

**EAST HAVEN PUBLIC SCHOOLS  
BUILDINGS & GROUNDS  
SUBCOMMITTEE MEETING  
MINUTES**

**EAST HAVEN HIGH SCHOOL BOARDROOM  
35 WHEELBARROW LANE  
EAST HAVEN, CONNECTICUT 06513**

**TUESDAY, OCTOBER 28, 2008  
7:45 P.M.**

**PRESENT: Mrs. Vitale, Mr. Finkle, Mr. Hammell, Mr. Hennessey, Mrs. Padua,  
Mrs. Vineyard, Mrs. Geraci-Anastasio, Mr. DeNuzzo and Mr. Inglese**

**ALSO PRESENT: Mr. Serio, Superintendent of Schools; Mr. Meoli, Assistant  
Superintendent of Schools; Mr. Martorella, Administrative Consultant to the  
Superintendent; Mrs. Acquarulo, Director of Pupil Services; Mr. Rizza, Director of  
Finance**

**1. OPEN MEETING**

Mrs. Geraci-Anastasio called the meeting to order at 9:00 p.m.

**2. Review of Situation at Overbrook School**

Mr. Serio stated that he received the final report from Reliance Environmental Company regarding the situation with the floor at Overbrook School. He stated that he received a bill for the service performed at Overbrook even though he did not order it. Mr. Hammell stated that he believed that the bill should be forwarded to Town Hall since they are the ones who ordered the work done.

Mr. Serio stated that Mr. Rizza made him understand that the Town was willing to share the cost of the work with the Board of Education.

Mrs. Geraci-Anastasio stated that the Town should pay the bill because it was they who ordered the work. Mr. Rizza explained that there was money in the Town capital improvement fund that could pay for much of the work. Mr. Rizza understood that the Board of Education would pay one-half of the bill after he had discussion with Mr. Serio.

Mr. Serio stated that the original total bill was \$15,345 with \$8,900 for the abatement portion of the total and \$6,445 for the testing costs. He informed the Board that he negotiated with the companies and the bill was reduced to \$14,207.

Mr. Hammell told Mr. Serio that he should not have negotiated the price but should have sent the bill directly to Town Hall.

Mr. Serio asked Mr. Rizza what would happen if he gave the bill to the Town and questioned where the Board's one-half would come from? Mr. Rizza said that it would most likely come from the Buildings and Grounds account.

Mr. Hammell stated that he was adamantly opposed to having the Board of Education pay for any part of this bill since the work was ordered by the Town. Mrs. Padua agreed with Mr. Hammell and stated that only Board of Education employees can order Board of Education work. Mr. DeNuzzo agreed that the Town should pay these bills. Mr. Finkle offered that the lack of communication between the Town and the Board of Education will cost the taxpayers \$14,000 no matter whether the Town or the Board pays for it. He stated that Joe Travaglino informed him that the proper procedure had taken place in the tiling problem at Overbrook. He also stated that no one from the Town ever asked Mr. Travaglino if he followed procedure because if they did, there would have been no \$14,000 worth of bills.

Mrs. Padua asked Mr. Travaglino if the proper protocol was followed for the tile removal and why signs were not posted at the classroom to inform parents and visitors as to the situation. Mr. DeNuzzo questioned the timeline of the entire problem.

The Board consensus was that the Town should pay for the two services in the amount of approximately \$14,000.

**3. Discussion and Possible Recommendation for Approval to Investigate G.P.S. for all Board of Education Vehicles**

Mr. Serio requested the Board's permission to investigate the cost of installing G.P.S. systems in all Board of Education vehicles so the whereabouts of the vehicles could be tracked at all times. He stated he feels it is necessary for these employees to have vehicles to take home because they are the first to plow and having them leave the trucks garaged on school property at night may have an impact and violate labor laws. The Board consented to have Mr. Serio direct Mr. Travaglino to gather information on the matter.

**4. Any other business that might rightfully come before this subcommittee.**

Mr. Hammell asked Mr. Travaglino to check the lighting at schools where voting was to take place on November 4. Mr. Travaglino expressed concern that there was not enough time between now and then but that he would do his best to improve the lighting in the voting areas.

Mr. Serio informed the Board that Mr. Travaglino has implemented a monthly maintenance report form per his direction and expects that all school principals will cooperate in its completion.

Mr. Hammell stated that sometime ago, the Board approved a part-time clerk for Mr. Travaglino and wanted to know what happened to the position. Mr. Serio stated that he did research into the matter recently and found that a full-time position was posted and that Mr. Travaglino even interviewed a couple of candidates but the position was never filled, most likely because there was no current list from Civil Service. Mr. Travaglino stated that he has done without secretarial help and could continue until money in the budget could be allocated.

Mr. Hammell made the motion to adjourn the subcommittee meeting. Mrs. Vineyard seconded the motion. There were no questions, objections, and abstentions to the motion. Motion carries.

**5. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 9:38 p.m.

**RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED,**

**LISA GERACI-ANASTASIO, CHAIR  
BUILDINGS & GROUNDS SUBCOMMITTEE**