

Meeting #11

Lyndhurst, NJ
November 3, 2010

The Lyndhurst Board of Education held a Special meeting on November 3, 2010 at 7:00 p.m.

Call to Order

President Hooper called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and requested all those present to stand for the Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll Call

The following Board members answered roll call: (7) James Cunniff, Thomas DiMascio, Ronald Grillo, Christine Melleno, Stephen Vendola, Ellen Young, James Hooper. Absent: (2) William Barnaskas, Louis Bilis

Also present: Dr. Tracey Stellato, Superintendent of Schools
Absent: Dennis Sluka, Interim School Business Administrator/Board Secretary;
Valerie Troncone, Finance Manager

Open Public Meeting Act

President Hooper announced that adequate notice of this meeting was provided, in writing, to each Board member, The Herald and News, The Record, The Leader, the township Clerk and posted in the lobby of the Town Hall and the Board Office.

Finance and Negotiations Committee

Any Board member who takes exception to any of the following listed actions under the category of Finance and Negotiations may so indicate now and a separate motion for each of the excepted actions will be entertained.

Motion made by Thomas DiMascio second by Ronald Grillo that the following Finance and Negotiations actions of the Board numbered 1 through 1 exception actions be adopted.

Roll Call For: (7) James Cunniff, Thomas DiMascio, Ronald Grillo, Christine Melleno, Stephen Vendola, Ellen Young, James Hooper. Absent: (2) William Barnaskas, Louis Bilis.

1. BE IT RESOLVED, that the Lyndhurst Board of Education approve the following resolution.

RESOLUTION
New Middle School at Matera Field

WHEREAS, the Lyndhurst Board of Education (“Board”) desires to construct a new Middle School at Matera Field to benefit the residents of Lyndhurst; and

WHEREAS, the current Lyndhurst School system building facilities are in immediate need for maintenance, repair, and upgrading as the majority of the Lyndhurst Building in question have been built in early to middle 1900’s

WHEREAS, Benecke Economics has been engaged to assist the township of Lyndhurst (“Township”) to coordinate the potential construction of a new Middle School at Matera field located off of Ridge Road; and

WHEREAS, the project includes the construction of a \$37,000,000 Middle School similar to the one envisioned in the March 2007 project application approved by the State Department of Education in May, 2007; and

WHEREAS, the newly minted project will be voted on by public referendum on January 25, 2011 or as soon thereafter as possible. The amount of the referendum is estimated at \$30 million, with the remaining \$7 million being financed by the Township, for use of the OEM facilities and classroom space for senior and other such community programming.

WHEREAS, the new school is part of the district’s long range facilities plan, as may be reasonably modified as necessary to meet the township’s Board of Education needs.

WHEREAS, the within concept is to, but not limited to, replace Lincoln School and perhaps other elementary school facilities with this new school and to re-district the schools (intra-Lyndhurst); to eradicate localized school crowding and inefficiencies and to replace substandard schools such as Lincoln School, in particular; and

WHEREAS, the Lincoln School and Matera Field are now designated as an Area in Need of Redevelopment. It is the intent that upon approval of the referendum that the school district will sell the Lincoln School as part of a Township redevelopment plan; and

WHEREAS, DMR Architects proposed plans include the need for the Township OEM facilities; and

WHEREAS, projected financing plans, including note/bond amortization schedules, etc. have been submitted and reviewed by the Board; and

WHEREAS, the DMR Architects and Benecke Economic's Principal Planner, Fred Suljic, PP will be reviewing the condition of the facilities and we will be working with the Superintendent relating to students, demographics, etc.; and

WHEREAS, the Board will then objectively present the finalized project with its related facts to the public for referendum vote as per the laws of the State of New Jersey.

WHEREAS, construction costs are generally lower in this current economic climate, financing costs are favorable, and the reality of the current schools disrepair status; and

WHEREAS, the Lyndhurst Board of Education as a result, in part of deferring building facility improvements over the year, in anticipation of a Middle School or like project, has minimum outstanding financing debt. It has further been determined that to wait or delay such a school facilities action will only cost the taxpayers more money in the long run; and

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Lyndhurst Board of Education hereby acknowledges its support of the construction of a new Middle School at Matera Field with related actions as described above. Moreover, the Board Superintendent and Board Attorney are hereby authorized to execute the required documentation to have the proposed new Middle School plan at Matera Field for public referendum as per the terms of the State of New Jersey

Pubic Comments

Agenda Items

None

Non-Agenda Items

Doris Vacca – Bathrooms at various elementary schools.

Adjournment

Motion by Ellen Young second by Ronald Grillo and unanimously carried, the meeting was adjourned at 7:23 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Dennis S. Sluka
Interim School Business Administrator
Board Secretary