

**WINCHESTER SCHOOL BOARD MEETING
WINCHESTER SCHOOL LIBRARY
FEBRUARY 2, 2012**

Board Members Present: J. Gile, K. Whippie, C. Duquette, W. Hildreth, T. Croteau
Administration Present: K. Dassau, P. Bigelow, C. Paulin, J. Lewis

The meeting was called to order by Chair, C. Duquette at 7:13 pm.

MINUTES:

K. Whippie MOVED to approve the public minutes of the January 19, 2012 Board meeting; SECONDED by: W. Hildreth, amending the vote on the Minutes to 4-0, VOTED: 5-0, MOTION PASSED.

2012-2013 Warrant Articles:

K. Dassau reviewed the Board's Warrant Articles; will discuss legal arguments later in the meeting. This will be the Warrant as printed and posted for the Deliberative Session on 2/9/12.

Assignment of Articles:

- One – K. Whippie
- Two – W. Hildreth
- Three – T. Croteau will move the Article
- Four – T. Croteau
- Five – T. Croteau
- Six – C. Duquette
- Seven- C. Duquette will move the Article
- Eight – C. Duquette will move the Article

Someone from the public can move the Petitioned Warrant Articles if they choose.

K. Dassau advised no recommendation from the Budget Committee is needed as they did not complete the budget process correctly and therefore it is the Board's budget.

T. Croteau asked about the process of showing the vote for each Warrant Article. The Board discussed the procedure.

C. Duquette advised they could ask Attorney Upton for an opinion.

The Board will meet directly after the Deliberative Session to vote on Warrant Articles. Marie will post the meeting

FINANCIAL:

C. Paulin advised things are going along as planned.

There were two Manifests for Board approval; one from this week and one from last week.

W. Hildreth MOVED to approve the Manifest in the amount of \$340,376.56, SECONDED by: J. Gile, VOTED: 5-0, MOTION PASSED.

W. Hildreth MOVED to approve the Manifest in the amount of \$444,444.30; SECONDED by: J. Gile, VOTED: 5-0, MOTION PASSED.

C. Paulin advised as noted at the last meeting, the dishwasher needs to be replaced. They will be going out for bids. He will put it as an action item in the financial report and will bring a contract to the Board for approval.

D. Chamberlain advised they will bring the top three bids to the Board.

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT:

The Board received J. Lewis' report in their packets.

*Need to meet with kids and parents regarding NECAP scores; we need to be number one.

C. Duquette advised they could invite the Spelling and Geography Bee winners to a Board meeting and present them with certificates.

K. Whippie advised the contests were very impressive; some Second and Third graders stayed in up to seven rounds.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT:

The Board received K. Dassau's report.

K. Dassau advised he sent a letter to B. Moser on January 25th. He called C. Duquette to advise the Default Budget would also be under the 10% rule. K. Dassau received a Right to Know request from B. Moser wanting minutes of the meeting showing the Motion to allow K. Dassau to file an injunction against the Budget Committee.

After discussion, **K. Whippie MOVED to acknowledge the letter of January 25, 2012 and confirm the Board's support of said letter; SECONDED by: W. Hildreth, VOTED: 5-0, MOTION PASSED.**

K. Dassau feels in his role he did get the green light from the Chair. Can't always wait to hear; need to keep the Board posted.

C. Duquette advised if anything was filed or was going to be filed, she would have called a meeting.

K. Dassau reviewed interpretation from the Attorney with the Board. Advised it has been posted on the website.

C. Duquette - there is nothing to file in Court. The Board's budget is being presented at the Deliberative Session. No action is needed now.

K. Dassau explained he sent a letter to B. Moser on 1/27/12 asking for dates/minutes approving authorities, statutes, etc. as well as a copy of the applicable minutes. He reviewed the response with the Board.

K. Dassau was advised that B. Moser was also sent a letter from the Town Administrator giving the Budget Committee five business days to respond or to respond as to why the information is not available.

K. Dassau would like to work with the Town Administrator for follow-up information. He would prefer not to have to retain Attorney Upton.

K. Whippie MOVED to authorize K. Dassau, short of legal counsel, to pursue Right to Know information; SECONDED by: W. Hildreth, after discussion, VOTED: 5-0, MOTION PASSED.

T. Croteau asked if the Town's website links to the schools.

C. Paulin will check on that.

Jeremy Miller advised the Summit had over 50 people in attendance. It went well. He thanked Administration for participating and D. Chamberlain for all his help.

K. Whippie attended; thanked J. Miller for his work.

Alex advised there is a College Awareness Day coming up on February 10th, incorporating college awareness and activities here. Solicited different display material; 20 students volunteered to engage Middle School students during lunch. There will be an Admissions rep. from the University of Alabama there.

K. Whippie advised there was a comment made last night that the town saved a large amount of money switching from oil to propane. Should he give the information to Don Chamberlain to research it?
C. Duquette advised he can give it to C. Paulin; feels there are other options out there.

K. Whippie advised an information session was held on the budget. He feels no one should have gone away feeling they didn't get served.

The next Meeting is the Deliberative Session on February 9th; K. Dassau will give the Board the handouts before. He will get a quick okay from K. Whippie and then he will get to the rest of the Board.

CITIZENS' COMMENTS:

S. Tomilla asked for an explanation of Article Ten.

T. Croteau advised it is to have the Budget Committee set the Default Budget. Presently the School Board has authority.

Joan Franklin asked if there can be a statement saying the Board does not support it.

K. Dassau advised at the Deliberative Session there could be a recommendation for the Board to take a position. If Matt Upton says yes, the Board could add it.

J. Franklin heard that the School Board got rid of their stipends; she appreciated the gesture.

K. Whippie advised they had taken them out, but then put them back.

J. Gile commends the Math Intervention Group; it works great. It helped her daughter.

P. Bigelow advised it is Patriots Day tomorrow!

K. Whippie MOVED to adjourn the meeting at 8:15 pm; SECONDED by: J. Gile, VOTED: 5-0, MOTION PASSED.

Respectfully submitted,

Peggy Higgins
School Board Secretary