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**Seymour High School Athletic Field Committee Meeting Thursday, April 16, 2015
@ 7:00 p.m. Seymour Middle School Library**

Members Present: Sean Walsh, Jack Liedke, Tim Sadick, Paul Sponheimer, Ed Strumello, Theresa Conroy, Paul Roy (Alt.), Nicole Klarides-Ditria

Members Not Present: Jay Hatfield, Bill Paecht

Others Present: Jim Galligan, Nafis & Young, Bill Aniskovich, WBA Group, Wayne Natzel, Board of Ed.

ITEM #1: Call meeting to order.

Meeting was called to order at 7:01 p.m.

A Motion to seat Paul Roy as alternate member for this evening's meeting.

Theresa Conroy Second: Paul Sponheimer

Motion: Vote: 7-Yes 0- No

ITEM #2: Pledge of Allegiance

Everyone saluted the flag and recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

ITEM #3: Public Comment

A Call was made for public comment.

Public comment was then closed.

ITEM #4: Chairperson's comments

Ms. Klarides-Ditria went to the April 2 Board of Ed Meeting. Mr. Strumello did an excellent job giving a summary on the Committee's behalf. A lot of students attended the meeting to voice their opinions. The Board of Ed decided to let the decision go to the high school administration. They are giving the football field to the committee and will decide where they will move graduation after that.

Chairperson's comments were then closed.

ITEM #5: Approve minutes from April 2, 2015 meeting.

Motion to approve minutes from April 2, 2015 meeting.

Motion: Sean Walsh Second: Jack Liedke

Vote: 8 – Yes 0 – No

Item number five is closed.

ITEM#6: Review and Approve Invoices

Mr. Galligan presented four invoices for the committee to review.

N &Y Invoice #086-15, Soil Testing Invoice #00715, Env. Planning Invoice #7167, N &Y Invoice #049-15.

Letters from Mr. Galligan were attached to each invoice. He stated it is important to have these letters attached to invoices stating he has reviewed the invoice and authorize the committee to pay it. Otherwise, there is really no way for the committee to know whether it should be paid or not. So, if there is a problem with the invoice, then the committee will take it up with him. That is what he is hired for. Going forward, if an invoice is received make sure the invoice is signed off on.

Mr. Walsh requested on the record that in the future, if possible, that the committee receives the invoices from town hall ahead of the scheduled meeting. Ms. Klarides-Ditria will speak with town hall.

A Motion was made to approve all four invoices as presented and have them paid.

Motion: Sean Walsh Second: Theresa Conroy

Motion: Yes-8 No-0

Item number six was then closed.

ITEM#7: Finalize bid proposal with Architecture/Engineering Firm

Mr. Galligan presented final plans and specifications for the field, track, bleachers and turf. If there was anything the committee could think of to add. Advertisement for the site work will be in Sunday's paper.

One setback was a reversal of opinion from DEEP on the co-op use for the bleachers. IN light of that he prepared a bid document for the bleachers and will have that ready to go by Wednesday or Thursday the following week. DEEP holds the checkbook so he has to follow their lead. Mr. Aniskovich stated bleacher bids are not really competitive because there are one or two top level manufacturers and one or two lower level manufacturers. So even though you may receive a low bid, it may not meet the specifications. But he feels all the bids will be reasonably close together.

Mr. Strumello asked what DEEPs expertise is in bleachers to tell the committee they cant use the bleacher co-op. Mr. Galligan explained that years ago there was a department called Bureau of Recreation which was eventually brought into DEEP. The Bureau of Rec is actually a branch of DEEP now. So, that branch is who the committee is dealing with. Mr. Galligan has spoken with Dave Stiger at DEEP who said that if the committee uses the co-op there is a litany of protocols of going through all the manufacturers to prove that the co-op is the best way to go. That would take a month to six weeks, where putting it out to bid will be in next weekends paper.

Ms. Klarides-Ditria asked Mr. Galligan to obtain a letter for the committee next meeting from DEEP putting everything in writing.

The committee then reviewed and discussed the proposals around the table.

Ms. Klarides-Ditria asked if the retaining wall between the track and bleachers was staying. Mr. Galligan confirmed it is and the shrubbery will be removed. Mr. Walsh asked if there would be fencing added to accommodate entry to the field and Mr. Galligan said there was no feasible way to do that. Mr. Strumello followed up by stating from a security standpoint, the less access people have the better because then you limit people storming the field and other issues. Ms. Klarides-Ditria confirmed that the handicapped access to the bleachers will only be via the driveway up the ramp and seating is only at the bottom. Mr. Sponheimer asked about the 'goat path' by the shot put and if that was going to be cut out because people do access bleachers from there and it is also a water access for the springs off the hill. Mr. Galligan stated they are uncovering the drain below the springs and bringing a drain all the way up to the surface. He does not have plans for the 'goat path' access. Mr. Sponheimer is concerned that the completed project will still have people accessing the bleachers from that path the way they've been doing it and it will continue to look like a goat path. Mr. Galligan said he could add stairs there. He will put it in as an alternate and see what they can afford at the end of the project.

Mr. Sadick asked about surplus material. Mr. Galligan stated it would be disposed in the town, most likely at the dump. He is meeting with wetlands next week to see if the excess material can be used at Gesek Field however, the material from the field isn't much better than what is on Gesek Field. He feels it would be best to just haul it away.

Mr. Sponheimer questioned the goal post. Mr. Aniskovich explained that it rotated back and forth when the soccer goal post was in play. Mr. Sponheimer was concerned who would do that and how. Mr. Aniskovich stated he has an alternate in for a rotating goal post and a standard post. Mr. Galligan stated that it isn't easy to move but two to three grown adults would be able to do it. Concerns were raised over how long until the rotating post failed, corrosion issue over time, how would it be fixed and how much that would cost.

Mr. Galligan stated the press box is an alternate. Mr. Aniskovich put in for a 20ft box and 30ft box. Currently there is a 20ft box.

Mr. Walsh asked how hard it would be to get an alternate in for aluminum railings because even with galvanized steel you will only get 10 years use. Mr. Galligan stated it was very expensive to use aluminum but it will last forever.

Mr. Sponheimer asked what the plan was for Gesek Field. The material in the field is the same that is on DeBarber Field. The issue is that if you regrade it or bring the material down from DeBarber Field, you will lose Gesek Field for a year because you will topsoil and seed it in the fall, so you lose the fall and for all the spring. The committee has to decide if they want to lose the field. The material is very silted loam that doesn't drain at all. If you wanted to make it useful you would have to mix it with two parts sand. He doesn't feel that if the field was done over it would make that much of a difference. It will make the ground higher but won't make it drain any better. Mr. Sponheimer suggested

dumping the material behind the press box. Mr. Sadick stated that you really don't want to keep it on site because you will end up with way more than you think and then end up having to pay to have someone to move it. There are no plans at this point to do anything with the drainage issue on Gesek Field. To change the drainage on Gesek Field is a significant addition to the work. Mr. Natzel stated that when he worked for Region 15 years ago they had a similar issue with their field always being wet. So they hired a company out of Massachusetts and they used a machine that goes along the field and put stone in. Mr. Aniskovich stated it was a Cambridge System. He pitched that idea to Mr. Galligan a few weeks ago but he didn't think the project had the budget for it.

Mr. Sadick stated that if the stone doesn't meet the hardness, the sieve would change especially with three lifts. He suggested using dynamic lift with one shot. It would be tracked a lot less. And not only do you have to pay to laser grade the top, but the second layer as well to maintain uniform thickness. Mr. Sadick would like to see a better detailed hardness spec in the plans. If granite is used it will break down. He just witnessed the same situation in Saybrook. You can meet the sieve and it can still fail. Mr. Aniskovich didn't see the three layers as a problem. Mr. Sadick questioned the cost. If you can do one layer of Dynamic versus grading it three times. Mr. Aniskovich feels that layering it three times creates filtration. The material should be tested for hardness and be certified.

Regarding Gesek Field, Mr. Sponheimer asked if there was any way for the brook to be piped. Mr. Galligan stated it's not impossible but highly unlikely. Piping will expand the sports area but will not change the surface material of the field.

Mr. Galligan confirmed that the site work would be advertised on the upcoming Sunday. The bleachers will probably be advertised the following Sunday. The rubberized asphalt will be put out after the bids return for the site work and bleachers so that we know where we are cost wise. The site work bids will be back on April 30.

Item number seven was then closed.

ITEM#8 Committee Member Comments

Paul Roy: Thank Ed Strumello and Nicole for doing a great job at the Board of Ed meeting outlining what needed to be done in a timely fashion. The kids that came out that night to speak were all great too.

Paul Sponheimer: Echoing Paul Roy, the way things got ironed out in a situation that could have been very complicated, hats off to the people that took care of that issue.

Jack Liedke: No comment

Ed Strumello: It was a team effort that accomplished what they did at the Board of Ed Meeting. It was good that it was solved amicably. Hopefully they'll like where new graduation will take place so the protective mats aren't necessary. He also questioned the amount of seats needed at graduation and if it was really 1,500.

Tim Sadick: No comment

Sean Walsh: He has copies of the bids from another project for the maintenance of the turf. It was \$3,290.00 from Field Turf once a year to come in and filter out the debris from the field. It was also recommended to him to accommodate for the warning and usage signage in the budget. Also, the protective mats that he purchased for a different project from the sideline to the track was about \$4,000.00 and to figure out how much would be

needed for graduation purposes.

Nicole Klarides-Ditria: To Mr. Strumello's point regarding the bleachers, that is what Ed and Mr. Freund insisted that's how many they have every year at graduation. It is good we have Sean Walsh's running list of future items needed to keep in mind.

Theresa Conroy: No comment

Item nine was then closed.

ITEM #9: Adjournment

A Motion was made to adjourn the meeting at 8:18 p.m.

Motion: Ed Strumello Second: Jack Liedke Vote: 8–Yes 0 No

Respectfully Submitted, Angela Chernesky