MONTOURSVILLE AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT

MINUTES FOR PUBLIC OPTIONS MEETING Online Zoom Webinar

Wednesday, July 22, 2020 7:07 PM

MEMBER	MEMBER
x Daniel L. Albert	x David Shimmel, President
Susan Beery	x Ronald E. Snell
Scott W. Konkle	x Dale Ulmer
Jennifer L. Marriott	*Fred Holland, Solicitor
x Dottie M. Mathers, Vice President	<u>x</u> *Christina Bason, Superintendent
x William S. Ruffing	x *Brandy N. Smith, Business Mgr./Bd.Secretary *(Non-Voting Member)
<u>OTHERS</u>	
x Breon, Amy - Elementary School Principal	
Feerrar, Darrin - Elementary School Principal	
x Gnoffo, Joseph - Supervisors of Buildings and Grounds	
x King, Christopher - Assistant High School Principal	
x Myers, Curtis - Middle School Principal	
x Peipher, Sebastian – Lead Network Administrator	
x Taormina, Daniel - High School Principal	
<u>x</u> Williamson, Michele - Supervisor of Special Education	
x Residents x Media Students	

Presentation

Mrs. Bason started the meeting by giving a summary of the events that preceded the current feasibility study to provide context for the options being presented during this meeting.

Mr. Scott Cousin of Crabtree, Rohrbaugh, & Associates provided a summary of the seven options to be presented. Mr. Sean Douty and Mr. Cousin presented the details of options 1 through 7 including visualizations of additions, renovations, the projected costs, as well as the pros and cons. Mrs. Smith presented the estimated savings and the estimated tax increase needed to support each project.

Mr. Shimmel outlined how the public and board comment session would be handled.

Public Comment

Britt Bassett asked why Lyter Elementary was included in the presentation when it has had more recent updates than Loyalsock Valley. He also shared concern with duplication of costs in the estimates and lot size at Lyter Elementary.

William Schlachter brought up concerns regarding tax increases for people in the community dealing with decreased income due to COVID-19.

Patti Connelly brought up her concern with making a big financial decision during the current pandemic. She also inquired as to why air conditioning was seen as a necessity, and how class sizes would impact the ability to be socially distant.

Ashley Grimes asked why the HVAC system would be replaced for air conditioning in Lyter, when the money could be directed to other needs.

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Britt Bassett asked if the engineers checked to be sure air conditioning couldn't be added to the current system at Lyter Elementary.

Ashley Grimes stated that she does not believe air conditioning to be needed as it is only used a few months out of the year. She also inquired about what class sizes would be with option three and voiced concern with increased time on buses.

Mrs. Bason explained the need for having various construction options and reminded the public where they could find past meetings on the district website.

Britt Bassett asked how much reimbursement money the district could lose if the project is delayed past the deadline.

Patti Connelly asked if the district could re-apply for PlanCon funds if the decision is delayed past the deadline. She also asked for a timeline on when the board would narrow down the options.

Mr. Albert stated that he believes it is important to keep up with renovations on the district buildings. He also shared some of the other districts in the area that are completing renovations or new construction.

Mr. Snell shared that he would like to see an option that allows for renovations to Loyalsock Valley Elementary as the district can afford it. Mr. Snell also stated that he does not agree with the numbers as they were presented in regards to savings.

Mr. Shimmel responded by defending the accuracy of the numbers and the process by which they were developed. He also advised Mr. Snell to avoid accusing anyone of malintent.

Mrs. Bason explained the process for producing the numbers for savings estimated from retirements.

Patti Connelly asked if the opinions of teachers, maintenance, and support staff are taken into consideration when making the decision.

Mr. Snell shared that he agrees with the point made by William Schlachter that he is concerned about tax increases for community members financially impacted by COVID-19.

ADJOURNMENT OF THE REGULAR MEETING 9:22 PM

David Shimmel, President

Brandy N. Smith, Board Secretary