

**PORTSMOUTH SCHOOL BOARD PUBLIC MINUTES FOR JANUARY 12, 2016**

EILEEN M. FOLEY COUNCIL CHAMBERS, CITY HALL

PORTSMOUTH, NH

DATE: TUESDAY, JANUARY 12, 2016

TIME: 7:00 PM [or thereafter]

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**NOTICE OF NON- PUBLIC MEETING:** THE SCHOOL BOARD WILL HOLD A NON- PUBLIC MEETING AT 6:30 P.M., IN ACCORDANCE WITH RSA 91-A: 3, II (a) AND RSA 91-A: 3, II (c) IN THE SCHOOL BOARD CONFERENCE ROOM

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- I. **CALL TO ORDER** - School Board Chair Leslie Stevens called the meeting to order at 7:04 p.m.
- II. **ROLL CALL** - Chair Leslie Stevens, Jeff Landry, Lennie Mullaney, Ann Walker, Nancy Clayburgh, Patrick Ellis, Tom Martin, Roseann Vozella Clark, Ann Mayer, Superintendent Stephen Zdravec, Assistant Superintendent George Shea, Business Administrator Steve Bartlett, Teacher Representative Olin Johannsen
- III. **INVOCATION**
- IV. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**
- V. **ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES**
  - a. DECEMBER 8, REGULAR MEETING  
MOTION: Motion to accept the public minutes of December 8, 2015 by Mr. Martin  
SECOND: Ms. Walker  
DISCUSSION:  
VOTE: Unanimously accepted
  - b. JANUARY 5, ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING  
MOTION: Motion to accept the public minutes of January 5, 2016 by Mr. Ellis  
SECOND: Mr. Martin  
DISCUSSION:  
VOTE: Unanimously accepted
- VI. **PUBLIC COMMENT-** None
- VII. **SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS**
  - a. FY17 BUDGET PRESENTATION- Superintendent Stephen Zdravec gave a thorough PowerPoint overview on the development of the preliminary FY17 Budget and budget development process. Mr. Zdravec reviewed the Vision & Mission of the Portsmouth Schools, School Board Goals, Student Achievement, Teacher Effectiveness, and Stewardship of Resources. Enrollment projections were given and staffing/programs are based largely on student enrollments.

Budget booklets will be provided at next the Budget Workshop Session scheduled on January 19. The preliminary FY17 budget has a 3.32% increase. The Joint Budget Committee has looked at the fixed cost and drivers of all departments and recommended to City Council no more than a

3% increase. The City Manager would ideally like budget after the second public hearing. Some impacts that will play a role in the budget: decrease of outside revenue, forecast of the increasing ESOL population, maintenance, technology in particular a staffing discussion and database management.

The Budget Workshop Session Schedule is as follows:

January 19- topics will address staffing particularly around grant source

February 2- topics will address maintenance, energy and student services

February 9- Public Hearing Session

February 16- topics will address technology

March 1 - Public Hearing Session

Questions/Discussions followed: Workman's Compensation has increased this year. The figure is based on actual claims and the school department does have the greatest number of employees. The City is trying to establish a more accurate representation from each department. The retirement rate is 11% but the \$139,000. seems larger than that percentage. The 11% represents the employers share but the amount changes based on salaries and we see the largest increase. The increasing ESOL population and the Wellness Substance Abuse position are areas that must be addressed. The Board asked for figures for the next meeting.

## **VIII. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT**

### **a. ITEMS OF INFORMATION**

- i. POLICY COMMITTEE MINUTES, JANUARY 7
- ii. NHSBA PROPOSED RESOLUTIONS FOR 2016
- iii. NHSBA POLICIES, RESOLUTIONS & STATEMENTS OF BELIEF MANUAL
- iv. BOARD & ADMINISTRATOR
- v. DECEMBER CO UPDATE
- vi. NEW FRANKLIN GAZETTE
- vii. DECEMBER PMS POST
- viii. NH EXECUTIVE LETTER OF SUPPORT PUC GRANT

### **b. CORRESPONDENCE**

- i. STARTING TIME LETTER

### **c. ADMINISTRATOR REPORT**

- i. DISTRICT COMMITTEE UPDATE- PLC WORK- Assistant Superintendent George Shea gave an overview of the District Committee work. The new teacher contract called for the establishment of a District Committee which is comprised of administrators and teachers. The committee has two main charges: one is to serve as a quality review panel for the PLC process and the second is to determine the attainment of PLC achievement units. Each building team has administrative and teacher representatives. The District needed to have a guiding document on PLC's to cover all buildings. The document will be presented to Board first and then will be presented to staff.

## **IX. OLD BUSINESS**

- a. BEN FRANKLIN PAINTING UPDATE- Superintendent Zdravec gave an update on the painting. A special thanks to Ms. Mullaney who reached out to the artist community. There might be an opportunity with the 300th Anniversary of the Warner House and further exploring a

conversation with the City Manager to see what other options might exist to bring the painting back in public view.

COMMENTS: There is no guarantee the painting can be restored but a very rough estimate for restoration cost is \$4,000-\$5,000.

- b. LATE START UPDATE- Superintendent Zdravec gave an update on the Late Start in hopes to establish a timeline as time is becoming of the essence. Since afterschool care was one of primary concerns in the survey, Mr. Shea and Mr. Zdravec met with folks from an afterschool program to explore different afterschool care options to present to parents. It will cost approximately \$100,000 in additional transportation costs to keep the elementary start times the same.

Questions/Discussions followed: It is possible to implement the change for the fall of 2016. Pressures will get greater the longer the Board takes to make the decision.

Public Information Sessions are an important piece of the process and will be held after the Board receives the information they need on January 26. There are a lot of pieces to still figure out to establish an implementation time frame.

There was discussion about the PHS Scheduling Committee and Start Time Committee. Both Committees have similar themes. Decisions that are made potentially could have an impact on one another. Mr. Zdravec will talk to Ms. Lyons about having a board member join the discussions of the PHS Scheduling Committee.

Ms. Mayer provided information on the SAU50 budget process. The proposed and default budget will be voted on the first week of February. Greenland added \$50,000 for additional transportation costs. SAU50 has a tighter timeframe than SAU52.

## X. NEW BUSINESS

- a. CONSIDERATION AND APPROVAL OF LEAVES OF ABSENCE- Superintendent Zdravec reported there are two requests for leaves of absences.

MOTION: Motion to approve the leaves of absences by Ms. Clayburgh

SECOND: Mr. Martin

DISCUSSION:

VOTE: Unanimously accepted

- b. COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS- Elementary Facilities, Start Time, JBC and Board of Ethics will be added to the Committee Assignment list provided in the packet. Ms. Vozella Clark volunteered to take Mr. Landry's assignment as a library trustee while he is away.
- c. BOARD OF ETHICS ASSIGNMENT- Ms. Vozella Clark volunteered for the Board of Ethics assignment. The City Clerk's Office will be advised of the assignment tomorrow.

d. **CONSIDERATION AND APPROVAL OF FUTURES ADVISORY BOARD NOMINATIONS-**

There are two openings on the Futures Advisory Board. Nominees Jeff Kisiel and Jason Boucher. Ms. Kisiel is an active community member and is currently involved in 603 NH Committee. Mr. Boucher currently is working in the Social Media Department at UNH. Both nominees will bring a particular skillset to the Futures Advisory Board.

MOTION: Motion to approve Mr. Kisiel and Mr. Boucher nominations by Ms. Walker

SECOND: Mr. Martin

DISCUSSION:

VOTE: Unanimously accepted

e. **CONSIDERATION AND APPROVAL OF POLICIES (FIRST READING)**

i. **TRANSGENDER AND GENDER NON CONFORMING STUDENTS-JBAA**

MOTION: Motion to accept the JBAA First Reading by Mr. Martin

SECOND: Ms. Clayburgh

DISCUSSION:

VOTE: Unanimously accepted

XI. **COMMITTEE UPDATES**

- a. **POLICY-** Chair Stevens explained the Wellness policy is still being worked on and will brought forward at a future meeting.

XII. **FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS-** Add STEM as a future agenda item list

- a. **ELECTRONIC TEXT BOOK POLICY**

XIII. **ADJOURNMENT**

MOTION: Motion to adjourn meeting at 8:42 p.m. by Mr. Martin

SECOND: Ms. Walker

DISCUSSION:

VOTE: Unanimously accepted