

**Minutes from the  
Regular Meeting of the  
Central School Building Committee  
on December 5, 2023**

A meeting of the East Bridgewater Central School Building Committee was held on Tuesday, December 5, 2023, at 5:00 PM in the Anne Kenneally Hynes Library in the East Bridgewater Jr/Sr High School.

In attendance were: Assistant Superintendent Dr. Gina Williams, School Business Manager John Shea, Town Administrator Charlie Seelig; Select Board Member Carole Julius, Town Accountant Melanie Dean, Brian Kiely, John Haines, Karen Harhen Finance Committee, Meghan McLaughlin, Joe Rodricks, David Horton III, Donald McDougall, and Rebecca Fidler School Committee, Elizabeth Legault, Kate Byrne, Dan Picha

Not in attendance: Gordon McKinnon

Meeting was opened at 5:04pm by Chair, Gina Williams Motion – Legault/Kiely

Also in attendance: n/a

**Reports & Discussions:**

- ❖ Motion to nominate John Haines as the chair of the selection committee
  - Motion – Legault/Byrne
  - Approved unanimously, Horton not present for votes
- ❖ Comments on the 11/7/23 meeting minutes – none – motion to approve 11/7/23 meeting minutes
  - Motion – Shea/Byrne, Approved unanimously with Legault abstaining, Horton not present for votes
- ❖ Motion to appoint Gina Williams as Chair of the Central School Building Committee
  - Motion – Legault/Kiely
  - Approved unanimously, Horton not present for votes
- ❖ Motion to appoint Kate Byrne as Vice-Chair of the Central School Building Committee
  - Motion – Legault/Haines
  - Approved unanimously, Horton not present for votes
- ❖ Motion to appoint Melanie Dean as Clerk of the Central School Building Committee
  - Motion - Legault/Haines
  - Approved unanimously, Horton not present for votes
- ❖ Charlie gave an update on setting up the Committee email address. Email address should now be set up as [centralschoolbuildingcommittee@eastbridgewaterma.gov](mailto:centralschoolbuildingcommittee@eastbridgewaterma.gov). The website has also been updated. MSBA information is posted as tools. Agendas and minutes will be added to website as well. Looking to set up an automatic reply to tell people that their email was received. Gina will be the point person for responding to emails and will consult members as needed.

- ❖ Discussion of Module II of the MSBA process. We are at the end of Module I – waiting for the feasibility vote by the MSBA scheduled for their meeting at the end of February. The link to information on the coming module is available online. It appears that we may have a 5-10 month period from the vote to module II.
- ❖ Plan would be to hire an OPM within a few months of the vote and then hire an architect. We would like to move as quickly as the MSBA allows.
- ❖ John Haines questioned why the process seems so much more delayed than when the High School was built. It is believed that it is a few factors – COVID backup, demand increase, and a change in process to minimize the number of districts in a certain step at the same time to maximize the amount of districts MSBA can help
- ❖ Discussion of conveying this information to residents, so they know we are in a waiting pattern
- ❖ The January meeting should be a Committee tour of the Central School
- ❖ Discussed two MSBA updates
  - Budget breakout of the \$1,500,000 appropriated for the feasibility study (per MSBA, this can be fluid)
  - Enrollment study and projection, projects enrollment 10 years from now, MSBA gathered information on current enrollment, building projects, etc
- ❖ The fall enrollment study from DESE as sent to MSBA, discussion of if this census could affect MSBA numbers at the February meeting, question for MSBA
- ❖ Discussion of the enrollment study, especially how it pertains to preschool, why wasn't preschool enrollment factored into the study, and will preschool affect our reimbursement rate, another question for MSBA, Charlie and Gina plan to reach out for a call with MSBA to discuss
- ❖ Motion to certify the enrollment certification
  - Motion – Byrne/Haines
  - Approved unanimously
- ❖ Subcommittee update – will plan to meet in January prior to our February meeting, Melanie will post their meetings as she is made aware of their schedule
- ❖ January 5, 2024 at 5pm will be the next meeting, meeting at Central School to tour it
- ❖ Additional meetings schedule – 2/6/24 and 3/5/24 , 5pm
- ❖ Motion to adjourn meeting at 6:22
  - Motion – Legault/Kiely
  - Approve unanimously

### **Public Comments**

None

Respectfully Submitted by,

Melanie Dean  
Secretary

**\*\*\* The listing of matters are those reasonably anticipated by the Chair which may be discussed at the meeting. Not all items listed may in fact be discussed and other items not listed may also be brought up for discussion to the extent permitted by law.**