MEETING MINUTES – FY2013
School Committee Meeting

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

DATE AND LOCATION OF MEETING: Tuesday, October 30, 2012 – 6:00PM, Rowe Town Hall

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

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order by Chair Lisa Miller at 6:00pm.

***[Note:** Notes from 6:00pm to 6:57pm are not available for transcription]*

Meeting with Selectboard: At 6:57pm the school committee joined the Board of Selectmen's meeting already in progress to discuss several items regarding school business. Selectmen present: Vice Chair Paul McLatchy III, Marilyn Wilson. Chair Noel Abbott was absent. Town Coordinator Ellen Miller was present. Audience members present: Ann Foshay, Ed May, Myra Carlow, Becky Richardson, Jodi Brown, Rosie Gordon

School Business: The following items were discussed:

- **Demolition Bid Specs:** Selectman Wilson stated that last Thursday (10/25) Tom Donaldson of MIIA said the bid specs should be ready in 2 weeks, and that the winter season should not impact demolition activities. LDB stated that MIIA's estimate listed demolition costs of $256,000 to demolish the site down to the existing cement foundation. What if it is decided to remove everything, including the foundation? Ellen Miller explained that this estimate was only for rebuilding an identical structure on the site, using the current foundation; and that Mr. Donaldson stated that MIIA will include in their bid specs the possibility of removing the entire structure, including the foundation, as that is another option they town may decide on.
- **Boiler:** There was discussion of salvaging the recently installed new boiler and storing it for future use. Perhaps it should be shrink-wrapped.
- **Laptops, MacBooks, SmartBoards:** The School Committee will talk with Supt. Buoniconti about the possible reuse of these items. The equipment should be evaluated to determine their value/usefulness. Some items may perhaps be obsolete.
- **Additional School Bus:** The School Committee stated that they approved an additional bus for the elementary students, as some of the students are now riding the bus more than one hour each way. This is not allowable for elementary age students. Also, adding this bus will allow the school day to transition back to the normal time—8:30am to 3:15pm. At this time the school day is 8:45am to 3:30pm. The Selectboard voted unanimously (2/0/0) to approve their request for an additional bus. The cost for this bus ($269.75/day) will be paid by the "Loss of Income" portion of our insurance coverage; i.e., there will be no cost to the town and no decrement of the "blanket" policy covering the school building/contents. [If the additional bus were to start on Nov 5th, the cost would be approximately $35,000 for the remainder of this school year.]
- **Inventory:** Principal Knittle stated he would have an inventory ready next week.
- **Three District Agreement:** LM stated that the three school committee chairs (Rowe, Hawlemont and Mohawk) have been working on the new 3DA. The new agreement needs to be in place by June 30th. At this time the proposal is to keep the percentages the same as the current agreement. The current agreement (and proposed new agreement) allows for periodic time studies; however, none have been conducted to date. She is concerned that the other two committees may opt for a study in the near future which would be skewed by any time/effort expended by the Central Office due to the Rowe School fire. She hopes that if in fact a time study is undertaken, that any extra time expended for the fire be excluded as an "unusual event."
- **Use of Property:** The School Committee reported that at their last meeting (Oct 24th) they voted unanimously (3/0/0) to use the property as a school.

- **Demolition:** The School Committee reported that at their last meeting (Oct 24th) they voted unanimously (3/0/0) to demolish the remains of the school building.
- **School Building Committee:** The two committees agreed to meet on Friday, Nov 7th, to discuss/appoint the members of the School Building Committee. Although the appointment is made by the Selectboard, they will look to the School Committee for their recommendations. Ellen Miller will get to the School Committee the list of individuals interested in being appointed to the committee and any letters of interest they have supplied.
- **School Forum:** There was discussion that the School Building Committee should be the entity to hold the School Forum. No decision was made at this time.
- **Purchase Orders:** LDB stated that from now on the Central Office will be tracking purchases via their PO system. She stated that Business Manager Joanne Blier was wondering why there wasn't more than one account set up. Ellen Miller stated that the town has no authorization to spend any funds on fire-related matters other than the one deficit account approved by the DOR DLS Director of Accounts [under MGL c44, §31]. To expend funds from any other account would not be legal.

I. **Adjournment:** The School Committee made a motion to adjourn their meeting (time unknown). The motion was seconded and passed unanimously (3/0/0).

Submitted by Ellen Miller,

Signature: _____
Lisa Miller, Chair

Date Approved: _____

Correspondence:

- None