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Cc: [Tim Carroll](#); [Mark Friedman](#); [Susan Stevens](#); [Robert Lionette](#); [Amanda Sawyer](#)
Subject: Chilmark School HVAC Status
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The school HVAC project continues to be problematic.

As you recall, we put out to bid a reduced-scope project that could be accomplished this summer and provide additional comfort for school occupants and significant energy savings, with the remainder of the overall project to be bid and accomplished in summer 2022.

As with the original full-project effort, we only received a single response (Apex Corp). This was for \$387K - over twice what we estimated with the help of our OPM. Subsequently, our OPM determined that the bid included at least one significant element that was not in the scope of our RFQ.

Members of the working group met and concluded:

- At this point, the target for the project must be delayed by a year (summer of 2022) for the entire project
- The market for HVAC contracting is overheated and may, in fact, be closer to “normal” in 2022
- We should hire a consultant to inspect the current system, just to be sure that there are no obvious reasons why the system will not sustain the school during the next year

Given our experience, as well as information that several other projects have been affected by significant contractor price increases, we need to revisit our financing plan. While we have funds available from both existing warrant articles and the Green Communities grant, we will need significant additional funding. The working group discussed the two obvious options: go to the taxpayers with an additional warrant article, or borrow the funds required.

At the July 5 select board meeting, we should discuss the project and the path forward, and the group would like to get the board’s guidance. The school district has been updated by Mark Friedman.

Regards,

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