1. Call Meeting to Order.

Chair Robert Porter called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm

2. Pledge of Allegiance.

Chair Robert Porter led the pledge of allegiance.

3. Roll Call.

Present: Robert Porter
        Mark Guerrera
        Brian Mays
        Thomas Walsh

Absent: David Demirs
        Jeffrey Desmarais
        Anthony Ciriello
        Jim Lehner

Superintendent of Schools, Dr. Alison Villanueva
Vice Chairman of the Watertown Town Council, Mary Ann Rosa
Board of Education Facilities Director, Luigi Velardi

Others Present: John Gavallas
                Gary Lafferty
                Marie Kashuba
                Scott Koesterich
4. Minutes.

   a. Special Meeting - March 22, 2023

   Motion: Thomas Walsh seconded by Brian Mays to approve the Special Meeting minutes dated March 22, 2023 as amended.

   Dr. Alison Villanueva stated one correction on page 7 the bottom paragraph it says SEG it should say SCG.

   Motion passed unanimously

5. New Business.

   a. Discussion and possible action on school capital projects:

      1. Watertown High School roof replacement.

      2. Watertown High School artificial turf and track replacement and Swift Middle School artificial turf replacement.

         a. Discuss bid waiver for turf and track
         b. Turf color samples and materials
         c. Closed section of turf and lining
         d. Project oversite

      3. John Trumbull Primary School roof repair Playscape area – drain, roof and leading up to the door

      4. John Trumbull Primary School sloped shingle section roof repair

      5. John Trumbull Primary School HVAC

      6. John Trumbull Preschool roof tops and heat trace on water piping

      7. Swift Middle School roof maintenance

      8. Watertown High School security camera replacement and upgrade

      9. John Trumbull Primary School flooring replacement

         a. Yellow Pod

         b. Electrical room main floor and main office
9. John Trumbull Primary School boiler plant system replacement

11. Judson Elementary School boiler burner replacement

Chair Robert Porter stated these topics were discussed at the first meeting and asked the committee if there were any comments or questions?

Vice Chair Mark Guerrera asked is there any more information since our last walkthrough.

Dr. Alison Villanueva stated we have Scott Koesterich to talk about some of the specifics regarding the turf, in terms of the roof replacement I don’t have any updates.

b. Discuss draft financial commitment letter for turfs and track

Dr. Alison Villanueva stated a couple of questions that came up was our financial commitment letter. Another question was the reference list for the other types of locations that Astro Turf as done work. They have been in a number of places (list passed to committee members). There was a question regarding the state bid and how cooperative purchasing worked. I wanted to bring forward some information on the BOE Purchasing Policy 330 and how it works when we have a cooperative purchasing place that we can pull from. You will see a copy of my request, Mr. Velardi’s bid so we can go with the correct institution for cooperative purchasing. Dr. Villanueva passed out a draft commitment letter, our Town Attorney has a copy and will help us today and tonight. You can see the date of the financial letter of intent, the potential start of Swift would be 4/17 in two weeks. One of the important parts I wanted to point out here is that the second paragraph any payment toward either project will begin on July 1, 2023 or after the project is fully completed. The reason we do that is that our bonding can happen in the next fiscal year and it doesn’t hit our year now.

Scott Koesterich, Astro Turf brought in some turf samples for the committee to look at. I did watch the last meeting and heard some of the questions out there. Mr. Koesterich gave some background on himself. He explained the removal process for the turf and showed examples of the different pads that go underneath the turf for the high school. He showed the different examples of turf and talked about the wear explaining the different testing’s done at the end of the project. Mr. Koesterich talked about the track process per the proposal with milling done and the replacement of asphalt. They would be doing that first allowing the track for curing for 15 to 30 days. While waiting for the track to cure they would be installing the field and then be ready for the rubber surfacing.
Committee questions asked:

Are there drainage issues?
Scott Koesterich answered the locations were visited and it appears there are no drainage issues.

Is the padding for the turf going in both schools?
Scott Koesterich answered at this point in time in the instructions are it is just going in the high school.

How many weeks to do the high school?
Scott Koesterich answered seven weeks including the track with weather permitting.

How many weeks for Swift?
Scott Koesterich answered from start to finish it will be six weeks.

Cracks in the track is that normal or are you able to fix them.
Scott Koesterich answered it is a standard protocol in the north.

Dr. Alison Villanueva stated a question was asked about oversight? I looked into other districts nearby and they gave me the name of Collier Engineering and asked if the committee if they knew of names to look into.

Scott Koesterich, Astro Turf stated he had zero problems with oversight, there are no issues. There is nothing that I am doing that anybody could have fault with because it is being done per manufacturer’s recommendations.

Are the fields being done simultaneously or one after the other.
Scott Koesterich answered the way in which I am able to fit this into the schedule is that we would be doing Swift starting on the 17th and start the high school on July 5th.

Will the giblets come out and fall onto the track?
Scott Koesterich answered it is a minimal issue, the trench drained is what needs to be cleaned out.

What is the maintenance required for these fields?
Scott Koesterich answered there is maintenance that has to happen, we were looking at a piece of equipment that is not that expensive that can take care of this. There is the high wear areas they are going to need maintenance on a weekly basis the majority of the field will be good. The maintenance is the organics.
There was a concern about metal spikes.
Mr. Velardi answered it is away from the baseball field and we are aligning it with all the other sports in Town.

What about students and non-residents at Swift?
Dr. Alison Villeneuve answered it is a discussion we should have once again. There has been conversations about putting a gate around it and giving the key to the group that has officially reserved the time and space, then that group is in charge of that.

Near the soccer goals at Swift those areas were really worn out, what can be done to protect that area?
Scott Koesterich answered the root zone is going to help adding that protective layer and its maintenance.

Chair Robert Porter stated at the last meeting we talked about oversight and I did reach out to Kastle Boos, they have done a great job over the years.

How are we tackling all these projects.
Chair Robert Porter we would tackle the track and field first because they are seasonal then we can start the rest of them. We can do the boiler work at Judson and the HVAC, my understanding tonight there is nine million.

Dr. Alison Villanova stated it was 150 million across the state and they are releasing letters today. If we did not get the funds we can start the bidding again for another round, if we did get it, we will talk at the next meeting for which schools.

6. Old Business – none

7. Adjournment.
   Motion to adjourn meeting at 7:42 p.m.

Respectfully submitted

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Robert Porter, Chairman
School Capital Projects Committee