MEETING MINUTES – FY2013
School Committee Meeting

NAME OF SCHOOL DISTRICT: Rowe NAME OF COMMITTEE: Rowe School Committee

DATE OF MEETING: Thursday, September 27, 2012 – 5:00PM

LOCATION OF MEETING: Rowe Camp & Conference Center, 22 King's Highway, Rowe MA

Present: Chair Lisa Miller (LM), Lisa Danek-Burke (LDB), Cindy Laffond (CL)

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order by Chair Miller at 6:07pm.

Also Present:

- **Selectboard:** Chair Noel Abbott, Vice Chairman Paul McLatchy III, and Selectman Marilyn Wilson
- **MIIA:** Insurance Adjustor Tom Donaldson
- **Audience:** Approximately 45 audience members were present (see page 2)

Report from MIIA: Noel Abbott introduced Tom Donaldson of MIIA, the firm that handles the town's insurance. Mr. Donaldson explained actions taken to date: site secured for security and safety reasons, met with Selectboard to review coverage, engineers have inspected the site, and engineers and estimators are preparing reports. The town has three basic options:

OPTION 1—Repair present structure: Preliminary estimate to repair present structure is $6,649,805.08 (see Selectmen's minutes for a copy of this estimate). This number includes demolition cost of $546,000. This estimate does not include potential costs for mold remediation, removal of smoke odor from bricks, and additional structural engineering that may be needed to tie old and new structure together.

OPTION 2—Demolish structure and rebuild new structure on site: Cost estimate being developed. This number will be for erecting a similar structure upgraded to today's building code and any applicable ordinances. MIIA should have the number next week. The true number for the insurance settlement will be realized after going out to bid. The new building does not have to be a school. The current foundation does not need to be used for the new structure.

OPTION 3—Do nothing: The town could decide to not build anything on the site. The town would receive a monetary payout based on the *actual cash value* less *depreciation (a rough example was given as 40%, but that is not a real number)*.

Insurance Coverage: The total of the town's blanket coverage is $6,980,700. This amount will cover demolition, rebuilding at the site, and building contest. Any cost above that amount will need to be funded by the town. Bonds, grants, MSBA funds are possible sources.

Relocation/Loss of Income: Any costs in year one (starting from date of loss) over and above what we have budgeted for the operation of the school are covered by MIIA. These funds are not deducted from our blanket coverage. In year two, only up to $200,000 is provided for relocation/loss of income.

Demolition: A separate bid package will be issued for the demolition.

Bid Specs for New Building: If the existing footprint is used and similar building is built the bid specs developed by MIIA to estimate the rebuilding cost can be use used for putting the project out to bid. Those specs are established with the assumption of no changes to the original building except for code upgrades.

Timeline: Mr. Donaldson stated that once construction starts the structure could be ready in 8-9 months, and it will take another 3-4 months to be ready for occupancy.

Mr. Donaldson left the meeting at 7:25pm. He was thanked for attending and presenting information.

Responsibility for Insurance Funds: Two legal written opinions were received from both Town Counsel Joel Bard of Kopelman & Paige, and School Committee attorney Russell Dupere. Both concurred that the insurance funds fall under the purview of the Board of Selectmen (see Selectmen's minutes for these two documents).

School Building Committee: A School Building Committee will be formed. Individuals interested in being on the committee were asked to submit their names in writing to Town Coordinator Ellen Miller, indicating why they would like to be on the committee and what skills they could offer.

Forum: It was agreed that there would be a town-wide forum to discuss the school matter. A date will be set in the near future.

Adjournment: The School Committee voted unanimously to adjourn their meeting at 8:10pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Ellen B. Miller

Approved: _____

Lisa A. Miller, Chair

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Date Approved

Audience: *Lenny Laffond, Diane Broncaccio (Greenfield Recorder), Lesley McLatchy, Paul McLatchy, Jr., Jim Davidson, Bob & MaryAnn Dykeman, Anne Besgen, Lil Danek, Ann Foshay, Janet Cowie, Carol Berliner, Donna Flagg, Jenn Morse, Paulette Roccio, Sean Loomis, Claudine Poplawski, Jodi Brown, Becky Richardson, Rosie Gordon, Dennis & Gail May, Ed & Kathy May, Kerri McLatchy, Betty & Ian Vernes, Myra Carlow, Jack Packard, Dave & Betty Lenth, Susie & Wayne Zavotka, Janice Lapointe, Laurie Pike, Laurie Laffond, Barbara Griffin, Judy Pierce, Julie Shippee, Bob & Carrie Silva, Sharon Hudson, Bill Loomis, Pat Tierney, Rick Williams*

Handouts/Correspondence:

[See Board of Selectmen's minutes]