

**TOWN OF DARIEN
OX RIDGE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL BUILDING
COMMITTEE
MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING
SEPTEMBER 14, 2023**

Committee members attending were Diane Boston, Sean Brown, Dan Bumgardner, Kip Koons, Kadi Lublin, Marcy Minnick and Rusty Shriner.

Guests attending the session were from the Board of Education: Dr. Alan Addley – Superintendent, Kevin Munrett – Director of Facilities and Melissa Kay – Principal of Ox Ridge School, and from O&G Industries/AP Construction: George Graikoski and from SLAM: Kemp Morhardt and Vanessa Donatello – Chair of the Ox Ridge School PTO.

Members and guests participated via Go to Meeting video/audio conference.

Mr. Koons called the meeting to order at 10:00 AM. The minutes of the August 10th, 2023 Regular Meeting were reviewed and upon a motion made by Ms. Lublin and seconded by Mr. Shriner, they were unanimously approved.

Mr. Graikoski then presented the 32nd Application and Certificate for Payment in the amount of \$1,256,322.69. Mr. Graikoski noted that the “Balance to Finish” column indicated over \$1.3 million outstanding, however most of dollar amount involves work that has actually been completed but not billed by the trade and/ subject to change order documentation that needs to be finalized. After a full review and upon motion made by Mr. Koons and seconded by Mr. Shriner, the Application and Certificate for Payment as presented to the committee was unanimously approved.

Mr. Graikoski discussed the Progress Report for August noting that the Assembly Wing was “substantially complete” as of August 25th while the exterior (parking lots, driveways and landscaped areas) still had work to be done. Responding to a question from Ms. Lublin, Mr. Koons agreed that landscaping especially was not done as more plantings were needed as well as a restoration of the field near the ELP playground. We will be talking with Alissa of SLAM as to the additional landscape needs.

Mr. Graikoski reviewed the work status of each subcontractor which showed that mostly punch list items remained. He would be focusing on closing out each trade by first completing all punch list items and then reconciling all trade allowances, outstanding invoices and any open PCOs. Once a trade completed all of the required close out items their retainage would be refunded. The close out process would most likely continue until the end of the year. Responding to a question from Mr. Koons, Mr. Graikoski stated that the 28 items that still required commissioning would be completed by the end of September,

Next followed a long discussion concerning the embankment slide including safety issues, the current slide not being what was expected by the Committee and the PTO which had offered to

pay for the slide, the lack of interest by the students since the playground slides were similar and easier to access, the retraction of the funding offer from the PTO, and the likely prohibitive cost of a custom-built slide, if available. After the discussions Mr. Koons recommended that he poll all members of the Committee (three were absent) on three choices; to stay with the slide after making the changes recommended by SLAM, abandon the current slide and explore the possibility of a “mountain slide” or eliminate the slide and regrade the hill.

Mr. Koons next reviewed the proposal to increase the dollar approval levels of the Construction Oversight Subcommittee. After a full discussion and upon motion made by Ms. Boston and seconded by Ms. Lublin the motion to increase the approval levels was unanimously carried.

Dr. Addley stated that the ribbon cutting ceremony was now scheduled for October 7th beginning at 10am.

There was no public comment. There being no further business before the committee, a motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Ms. Boston, seconded by Ms. Lublin and unanimously approved by voice vote.

Respectfully submitted,
Kip Koons – Acting Secretary