

Committee Members

John L. Foley, Chairman
Hilda Ramirez, Vice-chairman
Tracy O'Connell Novick

City Council Members

Anthony J. Economou, Chairman
Gary Rosen
Kathleen M. Toomey

AGENDA #1

F/O
3-10-14
Page 1

A C T I O N S

The Joint Meeting of the Standing Committee on Finance and Operations and the City Council's Standing Committee on Education met at 5:35 p.m. on Monday, March 10, 2014 in Room 410 at the Dr. John E. Durkin Administration Building.

There were present:

School Committee Members: Ms. Novick, Ms. Ramirez and Chairman Foley

City Councillors: Mrs. Toomey and Chairman Economou

Miss Biancheria, Mr. Monfredo and Mr. O'Connell were also in attendance.

Representing Administration were: Mr. Allen and Dr. Friel

Others in attendance: R. Adams, M. Bard, R. Cohane, A. Durkin, C. Gruszka,
D. Micher, J. Reardon, D. Steigman, J. Weedon and
N. Williamson

gb #2-323 - Ms. Novick (November 28, 2012)

To schedule regular meetings of the Standing Committee on Finance and Operations with the City Council's Education Subcommittee.

ros #4-1 - Administration (January 29, 2014)

FY15 PRELIMINARY BUDGET ESTIMATES

(These items were considered together).

Chairman Foley introduced the following items:

I. Update on Net School Spending

Mr. Allen distributed a document from the Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education Office of School Finance regarding Chapter 70 Net School Spending Compliance, Budgeted in both FY13 and FY14. This document is contained in Annex F of ros #4-1 in the backup for the item.

Chairman Economou stated that he would not only like to vote to meet net school spending but also to exceed it. Both Councilors Toomey and Rosen expressed a strong desire to meet net school spending.

II. On-going Projects

-Statement of Interest for Worcester East Middle School

Mr. Allen explained that the expanded scope of mechanical, electrical and plumbing projects are contained in the Statement of Interest for the school.

-Nelson Place School

Mr. Allen provided an update on the Nelson Place Replacement School. Mr. Adams responded to concerns of the School Committee and of those present at the meeting regarding the progress of this project. It was stated that the postings for all meetings are included on the Nelson Place School website. Mr. Foley explained that the decisions on this project rest with the Building Committee. Miss Ramirez inquired as to the impact of this construction project to the residents in the neighborhood. She recommended that notices be sent to the homeowners regarding all scheduled meetings.

III. Transportation Study

Mr. Allen stated that the Transportation Study, which is a joint effort between the City and the Worcester Public Schools, is near completion. The consultant for this study will be providing recommendations within the next couple of weeks.

IV. FY15 Budget

Mr. Allen made a presentation on the FY15 Budget which is contained on the WPS website under the Business section and also under Annex E of the backup for the item.

The meeting adjourned at 7:05 p.m.

Helen A. Friel, Ed.D.
Clerk of the School Committee