football field.

Mr. Watt indicated that he was not sure if the group that approached Mr. Brad Rex, Athletic Director, about the lights at the soccer field were also willing to assist with funding it. He would follow up on that.

Item 7: Future Thoughts on the Turf at the Softball Field and Baseball Field

Mr. Watt presented the board members with renderings of the turf that could potentially be installed at the softball and baseball fields. He was given several options by the turf company and was pleased with the prices. To do the whole softball field, which includes the infield and outfield, it would be \$321,670. For the baseball infield it would be \$199,720 and just the softball infield only would be \$98,393. These were less than Astroturf's quote. He also has another quote coming in next week. He indicated that the District spends a lot of money on Turface and soil. That is something to consider in the decision. He stated that he spoke with Bill Sammons, Head Softball Coach, and he wasn't sure what his thoughts were. He had some mixed feelings. He said Jason Brandt would love to have the baseball infield done.

Item 8: Football/Soccer/Baseball Scoreboards – Future

Mr. Watt provided a picture of a potential scoreboard for the football field. He said the trend now is to put a full video board up, which will have a scoreboard view on a portion of it. The softball scoreboard is about 7 or 8 years old. Soccer is 15+ years old. Mr. Ruppert asked what the estimated cost would be for the scoreboards. Mr. Watt said that soccer would be around \$10,000, baseball is probably around \$20,000-\$30,000, and football would be the most expensive at around \$180,000 to \$200,000. He stated that the baseball scoreboard should still be good for a few more years. Brad just put new digits in it. He mentioned that he has had several components on the football scoreboard go bad and it has been difficult to get parts.

Item 9: Sound Upgrade at the Football Field

Mr. Watt indicated that a sound upgrade needed to be done at the football field. It would run around \$34,840. It is difficult to hear in some areas. Mr. Ron Mertz stated that you can hear it ringing in others. This would be a summer project.

Mike recapped the night and stated that from what he gathered, the District would pursue ESSER funding to help with the HVAC system, proceed with the brick rework and footers at the high school, the LED lighting and the sound upgrades at the football field. They will continue to wait and see what the other scoreboard quote comes in at for the high school gym, and continue with quotes for new scoreboards and turf just to plan for the future. Mr. Watt also indicated that he has not talked with the Athletic Boosters yet to see if they would be willing to help with any of these costs.

Mr. Gregg Ruppert asked how much of the \$1.2 million in ESSER funds that the District will be receiving is going to go to academics versus facilities.

Mr. Rex stated that the only part of the ESSER money being used for facilities is the HVAC upgrade. The rest will be spent on instructional items.

Mr. Gregg Ruppert also asked how much money between the ESSER funding and the PI fund did we have that we could spend on these items. He wondered how much was available in the PI fund that we felt comfortable using for these projects. He didn't need the information today, but would just like to have an idea in his mind.

Ms. Angie Sparks stated that she and Mr. Watt needed to sit down and update the PI spreadsheet that they share.

Mr. Aaron Rex stated that we have to prioritize what is a need.

Mr. Ron Mertz commented that the Facilities Committee needs to sit down at the next meeting and determine what areas need to be blacktopped this summer. Mr. Watt stated that it is actually next summer when it will occur.

Mr. Ruppert asked about the progress on the LED lighting. Mr. Watt stated that they are working on the middle school now during second shift. After July they will start at the elementary, and hopefully be done by next school year.

ADJOURNMENT

16-21 Member Gregg Ruppert moved, Member Ron Mertz seconded to adjourn the meeting at 4:30 p.m.

Upon a roll call vote being taken, the vote was: Aye: **3**, Nay: **0**. The motion **carried 3 – 0**.

President

Secretary