

CITIZENS' INPUT

There was no citizen input.

REPORT OF THE SCHOOL COMMITTEE CHAIR AND INTERIM SUPERINTENDENT

Chair Cummings stated he received a call from Police Lt. Bob Silva who is on the Siting Committee. Lt. Silva advised that one of the properties being looked at and controlled by the School Committee is the four acres across from the high school. If more develops he will be in touch with the school committee.

Interim Superintendent Richards informed the school committee that they will meet the three candidates for the Pupil Personnel Service Director. The public interviews will start at 7:30 p.m. on July 12. The candidates are:

Gail S. Cahill - Assistant Administrator, Special Education Department,
Lowell, Massachusetts

Dr. Glenn Williams - Special Education Administrator, Athol-Royalston Regional
School District

Joseph S. Matta - Assistant Director of Special Education, Waltham, Massachusetts

PERSONNEL

Interim Superintendent Richards presented the personnel report that included the following certified personnel and non-certified:

Lois Harkless, Art teacher at Parker Middle School - retirement effective June 30, 1995

Alice Lovely, Home Economics teacher at Parker/Coolidge - retirement effective June 30, 1995

Lauren Flaherty, Grade 2 teacher at Barrows - One year CRL - effective June 30, 1995

Anne Russell, Nurse at RMHS - resignation effective June 16, 1995

Amy Swenbeck, SPED Tutor at RMHS - resignation effective June 16, 1995

Kirsten Scherer, SPED Assistant at Coolidge - resignation effective June 16, 1995

OLD BUSINESS

BOSTON GAS LINE INSTALLATION

Mr. Richards introduced Boston Gas personnel Bob Cavicchi, Joseph MacMunn and Christine Keigher.

Christine Keigher reported that they met with Mr. Richards and Mr. Lombardo to try to give the school committee true operating costs. They offered installation of gas mains and services to the RMHS, Coolidge and Birch Meadow Schools at no cost to the School District. In exchange for this, we will require a commitment from Reading Public Schools to convert all boilers in the referenced buildings to natural gas by the end of year 2001.

Mr. MacMunn explained the charts that were actuals from Mr. Lombardo. Once volumes are increased (years 2-7) Boston Gas would then transfer over to a transportation rate or the school committee could choose to stay with Boston Gas. He outlined the benefits noting that students would not be sent home because of a breakdown in a school's boiler and the underground storage tanks.

Ms. Keigher stated Boston Gas uses the current rates of gas and gasoline prices. She added negotiations could be made every year to choose the people who would be the schools' gas broker and transporter.

Discussion followed with school committee asking the Boston Gas marketing people to come back and confirm their figures and costs to Mr. Richards.

Town Manager questioned since most of the Town buildings are on gas then is the cost based on customer or site? Ms. Keigher said they are presently based on contiguous site but could come in the future as a customer.

Mr. Spadafora asked if this information was in the Capital Plan. Mr. Hechenbleikner explained that the Capital Plan shows every two years two burners are replaced. By the year 2000 they show 8 boilers/burners replaced with an additional 2 boilers/burners to be replaced by the year 2002. He stated because the underground tanks are older and need to be removed the costs need to be considered. Mr. Hechenbleikner spoke about a State Grant the Town has applied for that would allow 50% reimbursement if you remove a tank and convert to another fuel. Only one grant per year is allowed.

Chair Cummings asked Boston Gas to confirm and offer an explanation of figures and to find out about extending the program out one year.

Mr. Cavicchi stated we are running out of time for this year if we go past the month of August to lay the installation of the gas line. He added they would be looking for a reply within the next 30 days. The Boston Gas Company representatives left the meeting.

Ms. Cavicchi arrived.