Concord School District
Capital Facilities Committee Minutes

School Board Committee: Capital Facilities
Date: November 7, 2012
Committee members present: Clint Cogswell, Chair, Nick Metalious, Bill Glahn, Elizabeth Hoadley
Other Board member/s present: Kass Ardinger, Jennifer Patterson
Administration: Chris Rath, Matt Cashman, Jack Dunn
Others: Joe Spain, Bill Norton, Chris Mulleavey, Trudy Wheeler, Michelle Radie-Coffrin (members of St. John’s Regional School Advisory Board)

Clint Cogswell opened the meeting at 5:30 pm., stating that the agenda was to hear a presentation by representatives of Christ the King Parish for possible acquisition of the Rumford School building. Mr. Cogswell turned the meeting over to Matt Cashman who introduced the representatives from Christ the King Parish (Joe Spain, Bill Norton and Chris Mulleavey) for their presentation.

Christ the King Parish currently has three churches: Sacred Heart, St. Peter’s and St. John’s; and St. John’s Regional School with 129 students in pre-school through 8th grade. Mr. Norton noted that the role of the school in their church community is very important. Their vision is to find a new home for the school. The Rumford School building and its present layout fits their requirements. They believe their use of the building would have the least impact on the neighborhood, with virtually no changes to the outside of the building. Mr. Norton presented a display of the plans if the Parish acquires the Rumford School building. The new plan would include accessibility/ADA compliance, life safety issues, electrical and energy efficiency updates.

Mr. Spain explained that over the past four months the Parish had developed a global perspective of the needs of the Catholic community in Concord. They intend to create “listening groups” of existing neighbors and members of the church and school, both past and present, to hear their wants and needs. They had considered the Walker School building but felt that the Rumford School building was in better shape. The Rumford building will be used as an interim building for church and school activities prior to the school moving there for Fall 2014.

Mr. Cogswell asked if they were aware of the abatement issues and what needs to be done. Mr. Norton said they had a copy of the 2010 report.

Mr. Mulleavey told the Committee they are offering to buy the Rumford School building for $600,000, a strictly cash proposal. The Rumford School building would continue as an educational facility. The target date to purchase the building is January
15, 2013, to allow them to complete their planning designs, and renovations will be
finished for an opening date of September, 2014.

Jennifer Patterson asked if they planned additions to the building. Mr. Mulleavey said
they would add parking and an elevator. The cost of renovations is projected to be
$500,000 to $600,000. They plan to reduce their parish buildings from 12 to 4.

Betty Hoadley asked if school buses in the neighborhood would be an issue. Mr.
Mulleavey noted that buses and vehicles have always run smoothly in the area. They
conducted a survey recently with 72 vehicles entering their current school grounds, 50
of which parked to walk smaller children into the building; 22 went around the loop
and exited; and 30 students were dropped off from Concord school buses.

Concord resident Rob Raynor asked what the City would get out of the deal. He
thought for the building to remain tax exempt is unacceptable, and feels the conditions
of the sale of the Rumford School building should assure the City receives taxes; that
the property is put back on the tax rolls.

Mr. Cogswell told Mr. Raynor that conditions of the sale do not bind the School Board
to a sale that results in the property being put back on the tax rolls, but that the
Committee will consider his concerns.

Superintendent Rath proposed that the proceedings be continued at the public meeting
on November 14th at 6:30 p.m. to hear other residents’ questions and concerns.

The committee adjourned at 6:00 p.m. (motioned by Mr. Cogswell, seconded
by Nick Metalious).

Matt Cashman, Recorder