

Town of East Lyme
School Building Committee
Meeting Minutes
January 8, 2026 at 5:00 p.m.
Zoom Meeting: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89596197159>

Committee members present: Tom Como; Chair, Gene Carini, Bill Derry, Dean Fiscus, and Jerry Fortier

Committee members absent: Alisa Bradley

Non-committee members present: Dr. Christian Lund, Diane Nazarko

1. Opening of Meeting

A. Call to Order

A quorum was established and the meeting was called to order at 5:01 p.m.

2. Discussion/Action Items

A. Discussion/Action: Minutes Approval - December 2, 2025 Meeting

Motion to approve the minutes of the December 2, 2025, School Building Committee Meeting, as presented.

Motion by Jerry Fortier, second by Gene Carini

Motion approved unanimously.

B. Discussion: Update on progress of design for Niantic Center School Roof and Aquatics Center Roof

Diane Nazarko provided an update to the committee on the progress of the Aquatics Center Roof project. The specifications and drawings are being finalized, and the terms and conditions for the bid will be reviewed by legal counsel before it is released to the public with a target date of January 31st; the project is slated to begin this summer. It will take approximately a 6-week period to complete the project. Niantic Center Roof will be released for bidding in February.

Discussion amongst attendees also included scheduling accommodations for the school swim teams and communications to the public about the upcoming project.

C. Discussion/Action: Lillie B. Haynes Roof Replacement Contract

Dr. Lund provided an update on the Lillie B. Haynes Roof Replacement contract. Dr. Lund shared that when the bid was originally advertised on or about October 22, 2025, there were concerns from a bidder (The Imperial Company, Restoration Contractor, Inc. ("Imperial")) about the specifications in the project bid documents being "sole source." Thereafter, district added an addendum to the bid documents to change the specifications and allow bids based on specified performance requirements. Seven bids were received in total. Thereafter, based on complaints regarding the addendum process and the bid submission schedule, Imperial filed for and obtained an order for a temporary injunction from the Superior Court of the State of Connecticut on December 10, 2025, enjoining and restraining the Town of East Lyme from awarding or

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entering into a contract in connection with the Invitation to Bid for the project, and enjoining and restraining the Town of East Lyme from executing a contract concerning the project with any prospective bidder. Shipman & Goodwin LLP has been engaged to represent the Town of East Lyme in the lawsuit by Imperial in which the temporary injunction was entered, and a hearing on whether a permanent injunction will enter is scheduled for January 26, 2026.

In attempt to avoid potential further delay to proceeding with bidding and construction for the project, and to resolve the Imperial lawsuit including dissolution of the temporary injunction, the Town of East Lyme and the school building committee have the option to reject all the bids received in response to the October 22, 2025 Invitation to Bid and initiate a re-solicitation of bids for this project with a new bid process schedule and other appropriate changes to the bidding documents and addendum that were part of the October 22, 2025 Invitation to Bid.

Discussion ensued amongst the committee including the project completion timing, supply and availability of materials, the length of time for the next bidding process and award considering required compliance with legal requirements and state DAS grant-related requirements. A concern was raised about the multiple roof projects being planned for this year. It was reiterated that all the roof replacements are individual to the needs of the buildings and are stand-alone projects, based on reimbursement guidelines for school construction from the Department of Administrative Services.

Dr. Lund also stated the rejection of bids received in response to the October 22, 2025 Invitation to Bid result in the temporary injunction being lifted. Dr. Lund believes that the project will be completed this summer despite the administrative delays.

Motion to reject all submitted bids for the Lillie B. Haynes School roof project received in response to the October 22, 2025 Invitation to Bid and bidding documents, and to resend out to bid with revised timelines.

Motion by Jerry Fortier, second by Gene Carini

Motion passed unanimously

3. Adjournment

A. Adjourn Meeting

Motion to adjourn the meeting.

Motion by Gene Carini, second by Bill Derry

Motion passed unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 5:20 p.m.