

REGULAR SESSION MINUTES

December 14, 2016

A meeting of the Swampscott School Committee was held in room B129 at Swampscott High School commencing at 7:00 p.m. with the following members present: Ms. Carin Marshall, Chairman, Ms. Amy OConnor, Mr. Ted Delano, Ms. Suzanne Wright and Ms. Gargi Cooper. Also Present: Ms. Pamela Angelakis, Superintendent of Schools and Mr. Evan Katz, School Business Administrator, Anne Marie Condike, Director of Curriculum and Student Representative Gabby LaRiviere. Tenley Seidel was absent.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There was none.

COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

Gabby LaRiviere said that winter sports are underway and that the National Honor Society was holding a diaper drive and that TLC was underway with their toy drive.

Mr. Delano commented as well on TLC and stated that Cathy Kalpin and Abby Rogers were doing a wonderful job coordinating the drive.

Ms. Cooper commented on the Middle School conferences and that she was hoping the additional day provided enough times for parents to sign up. She further commented on the basketball program and was happy to see some of the 8th graders being able to play on the JV team and hoped that would keep kids interested.

CONSENT AGENDA

Ms. Marshall read the items contained in the Consent Agenda.

MOTION:

It was moved by Ms. Wright and seconded by Ms. OConnor to approve the Consent Agenda.

Ms. Cooper questioned what the donation would be used for. Ms. Marshall stated it was specifically for the cable club and that it was given by Walker Christie a former student.

VOTE ON MOTION:

The motion passed unanimously.

CHAIR REPORT:

Ms. Marshall gave a report on the Tri-Chair meeting which occurred last week. She stated the Town Administrator search was down to three candidates and public interviews would be held on December 21st. Ms. Angelakis stated she would be taking part in one-on-one interviews this week. Ms. OConnor stated she would love to hear Ms. Angelakis' feedback of the candidates.

Ms. Marshall said she provided an update on the review of the Nahant tuition agreement. She added she would have more information in the future.

Ms. Marshall stated there was an update to the Hadley boiler project and asked Mr. Katz for further information. Mr. Katz stated the bids which were received were higher than projected, the lowest being approximately \$55,000 over the money received two years prior at Town Meeting. He stated that he met with Mr. Scola as well as with the architect to discuss further steps. There was discussion on putting the job out to bid again or going forward with the lowest bidder and requesting additional funding. They felt given the state of the current boilers it would be better to move forward with the project and request additional funding to stay on schedule with the project. There was discussion on the quality of the boilers in terms of life expectancy and Mr. Katz stated due the age of the building they were able to request a lower grade than would be used in a new building. Ms. Cooper questioned the number of boilers as there are 14 currently at Hadley. Mr. Katz stated there would be fewer as the new boilers were commercial grade replacing the current residential boilers. Mr. Delano questioned whether there was a safety plan in place should the current boilers stop working. Mr. Katz stated Mr. Scola did have an emergency plan in place

for temporary heat should it be necessary. There was discussion on when the work would be done and accommodations made for the students.

Ms. Marshall further updated on consolidating things between school and town for functions beyond facilities. She reminded the Committee of the DOR report which offered some guidance on the issue. She stated meetings were underway and she would report as future meetings were held.

Ms. Marshall gave a brief update on labor negotiations and stated they were hopeful that the mediation scheduled for January would get them to a resolution.

SCHOOL BUSINESS ADMINISTRATOR:

FY17 & FY18 Budget Updates

Mr. Katz gave an update to the FY17 budget and explained that Finance Committee would release \$275,000 which was held in reserve towards the SPED underfunding. He further reviewed transportation and other miscellaneous categories which remained underfunded. Ms. OConnor questioned the miscellaneous category and Mr. Katz stated it would include unforeseen items such as the recent work in the language lab at the High School. There was discussion around the deficiencies affecting next year's budget. Mr. Delano questioned the category of bank fees and whether it was something that could be combined with the town side. Mr. Katz explained they were related to online payments which was the same system as the Town therefore this was the District's portion. Ms. Wright discussed the possibility of building the fee into the charge. Mr. Katz also brought up the fact that the on-line system allows for immediate collection of payment and does not utilize staff for that job. Ms. Cooper questioned reimbursement for medical therapy services and whether claims were submitted to private insurance. There was discussion regarding that and looking into that.

Mr. Katz also reviewed the FY18 budget and explained that with an additional \$750,000 expected from the town side there was still a projected shortfall of \$1.6 million. Mr. Katz reviewed some ways to close the gap with fees, retirements and not filling vacancies. He added the second part would be additional funding from the Town with the third and last resort being staff reductions. There was discussion regarding the \$275,000 being released this year and how that would not be a part of the base for next year. Mr. Katz further referred to the work the Committee has done during contract settlements and reminded that the teacher's contract was still being negotiated. Ms. OConnor questioned the status of fees and if there had been an update from Mrs. Farley. Ms. Angelakis stated she would get an update at the next Leadership meeting. Mr. Delano requested some historical information regarding the town's contribution from FY10 forward. Mr. Katz stated he could forward that information. Mr. Katz gave an overview of the next steps of discussion for the FY18 budget which he felt would begin at the January 11th meeting. Ms. OConnor stated she felt it was important to get the information out to the public regarding the state of the District budget.

FY17 Budget Transfers – vote requested

Mr. Katz referred to a page within the packets which outlines the purposes and reasons for transfer. He explained the transfers help to track monies between line items but does not affect the bottom line budget number previously voted on. Ms. Marshall added it was a housekeeping matter.

Mr. Delano questioned an item unrelated to transfers and wondered if unemployment insurance could be merged with the town. Mr. Katz felt it was similar to the bank fees in which the District gets its share of the bill.

MOTION:

It was moved by Ms. OConnor, seconded by Ms. Cooper to approve the budget transfers as listed in the document entitled "FY17 SPS Budget Summary dated December 9, 2016 with a town appropriation of \$27,247,500, revolving funds of \$321,725, and grants \$2,184,785 for a total of \$29,754,010." The motion passed unanimously.

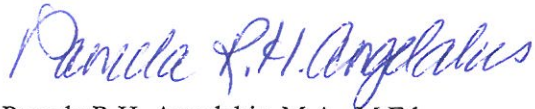
Ms. Marshall announced that the next meeting would be held on January 11, 2017.

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION:

At 8:15 p.m. it was moved by Ms. OConnor, seconded by Mr. Delano and voted by roll call vote to enter Executive Session to conduct strategy sessions in preparation for negotiations with non-union personnel or to conduct collective bargaining sessions or contract negotiations with non-union personnel, and to discuss strategy with respect to collective bargaining or litigation if an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the bargaining or litigating position of the public body and the chair so declares. Ms. Marshall –yes; Mr. Delano – yes; Ms. Wright – yes; Ms. OConnor – yes; Ms. Cooper – yes.

Respectfully submitted,















Pamela R.H. Angelakis, M.A., M.Ed.
Superintendent of Schools
/pan

1/12/17

Date:

Supporting Documents:

-  16-Nov-2016 SC Meeting Minutes.pdf
-  30-Nov-2016 Executive Session Meeting Minutes.pdf
-  Agenda 14-Dec-2016 School Committee Meeting.pdf
-  Approved 16-Nov-2016 SC Meeting Minutes.pdf
-  Approved 30-Nov-2016 Executive Session Meeting Minutes.pdf
-  Approved Donation-500-Cable Club-Weatherspoon Charitable Foundation.pdf
-  Budget - SC Dec. XferDoc .pdf
-  Contract Settlements FY10-18.pdf
-  Donation-500-Cable Club-Weatherspoon Charitable Foundation.pdf
-  FY17 & FY18 Budget Update - Dec.14 .pdf
-  FY17 Budget Xfers - Dec. 14 .pdf
-  FY18 Proj. Salaries.pdf