



# Town of Groton - Public Works

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Public Works  
Administration  
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## Meeting Minutes

### Permanent School Building Committee

**Chairman Rick DeMatto, Vice-Chairman W. Gordon Lange, Robert J. Austin-LaFrance, Richard Monteiro, Robert Morrison, David Russell, and John Webster.**

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Thursday, August 24, 2006

7:00 PM

Town Hall Annex - Community Room 1

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#### Special Meeting

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#### 1. ROLL CALL

Members Present: Chairman Rick DeMatto, Robert J. Austin-LaFrance, Gordon Lange, Richard Monteiro, David Russell and John Webster  
Members Absent: Robert Morrison

Staff: Rick Norris, Project Manager - School Construction and Colleen Quattromani, Recorder.

Gilbane Building Company: Peter Manning, Project Executive.

The meeting was called to order at 7:10 PM.

Mr. Russell arrived at 7:15 PM.

#### 2. RECEIPT OF CITIZEN'S PETITIONS, COMMENTS AND CONCERNS

None.

#### 3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

##### (a) August 3, 2006

A motion was made by Mr. Webster and seconded by Mr. LaFrance to approve the meeting minutes of August 3, 2006 as written. The motion passed unanimously with one abstention by Vice-Chairman Lange.

#### 4. COMMUNICATIONS AND REPORTS (other than Subcommittee reports)

##### (a) PSBC Members

Mr. Webster told the group that he watched some of the tree removal for the Catherine Kolnaski sitework and was impressed with the speed and the technology of the work being done by Fleet.

##### (b) Catherine Kolnaski and Northeast Academy Elementary Schools

###### (1) Gilbane Building Company

Peter Manning, Project Executive, Gilbane Building Company updated the PSBC on the progress on the two elementary school building projects. At the Catherine Kolnaski School clearing has been complete. A pre-blasting meeting was held August 23rd and blasting should begin by the end of next week. Chairman DeMatto asked if many area residents had requested foundation inspections before blasting begins. Mr. Norris said no such requests have been received and that a decision needed to be made regarding the pre-blasting inspection range.

At Northeast Academy School the Freeman Hathaway Building has been demolished and the site clearing is almost complete. Chairman DeMatto asked for an update on the water issue and was told that JCJ Architecture is designing a dry hydrant. The dry hydrant design will be reviewed by the Inland Wetland Agency and the Town will need to acquire the permission of abutting property owners to use the pond which will provide the backup water supply for fire protection.

###### (2) JCJ Architecture

No report.

**(3) Board of Education Staff**

*No report.*

**(4) Department of Public Works Staff**

*Mr. Norris told the PSBC about a delay in the project at Northeast Academy due to the discovery of oily water in the crawl space under the Freeman Hathaway Building. The water was pumped out after it was tested by URS and ground water test wells will be used to further test the area. If the tests come back positive the project may need to develop a disposal method for the groundwater excavated during construction. In further updates on Northeast Academy, Mr. Norris said that plans are in for filing and JCJ Architecture's proposal for designing the dry hydrant is being prepared.*

*The easement for the waterline to the Catherine Kolnaski Elementary School has been prepared for the Groton Housing Authority. Also for Kolnaski project, JCJ Architecture is preparing a proposal for a sidewalk that will run west of the driveway entrance towards the Electric Boat property.*

**(c) Fitch High School****(1) Gilbane Building Company**

*Mr. Manning reviewed the results of the first set of bids for the Fitch High School Addition and Renovations project. The first bids representing about 40% of the work for the project have come in 1.1 million dollars under estimate, while pleased with the results Mr. Manning cautioned the PSBC to remember that the bulk of the project is still out to bid. The remainder of the bid packages are due in on August 29th and Gilbane Building Company will have a better idea of the project budget when the Committee next meets on September 7th. The Committee was told that bid coverage for a number of the packages was lower than anticipated. Mr. Manning attributed the low response to the time of year in the contractors' schedules.*

*Work has started at Fitch High School, the temporary parking lot on the Merritt property is paved and the north lot paving begins Monday with the blacktops scheduled for completion before students return. Mr. Manning said that Gilbane is meeting weekly with Mr. Greenleaf, the school principals and the Fire Marshall on construction, scheduling and safety issues. Gilbane has the temporary fuel tank in place and the piping is complete. Abatement work on the boiler room floor begins August 25th and will be completed before the start of classes. Except for the electrical package, scope reviews have been held for the contracts to be awarded. Gilbane wants the security fencing in place before September 7th.*

*Mr. Manning spoke of the support Mr. Greenleaf and his BOE building maintenance staff provided to the School Building Projects this summer and was joined by the PSBC in praising Mr. Greenleaf and his crew.*

**(2) JCJ Architecture**

*No report.*

**(3) Board of Education Staff**

*No report.*

**(4) Department of Public Works Staff**

*Mr. Norris spoke further about the asbestos abatement at Fitch High School telling the Committee that all programs had been moved off campus August 24th and 25th and that the State Health Department had approved work on the site through August 28th in the event the abatement work ran over schedule. He also addressed the receipt of bids on August 29th and asked that Public Works be allowed to award critical bid packages such as sitework, if the bids came in on or under budget. The Committee concurred. He also recommended that a special PSBC meeting be held to discuss bid results if the bids come in over budget.*

**5. UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

*The next meeting of the PSBC will be the regularly scheduled meeting of Thursday, September 7th. The focus for the meeting will be the bid results for the Fitch High School Addition and Renovations project.*

**(a) Safety Briefing**

*The PSBC saw a construction site safety video prepared by Gilbane Building Company and then Mr. Manning distributed each member a hard hat and safety glasses to be used whenever they visit one of the construction projects.*

**6. NEW BUSINESS**

*None.*

**7. OTHER BUSINESS**

*None.*

**8. ADJOURNMENT**

*The meeting was adjourned at 8:10 PM.*