

MINUTES – WAYLAND SCHOOL COMMITTEE
Regular Session – February 6, 2014

A Special Session of the Wayland School Committee was held on Thursday, February 6, 2014, at 7:00 P.M. in the School Committee Room of the Wayland Town Building.

Present:

Barb Fletcher, Chair
Beth Butler, Vice Chair
Malcolm Astley
Ellen Grieco
Donna Bouchard

Also:

Paul Stein
Superintendent of Schools

Brad Crozier
Assistant Superintendent

Marlene Dodyk
Director of Student Services

Geoff MacDonald
Business Administrator

Mark Lanza, Esq.

Also:

Cliff Lewis, OPEB Committee

Barb Fletcher convened the Special Session at 7:08 p.m. and announced that the meeting is being taped by WayCAM.

1. **Executive Session:**

Upon a motion duly made by Beth Butler, seconded by Donna Bouchard, the School Committee voted unanimously (5-0) to enter into Executive Session per M.G.L. Chapter 30A, §21(a)(3) to discuss strategy with respect to Collective Bargaining for all school unions (WTA, WESA, Custodial and Food Services), as such a discussion in open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the bargaining position of the School Committee and Executive Session is necessary to protect the bargaining position of the School Committee, and M.G.L. 30A, §21(a)(5) to investigate charges of criminal misconduct, and to approve Executive Session Minutes of December 16, 2013 and January 6, 2014 (I & II), pursuant to M.G.L. 30A, §22. The Committee will reconvene in Open Session to discuss regular matters and Barb invited the Superintendent, Assistant Superintendent and Town Counsel to attend the meeting. A roll call vote was taken as follows:

<u>Roll Call</u>	<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>
Barb Fletcher, Chair	X	
Beth Butler, Vice Chair	X	
Malcolm Astley	X	
Ellen Grieco	X	
Donna Bouchard	X	

The School Committee reconvened in Open Session at 9:01 p.m.

2. **Comments & Written Statements from the Public:**

There were no written statements or public comments.

3. **Financial Matters:**

(a) Continued Discussion regarding Upcoming OPEB Warrant Article and its Impact on School Program Funds:
In an effort to have the School Committee's support of the proposed Warrant Article for Town Meeting, Cliff Lewis explained why the OPEB Committee was established and how they worked through the issue of having

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enough OPEB funds for retirees in a fair and equitable manner.

In putting together the Warrant Article that would include fee-based contributions, the OPEB Committee determined that all of the fee-based programs would have enough money in their account balances, except for Food Service. Cliff also noted that an assessment will be made each year going forward and will change from year to year. The OPEB Committee, using its own calculations and assumptions, determined the money owed for each fee-based program as follows:

Food Service -	\$303,000
BASE -	\$306,000
The Children's Way -	\$300,000
Full Day Kindergarten -	\$ 52,000

Paul mentioned that compared to the town, there are fewer retirees from the schools' fee-based programs, other than Food Service. Some of the programs, like Full Day Kindergarten, are new.

The School Committee and OPEB Committee could discuss a payment plan for these programs going forward. Cliff noted that the money owed could be paid over a 4 or 5 year period.

The School Committee discussed ways in which to accumulate enough money to put towards the OPEB funds. Paul and Geoff commented that \$25,000 for Food Services was put into the budget for OPEB costs, which is too much going forward, according to Cliff Lewis. Authorized by the School Committee, Paul and Geoff will work with Cliff Lewis to put an analysis together for Food Service and other fee-based programs.

Paul reported on his telephone conversation with Attorney Jim Toomey that he believes it is legal to use these funds as proposed. Although he did note there is a lack of complete clarity as the DOR has not provided a definitive opinion on this matter.

(b) Continued Discussion of Elementary School Reconfiguration Options:

Paul and Brad presented a school district borders and buffer zones map to the School Committee. Brad worked with Brendan Decker in the town surveying office and its GIS system. Brad supplied him with data from which he noted every student on the map. The map was developed based on geographic location to the elementary schools, class size guidelines, and the number of sections in each school. Also considered were the approvals of new residential construction in Wayland. The transportation department consulted with Brad and Brendan with the development of the map. The buffer zones are big enough so they would not have to change from year to year.

The School Committee asked Paul and Brad questions about the buffer zones in direct correlation with the K-1 model and K-5 model, as well as the effect on the bus transportation.

A communication will be sent out from the School Committee informing families that the map is available online. The Committee discussed the content of the communication. The School Committee will vote on a reconfiguration model at its meeting on February 10.

Paul noted that the next step is to contact families after a process is in place to determine their placement. However, there may also be some families who will volunteer to attend one of the schools. However, once a buffer zone policy is developed, there will be many variables to be defined.

Ellen left the meeting at 10:01 p.m.

In response to a question posed by Beth, Paul stated that capital costs are similar for the K-1 and K-5 models, although the K-1 model would cost about \$118,000 less per year in operating costs.

Ellen returned at 10:04 p.m.

A discussion ensued about the issues that face full day kindergarten, such as the number of families who will be denied the full day program due to the lack of space. The Committee also discussed the benefits of a K-5

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neighborhood school and the transition difficulty for some students. On the other hand, it was noted that in a K-1 school, bonds will be formed at a very early age.

Paul commented that there are pros and cons for both models.

- (c) Continued Discussion re: FY15 Budget, including Budget Message:
The School Committee reviewed the Budget Message to be included in the Budget Book, which will be distributed the week after February break. Barb asked the administrators to have a draft Budget Book available at the February 24th meeting. She also asked the Committee to look over the budget message and bring their recommendations for changes to the February 10th meeting.
- (d) Vote to Approve MSBA Statement of Interest for Claypit Hill Windows and Doors FY15 Capital Project:
The School Committee reviewed the Statement of Interest. Barb reviewed the timeline regarding the submission of the Statement of Interest.

Upon a motion duly made by Ellen Grieco, seconded by Beth Butler and having convened in an open meeting on February 6, 2014, prior to the closing date of February 14, 2014 for submission of the Statement of Interest, the School Committee of the Town of Wayland in accordance with its charter, by-laws, and ordinances, has voted unanimously (5-0) to authorize the Superintendent to submit to the Massachusetts School Building Authority the Statement of Interest Form dated February 11, 2014 for the Claypit Hill elementary School located at 5 Adams Lane, Wayland, MA 01778, which describes and explains the following deficiencies and the priority category for which an application may be submitted to the Massachusetts School Building Authority in the future, Priority #5, Replacement of windows and exterior doors, to increase energy conservation and decrease energy-related costs in a school facility due to deficiency of the existing windows and exterior doors; and hereby further acknowledges that by submitting this Statement of Interest Form, the Massachusetts School Building Authority in no way guarantees the acceptance or the approval of an application, the awarding of a grant or any other funding commitment from the Massachusetts School Building Authority, or commits the Town of Wayland School District to filing an application for funding with the Massachusetts School Building Authority.

4. **Consent Agenda:**

- (a) Approval of Accounts Payables & Payroll Warrants:
- Wayland Public Schools Accounts Payables warrant, dated February 6, 2014, in the amount of \$28,456.49 (Student Activities)
 - Wayland Public Schools Payroll warrant, dated February 6, 2014, in the amount of \$1,198,451.49
- (b) Middle School Roof Project Invoices:
- Invoices totaling \$46,449 from DiMarinisi & Wolfe and Capeway Roofing
- (c) Approval of Minutes:
- Regular Session of January 6, 2014
- (d) Acceptance of Gifts:
- A donation in the amount of \$3,000 from the Katie Lynch Foundation for the “Just Like Me” program

Upon a motion duly made by Malcolm Astley, seconded by Beth Butler, the School Committee voted unanimously (5-0) to approve the Consent Agenda as proposed.

5. **Comments from the Public:**

There were no public comments.

6. **Adjournment:**

Upon a motion duly made by Beth Butler, seconded by Ellen Grieco, the School Committee voted unanimously (5-0) to adjourn the Regular Session at 10:25 p.m.

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Respectfully submitted,



Paul Stein, Clerk
Wayland School Committee

Observers:

Tom Sciacca, WVN

Corresponding Documentation:

1. FY15 Draft of Budget Message
2. Claypit Hill Statement of Interest for Doors & Windows
3. Accounts Payables & Payroll Warrants
4. Middle School Roof Invoices
5. Regular Session Minutes of January 6, 2014