

Wakefield School Board Meeting
Tuesday, July 7, 2020, 6 p.m.
Meeting held remotely via Zoom
Minutes – DRAFT

Present: Bob Ouellette, Chair, Relf Fogg, Vice Chair, members Tracey Kolb, Sandy Johnson and Mary Collins; Superintendent Jerry Gregoire, Business Administrator Marie D’Agostino, Principal Jim Lampron, Assistant Principal Jenn Spector, Facilities Manager Joe Williams, Transportation Manager Brennan Peaslee, Administrative Assistant Larissa Mulkern, Clearview TV, and others.

Call to Order: Mr. Ouellette called the meeting to order at 6 p.m. followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Motion to go into Nonpublic Session: Mrs. Kolb made a motion to enter nonpublic session, seconded by Mrs. Johnson, at 6 p.m. under RSA 91-A:3, II (d): Consideration of the acquisition, sale or lease of real or personal property which, if discussed in public, would likely benefit a party or parties whose interests are averse to those of the general community. 91-A:3, II (k): Consideration by a school board of entering into a student or pupil tuition contract authorized by RSA 194 or RSA 195-A, which, if discussed in public, would likely benefit a party or parties whose interests are adverse to those of the general public or the school district that is considering a contract, including any meeting between the school boards, or committees thereof, involved in the negotiations. 91-A:3, II (c): Matters which, if discussed in public, would likely affect adversely the reputation of any person, other than a member of this board, unless such person requests an open meeting. This exemption shall extend to include 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. Members voted all in favor 5-0 roll call vote, Ouellette, aye, Fogg, aye, Collins, aye, Kolb, aye, Johnson, aye.

Motion to re-enter public session: Mrs. Kolb made a motion seconded by Mrs. Johnson to come out of nonpublic session at 6:54 p.m. Roll call vote, 5-0, Ouellette, aye, Fogg, aye, Collins, aye, Kolb, aye, Johnson, aye.

Public Hearing

- To expend funds up to \$180,000 from the Windows Expendable Trust Fund

Members discussed the window replacement project at the Paul School, which has started.

Motion: Mrs. Kolb made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Johnson, to expend up to \$180,000 from the Windows Expendable Trust Fund. No public comment. Roll call vote, 5-0, Ouellette, aye, Fogg, aye, Collins, aye, Kolb, aye, Johnson, aye.

- To expend up to \$25,000 from the Asbestos Abatement Trust Fund

This is for the abatement of six banks of windows, monitored by Scott Larson Group with an estimate of \$21,600 plus. The ‘up to’ \$25,000 is stated in the event anything comes up that requires expenditure of funds in the trust.

Motion: Mrs. Kolb made a motion seconded by Mrs. Johnson to expend up to \$25,000 from the Asbestos Abatement Trust Fund. No public comment. Roll call vote, 5-0, Ouellette, aye, Fogg, aye, Collins, aye, Kolb, aye, Johnson, aye.

- To expend up to \$10,000 from the Parking lot, Sidewalk Maintenance Trust Fund

Motion: Mrs. Kolb made a motion seconded by Mrs. Johnson to expend up to \$10,000 from the Parking lot, Sidewalk Maintenance Trust Fund. Members voted, roll call vote, 4-0-1, Ouellette, aye, Fogg, aye, Kolb, aye, Johnson aye, Collins, abstain.

Public Comment: None

Consent Agenda

- **AP & Payroll Manifests: Motion:** Mrs. Kolb made a motion seconded by Mrs. Johnson to accept the Consent Agenda (AP and Payroll manifests). Mr. Fogg asked about the end of year payouts; Mrs. D'Agostino and Mr. Gregoire explained the payroll schedule choices as included in the collective bargaining agreement that allows for 21 or 26 pay periods. Roll call vote, 3-2, Ouellette, aye, Kolb, aye, Johnson, aye, Fogg, nay, Collins, nay.
- **School Board Meeting Calendar:** School Board members agreed to keep the meeting schedule as is, the first and third Tuesday of the month at 6 p.m.

Meeting Minutes

Motion: Mrs. Kolb made a motion seconded by Mrs. Johnson to accept the public and nonpublic meeting minutes of June 17 with any amendments offered. Members voted all in favor, roll call vote, 5-0, Ouellette, aye, Fogg, aye, Kolb, aye, Johnson, aye, Collins, aye.

COVID 19 update

Mr. Gregoire updated the board on re-entry committee progress; he anticipates bringing preliminary recommendations to the board soon. He noted the reported resurgence in COVID 19 cases in southern states. He described some of the options being discussed, including returning to school 100 percent, a hybrid option, alternating attendance, and a full remote learning scenario. There are many variables. Currently, implementing remote learning is not a mandate. He has been looking into PPE supplies. If we had to supply disposable masks every day the school would need 90,000 masks.

Old Business:

Trust Fund Expenditure Procedure: the board concurred with the draft procedure – now its down on paper.

New Business:

- **2020-2021 school meals:** Mrs. D'Agostino said the district was notified that if it continues to do remote learning, Mr. Gregoire will sign a letter requesting a waiver to continue to offer food grab and go.
- **Lightning Strike – update:** Mr. Williams said the school was struck twice last Sunday by lightning. The Fire Department responded. Upon initial inspections everything seems to be in working order. Mrs. D'Agostino reported the incident to the insurance company and we're keeping the claim open. Nothing delicate was damaged.

- **RFQ for fire panel:** Mr. Williams asked to advance the date of the RFQ due date to July 20 and he's like to bring the vendor to the board meeting on the 21st for presentations. Mr. Ouellette said it would be OK to have the vendors speak.

Policies: Mr. Ouellette noted that these should have indicated 'first reading' where appropriate.

- First Reading: IHCD/LEB – Advanced coursework
- First Reading: New – IK – Earning Credit
- First Reading: IKE – Promotion and Retention of Students
- First Reading: ILD - Non-Educational Questionnaires, Surveys & Research
Retiring: ILDA – old policy
- First Reading: IMAH Daily Physical Activity
- First Reading: IMBA – Distance Education
- First Reading: JCA – Change of School or Assignment – Best Interests

Motion to extend meeting beyond 8 p.m. was made by Mrs. Johnson and seconded by Mr. Ouellette; roll call vote 5-0, Ouellette, aye, Kolb, aye, Fogg, aye, Johnson, aye, Collins, aye.

Other Business

Mr. Gregoire said the budget had been frozen for FY 20, but now that we're into a new fiscal year 2021, we need to make purchases. He doesn't think we need to be in a frozen budget now. The consensus of the board was in agreement.

Nominations

Mr. Gregoire put forth the nomination of Kathleen Tyler for third grade teacher.

Motion: Mrs. Kolb made a motion to approve the nomination seconded by Mrs. Johnson. Members voted roll call, 4-0-1, Ouellette, aye, Collins, aye, Johnson, aye, Kolb, aye and Fogg, abstain.

Other Business

Mr. Fogg said he spoke with Rob Stewart regarding the uses of the Rines Road property and he liked all the aspects of the plan/proposal for the water precinct. Mr. Fogg said Mr. Stewart would respond to any letter or correspondence the board feels necessary. Mr. Fogg said the water precinct is still doing comparisons with other properties.

Public Comment

Mrs. Colbath asked if there were any resignations; Mr. Gregoire noted they were not yet official.

Mr. Lee asked about the Governor freeing up monies (COVID 19) for school districts. Mrs. D'Agostino explained the school's portion of the CARES Act grant. The numbers are preliminary, and the funds would carry over into next school year. In response to Mr. Lee's query, Mrs. D'Agostino noted it was too early to determine how much would be turned over to the town; we are still getting invoiced for services in May and June. Mrs. Colbath asked for the total number of resignations. Mr. Gregoire would get back to her on that – certainly there has been a lot.

Nonpublic session: Mr. Fogg made a motion seconded by Mrs. Collins to go into nonpublic session, per RSA 91-A:3, II (c): Matters which, if discussed in public, would likely affect adversely the reputation of any person, other than a member of this board, unless such person requests an open meeting. This exemption shall extend to include 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. Roll call vote, 5-0, Ouellette, aye, Fogg, aye, Kolb, aye, Collins, aye, Johnson, aye.

Motion to come out of nonpublic at 8:53 p.m. was made by Mrs. Kolb seconded by Mr. Fogg, roll call vote 5-0, Ouellette, aye, Fogg, aye, Kolb, aye, Collins, aye, Johnson, aye.

Adjournment: A motion to adjourn was made by Mrs. Kolb at 8:53 p.m. seconded by Mrs. Johnson; roll call vote 5-0, Ouellette, aye, Fogg, aye, Kolb, aye, Collins, aye, Johnson, aye.

Respectfully submitted:
Larissa Mulkern
Administrative Assistant