

NEW BOSTON SCHOOL DISTRICT
New Boston, New Hampshire 03070

NEW BOSTON SCHOOL DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD MEETING
Friday, February 10, 2017 - 8:16 PM

New Boston Central School Library
15 Central School Road, New Boston, NH 03070

PRESENT

SCHOOL BOARD

Wendy Lambert
Kary Jencks
Glen Dickey
Fred Hayes

ADMINISTRATORS

Brian Balke, Superintendent
MaryClaire Barry, Assistant Superintendent
Ray Labore, Business Administrator
Tori Underwood, Principal
Tim Stokes, Assistant Principal

OPENING

CALL TO ORDER

Wendy Lambert called the meeting to order at 8:16 PM with the Pledge of Allegiance.

APPROVAL OF JANUARY 25, 2017 SCHOOL BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Glen Dickey moved to approve the January 25, 2017 School Board meeting minutes as written. Kary Jencks seconded the motion. The Board then reviewed the January 25, 2017 School Board meeting minutes and made the following changes:

Page 2, under New Boston Policy Review Committee, BBBD, change “indicated” to “indicate”

Page 3, under Space Needs Committee Discussion header, change “Discussion” to “Discussion”

Page 3, under Space Needs Committee Discussion, last line, add “approximately” before “fifteen”

Page 4, under Manifest and Vouchers, first paragraph, remove the last sentence.

Page 4, under Staffing, change “Stephanie Evans” to “Stefanie Nevins” in two places.

Glen Dickey moved to approve the January 25, 2017 School Board meeting minutes as amended. Kary Jencks seconded the motion. The motion carried (4-0 Bill Schmidt absent)

CORRESPONDENCE

None.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Keith Ammon of Byam Road was present and thanked the Board for their time they spend on the Board, two meetings per month plus extra things they work on. He noted there is currently tension in town over property taxes, a struggle for both sides. He hopes an agreement is reached. He noted with the default budget voters are not really given a choice, the School District default budget is \$43,000 lower than the proposed Operating Budget this year. His last year as a School Board member the Board talked about voting as a Board on what is considered a one-time expenditure and decide not to include them in the next year’s budget. He asked if the current Board reviewed the default calculation to make sure one-time expenditures were not included.

Wendy replied the Board reviews one-time expenditures on an ongoing basis, keeping and reviewing a list monthly.

Glen noted he feels the default calculation should never be higher than the Operating Budget.

Fred noted that occasionally the default calculation is higher than the Operating Budget due to the many contracted items the District has to pay for.

Keith asked Brian to bring the one-time expenditures/default calculation procedure to the Goffstown School Board.

Brian noted the Goffstown School Board does review one-time expenditures when calculating the default budget amount. He noted the New Boston Board understands New Boston taxpayers pay high taxes; they are taxpayers as well and want to be part of the solution. An issue is 20% of New Boston's population is school-aged children compared to 13% of Goffstown's population. Brian asked Keith and Glen as State Representatives to bring back Adequacy Aid from the state.

Keith noted he feels the town should be self-sustaining but currently relies on Goffstown for education.

Brian noted Goffstown and New Boston have one of the lowest per pupil costs in the state.

Kary noted the Selectmen are contacting the state representatives about an issue the legislature is deciding regarding PUC that could have a major impact on taxpayers.

Keith noted at the April 20, 2016 All Boards Meeting Glen made a motion that was not seconded to consider zoning more New Boston property as commercial and he said the New Boston Tracking Station area zone could be commercial and this may be something to consider.

Glen noted people are moving to New Boston as an alternative to Bedford or Amherst. Impact fees and commercial property are options. New Boston has to be made attractive to commercial prospects. He noted Adequacy Aid is unlikely to change at the state house.

Kaleb Jacob of Fraser Drive noted he discussed impact fees with a Planning Board member and learned that use of the fees is limited, such as if they are paid by a developer on Bedford Road, the money would have to be used on Bedford Road. He spoke to Representative Gerry Griffin who said the New Boston Tracking Station is 600 acres in New Boston that could end up a development if the Air Force facility is no longer needed. New Boston could zone that commercial and could also put businesses on Route 114. He noted he is a business owner and would not bring a business to New Boston because the taxes are too high and this is something other business owners may consider, preventing businesses from coming to New Boston, along with the sewer and water restrictions in New Boston due to the proximity of the river.

BUSINESS OPERATIONS/FINANCIALS

MANIFEST AND VOUCHERS

The Board conditionally approved the January 25, 2017 manifest at the last meeting. Glen noted he has not yet reviewed it and it is not ready for final approval.

Ray reviewed the February 7, 2017 Manifest Summary sheet noting Payroll related items included one payroll and totaled \$178,175.44 (65%). Special Education activity totaled \$4,817.06 (2%). General Expenses totaled \$87,771.14 (32%). ***Glen Dickey moved to conditionally approve the February 7, 2017 manifest in the amount of \$275,848.37. Fred Hayes seconded the motion. The motion carried. (4-0)***

REPORTS

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

Tori Underwood reported the following:

- Grace Lin, author of Where The Mountain Meets The Moon is visiting NBCS. She gave an excellent presentation. Students and staff were very excited.
- NEAP testing was rescheduled to February 20 due to the snowday.
- The Primex playground audit was postponed due to snow cover.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Brian Balke gave the Superintendent's report:

- The SAU has begun the process of reviewing logistics of extending the school day. There have been four snow days already and Monday may also be called. Thirty minutes were added to each school day last time this took place. It was very well received at NBCS. Assistant Superintendent MaryClaire Barry is creating a comprehensive plan of how the time would be used at each school. Human Resources Director Kate Magrath is working with the unions, as they are involved in this decision, as an agreement is needed.
- Ryan Mackey has not responded to the school regarding his Eagle Scout project.
- Brian reviewed Governor Sununu's recent speech regarding budget priorities that included possible money available for full day kindergarten, possible money available for targeted building aid, money for charter schools, and significant commitment for families with disabled children on a waitlist.
- The NBCS roof was leaking. A roofer came in and said there are issues over the gym due to seams and joints. Facilities Director Randy Loring will meet with the roofer and more information will be brought to the Board at their next meeting. The roofer the District is working with is Northpoint Roofing. NBCS has used this roofer for years and Goffstown School District also uses Northpoint. The roof project may need to be done this year to avoid a catastrophic roof failure in the gym. The Board also considered the gym is the town emergency shelter and a catastrophic failure could result in additional costs including a gym floor at \$150,000 and an increase in property insurance premiums for five years.

GOFFSTOWN SCHOOL BOARD SUB-COMMITTEE REPORTS

C&E COMMITTEE REPORT (NEXT MEETING 2-13-17 @ 7:00 PM @ SAU)

POLICY REVIEW COMMITTEE REPORT (2-13-17 @ 6:00 PM @ SAU)

AREA AGREEMENT COMMITTEE

Wendy reported she and Glen attended the AREA Agreement Committee meeting January 13 that went very well. The Committee discussed tuitioning students from Hooksett. Under the Agreement, a comprehensive appraisal of the middle and high schools is needed. Ray has tried to get one from NH per the agreement but cannot find one. The Agreement may need to be amended to strike the language "from NH" to allow a company from MA to do it. This will be discussed at the next SAU Board meeting along with tuitioning Hooksett students.

NEW BOSTON POLICY REVIEW COMMITTEE REPORT (NEXT MEETING 2-22-17 @ 5:30 PM @ NBCS LIBRARY)

Wendy will take over these duties for Glen.

BCA-R – School Board Member Ethics (return to PRC 1/11/17): Fred reported this Policy is not ready for review, as the committee has not met.

OLD BUSINESS

DELIBERATIVE SESSION DEBRIEFING

The Deliberative Session was held tonight. The Board is pleased to learn the Finance Committee vote can be added to the Warrant. The Board congratulated Tori on a great Powerpoint Budget Presentation. Glen noted the School District is doing a great job controlling costs. The Board decided if Article 3 does not pass, there would be \$235,000 in the Building and Renovation CRF. That will be used for the roof and any leftover will be saved for emergencies and not used for projects. Fred noted repairs were not done at NBCS for ten years but the town benefitted from that as more money was returned to the town for tax relief. The town did not benefit because projects will now cost more for reclamation because the building was not maintained. The Board noted it would cost \$50-60,000 for pavement at just one end of the building and \$250,000 for pavement at the other end.

NEW BUSINESS

UPDATED BOARD GOALS

Deferred to the next meeting.

STAFFING

Notifications:

OTHER BUSINESS THAT MAY LEGALLY COME BEFORE THE MEETING

- The Board would like to present certificates to the NBCS Spelling and Geography Bee winners at the February 22 meeting.
- The Board requested the SAU send a letter to the Planning Board Chair regarding impact fees. Before sending the letter, Brian reached out to the NHSBA for legal information. He will bring the information received to the Board at their next meeting. Impact fees can only be used for items directly attributable to growth, the school, recreation, police and fire departments can collect impact fees. There is a limit and a duration of time the money can be in the bank, if it is not spent in a certain amount of time it goes back to the developer/person who paid the fees. The town already has many approved building lots, which are ineligible from charging impact fees, but there are more lots that can be developed in the future. If there is a need for future growth related expenditures this is an avenue the District can consider.
- The SAU learned the Finance Committee votes could be added back into the Warrant.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

NON-PUBLIC SESSION RSA 91-A: 311(c)

Wendy Lambert made a motion to go into nonpublic session at 9:00pm under RSA 91-A:3II(c) Matters which if discussed in public, would likely affect adversely the reputation of any person, other than a member of the public body itself, unless such person requests an open meeting. This exemption shall extend to any application for assistance or tax abatement or waiver of a fee, fine, or other levy, if based on inability to pay or poverty of the applicant. Glen Dickey seconded the motion. The Chair took an individual voice poll from all board members present. Vote: 4-0-0 – All in Favor – Motion Passes.

Wendy Lambert moved to come out of non-public session at 9:15pm, seconded by Fred Hayes. The Chair took an individual voice poll from all board members present. Vote: 4-0-0 – All in Favor – Motion Passes.

Glen Dickey moved to seal the non-public minutes for 10 years, seconded by Fred Hayes. Vote: 4-0-0 – All in Favor – Motion passes.

ADJOURNMENT

Glen Dickey moved to adjourn the public meeting at 9:18pm. Fred Hayes seconded the motion. The motion carried (4-0). Meeting Adjourned.

All back-up material to this meeting is held in the Principal's Office.

Respectfully submitted,
Maralyn Segien