



## **Buildings & Grounds Subcommittee Special Meeting**

May 25, 2021 10:30 AM  
Board Meeting Room  
Administrative Offices  
137-B Glenwood Road  
Clinton, CT 06413

### **Attendance Taken at 10:30 AM:**

#### Present Board Members:

Michael Hornyak  
Erica Gelven

### **1. Opening Exercises**

#### **1.A. Roll call**

##### Discussion:

Also in attendance were Business Manager Carolyn Dickey, Director of Buildings and Grounds Gonzalo Carrion, Superintendent Maryann O'Donnell, Police Chief Vincent DeMaio, and Energy Commission chairperson Paul Gebauer.

#### **1.B. Pledge of Allegiance**

##### Discussion:

All stood for the pledge.

### **2. Solar Options for Clinton Schools**

##### Discussion:

P. Gebauer and M. O'Donnell share information about solar options for Clinton schools. P. Gebauer has been working with the CT Greenbank to explore whether adding solar panels to town and school buildings can be beneficial. He reviewed maps and preliminary information about possibilities for adding solar panels on the roofs at Joel, Eliot, and Morgan. The committee asked questions and shared some concerns about the impact to current roof warranties, issues with installation, and the schools' work on HVAC and improved ventilation. All of these factors, in addition to a minimal savings projection, caused the members to conclude that moving forward with solar was not an option at this time. The committee then discussed options for energy savings in the area of lighting upgrades in the schools. The district will explore partnerships that may allow for expediting the timeline for conversion of lighting in Joel and Eliot schools to LED.

### **3. HVAC and Ventilation Options at Joel and Eliot Schools**

##### Discussion:

M. O'Donnell and G. Carrion explained limits to improving ventilation at Joel and Eliot due to outdated systems and lack of automated controls. They have been exploring options to bring systems up to state standards and have been working with a representative from Colliers Project Leaders in Madison. They reviewed a proposal for a scope of services to provide a review of HVAC as it relates to improved ventilation. While the district has a capital replacement plan for HVAC units over the next 6-7 years, COVID-19 has increased the urgency for improved air quality in our classrooms and schools. Newly released grant money through ARP ESSER provides an opportunity to accelerate the work and to improve conditions in our schools. The subcommittee reviewed the proposal and scope of work and agreed to bring the proposal to the next Board meeting for full approval so that work can begin. The cost of this work would come from grant funding.

#### **4. Eliot Parent Drop-off and Pick-up Solution**

Discussion:

Chief DeMaio and M. O'Donnell explained the issues with traffic at Eliot Middle School and how we have been attempting to determine a long-term solution. The backup of traffic on the roads and the issues with students walking near the school have caused concern in the community and presents some safety concerns. Chief DeMaio explained that he has met with the Town engineer to look at the site and has come up with a tentative proposal to create a parent drop-off/pick-up lane that would take the traffic off of the existing roads and create a new road connecting from the little league field behind the school to the parking lot. This would require engineering of the road and site plan, moving the Eliot baseball field to the opposite side, and creating and paving the road area. Questions were asked and answered and all agreed that it could solve the traffic situation. The subcommittee agreed that Superintendent M. O'Donnell could discuss the project with Town Manager K. Kilduff to explore the logistics, timeline, and funding for this possible project and bring the information back to the full Board of Education for review.

#### **5. General Discussion**

Discussion:

C. Dickey explained that she was working on obtaining a bid for the shingle roof replacement project on the Annex at Eliot which is funded in capital. G. Carrion reviewed a number of summer projects and work that his team will be responsible for this summer.

#### **6. Adjournment**

Meeting adjourned at 11:59 a.m.

Respectfully submitted by M. O'Donnell