

BOARD MEETING MINUTES

PRESENT: Board Members Robert Weir, Amy Snow, Monique Alexander, Timothy Fleury, James Noyes (by phone); Superintendent Pierre Couture; Business Manager Kristin Franklin; Principal Shelli Roberts

CALL TO ORDER: Board Chair Robert Weir called the meeting to order at 5:30 PM.

PUBLIC INPUT

Ruth Heintz passed out a letter to the board regarding the combining of 5th and 6th grades. She left after distributing the letter. The letter was read and discussion ensued. Principal Roberts fielded questions from the board related to the decision and parent questions/concerns since the decision was made.

I. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF THE JUNE 12, 2018 MEETING

There are no questions regarding the minutes.

MOTION BY MONIQUE ALEXANDER, SECONDED BY TIMOTHY FLEURY, TO APPROVE MEETING MINUTES FROM JUNE 12, 2018. ALL IN FAVOR, MOTION CARRIES

II. FINANCIAL

Business Manager Kristin Franklin reviewed the financials and related data.

a. Financial Report: Budget estimate – we have a larger surplus (\$70,000) than expected

b. Employer Retirement Obligations Actuary Study: Clean audit study will cost \$600. Some towns and schools choose not to pay. The only downside could be public opinion, but it's unlikely the information would be read by the public. The study is good for two years. We don't have many teachers retiring. Agreed we should not go forward with the study.

c. Audit Engagement Letter: James spoke with the auditor. Business Manager Franklin said they will make a list of concerns for us to address.

MOTION TO ENTER INTO THE AGREEMENT WITH THE AUDITORS AND HAVE BOARD CHAIR ROBERT WEIR SIGN THE AGREEMENT. AMY SNOW, SECONDED BY JAMES NOYES. ALL IN FAVOR, MOTION CARRIES

d. Re-affirm Oil Bid: Stiles Fuel, the contract has been signed for oil at a price of \$2.56/gallon for 1400 gallons

MOTION TO REAFFIRM THE DECISION TO ACCEPT STILES FUEL BID OF \$2.56/GALLON FOR 1400 GALLONS THAT WAS MADE VIA EMAIL. AMY SNOW, SECONDED BY TIMOTHY FLEURY. ALL IN FAVOR, MOTION CARRIES

e. Re-affirm Paving Bid: Scope of the job changed (the change was to be completed before school started) so was put out to bid again. The bid by Central Asphalt was \$20,400.

MOTION TO REAFFIRM THE PAVING BID OF \$20,400, BY CENTRAL ASPHALT, WHICH WAS DECIDED VIA EMAIL. TIMOTHY FLEURY, SECONDED BY MONIQUE ALEXANDER. ALL IN FAVOR, MOTION CARRIES

f. Accept Playground Donations: over \$50,000 ("unanticipated revenue"). The board should vote to accept the donations on a regular basis. The current playground donations are \$60,235.

MOTION TO ACCEPT THE PLAYGROUND DONATIONS OF \$60,235 IN THE AGGREGATE, NO SINGLE DONATION OF \$5,000 OR MORE. MONIQUE ALEXANDER, SECONDED BY TIMOTHY FLEURY. ALL IN FAVOR, MOTION CARRIES

g. General Information: Streamlining SAU positions. Karen Watson has been promoted to Gabbie's human resources assistant. Ann's job will change slightly. General bookkeeper

position open. Payroll position open, 4-days a week, 6-hours a day.

MOTION FOR BOARD CHAIR ROBERT WEIR TO SIGN THE CONTRACT FOR VISION SERVICES BY "VISION IN SIGHT". TIMOTHY FLEURY, SECONDED BY AMY SNOW. ALL IN FAVOR, MOTION CARRIES

III. PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

Principal Roberts reviewed her Principal's Report and related data.

a. Principal's Written Report:

Waiting for the windows to arrive (the wrong windows were ordered). We are waiting for the window tinting to make sure we have enough money Business Manager Franklin: constrained by the budget the voters passed. \$25,000 in capital reserve can be used.

Need approval for the new policies in the handbook.

Monique: asked about student numbers, 18 preschoolers, 8 of which are full day. Principal Roberts made copies of the latest student enrollment. Monique: First grade: is 19 normal? Is there a cap per class? Principal Roberts: it depends on the class; we may look to split when the numbers hit about 20. Monique: the mailed packet explaining testing was very helpful from a parent perspective.

b. Staffing Changes: Could not find a guidance counselor after a fairly thorough search so Sue Greenlaw is moving into the guidance counselor position and Carol Haywood has been rehired to help with RTI/reading.

MOTION TO APPROVE HIRING CAROL HAYWOOD PART-TIME FOR THE RTI POSITION. AMY SNOW, SECONDED BY MONIQUE ALEXANDER. ALL IN FAVOR, MOTION CARRIES

c. Other: none

IV. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Superintendent Couture reviewed the following and related data:

a. 2018-2019 Board Calendar: distributed by Superintendent Couture

b. Retirement Request: see non-public session below

c. Regional Education Funding Forum September 6, 2018: Schools and towns are worse off than before Claremont. Many small towns are struggling and Bethlehem may not be far behind. Superintendent Couture will be attending the meeting on September 6th. If anyone speaks to current political candidates, ask what they will do about helping towns with adequacy aid. Suing the state doesn't work. Real estate valuation determines adequacy aid. Harder to raise taxes when real estate valuations are low.

d. General Information:

MOTION TO APPROVE PARENT/STUDENT, STAFF AND PARAPROFESSIONAL HANDBOOKS WITH MINOR CHANGES. MONIQUE ALEXANDER, SECONDED BY AMY SNOW. ALL IN FAVOR, MOTION CARRIES

V. BOARD OF EDUCATION REPORTS

a. Nothing discussed.

VI. POLICY COMMITTEE

a. Policies for First Reading

i. JRA – Student Records

b. Policies for Second Readings

i. EHB – Data-Records Retention

ii. ILD – Non-Academic Surveys

iii. IMGGA – Service Animals

iv. JICD – Student Discipline

MOTION TO APPROVE FIRST READING OF JRA AND SECOND READINGS OF EHB, ILD, IMGA AND JICD. AMY SNOW, SECONDED BY TIMOTHY FLEURY. ALL IN FAVOR, MOTION CARRIES

VII. NON-PUBLIC SESSIONS AS PER RSA 91A:3 I, II (if needed)

MOTION BY TIMOTHY FLEURY, SECONDED BY MONIQUE ALEXANDER TO GO INTO NON-PUBLIC SESSION. ALL IN FAVOR, MOTION CARRIES

- a. Roll call ensued.
- b. Discussed retirement buyout. August 1st received a letter rescinding resignation of Sara Cascadden. Superintendent Couture - She has not started receiving payments yet so recommend granting her request.

MOTION TO APPROVE RESCINDING THE RESIGNATION LETTER OF SARA CASCADDEN. MONIQUE ALEXANDER, SECONDED BY AMY SNOW. ALL IN FAVOR, MOTION CARRIES

- c. Roll call ensued.

MOTION BY AMY SNOW, SECONDED BY MONIQUE ALEXANDER TO GO BACK INTO PUBLIC SESSION. ALL IN FAVOR, MOTION CARRIES

VIII. OTHER BUSINESS

- a. No other business discussed

IX. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION BY MONIQUE ALEXANDER, SECONDED TIMOTHY FLEURY TO ADJOURN AT 6:30PM. ALL IN FAVOR, MOTION CARRIES

The next Board Meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, September 11th at 5:30 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Michele Giarrocco
Board Clerk