

MINUTES – WAYLAND SCHOOL COMMITTEE
Special Meeting – January 25, 2017

A Special Meeting of the Wayland School Committee was held on Wednesday, January 25, 2017, at 2:00 P.M. in the School Committee Room of the Wayland Town Building.

Present were:

Ellen Grieco, Chair (by remote)
Barb Fletcher, Vice Chair
Jeanne Downs
Kathie Steinberg

Absent:

Kim Reichelt

Also:

Brad Crozier
Assistant Superintendent

Marlene Dodyk

Director of Student Services

Susan Bottan

Business Administrator

Also:

Dr. Art Bettencourt, NESDEC
Dr. Carolyn Burke, NESDEC

Vice Chair Barb Fletcher convened the special session at 2:05 P.M.; the meeting is being recorded by WayCAM. Barb commented that Ellen submitted the remote participation form and could not attend the meeting due to geographic location.

1. Comments & Written Statements from the Public:

Jeanne read a statement from resident Steve Curtin regarding 357 Commonwealth Avenue as a location being considered for school bus parking. His concerns for this location include environmental issues, traffic congestion, health issues and historical significance.

Linda Segal referred to the WRAP committee meeting that was held the previous evening. She noted that some town offices have found documents going back to the time when the former dump was closed. Linda suggested to the School Committee that this information could be important if there is a chance that this parcel can be used.

Tom Sciacca recommended three top-rated books: the #1 bestseller on Amazon – “1984”; and both #3 are “Brave New World” and “It Can’t Happen Here”.

2. Special Matter:

(a) Discussion with New England School Development Council (NESDEC) regarding Superintendent Search Process and Timing, including Review and Possible Vote to Approve Candidate Profile, Screening Committee Logistics, and Communications:

Art Bettencourt and Carolyn Burke of NESDEC met with the School Committee to discuss the Superintendent Search process and to review and possibly approve the candidate profile developed by Carolyn Burke from information received during the focus groups and the online survey. The timeline and the process of the Screening Committee’s meetings culminating in final candidate recommendations made by the Screening Committee during the first of March were also discussed. If there are internal candidates, Art noted and the School Committee confirmed that all candidates will follow the same criteria and there will be no special consideration.

While reviewing the candidate profile, Carolyn commented that the purpose of the profile is to provide rich data which allows the School Committee to guide the Screening Committee and provides the data from which to form the School Committee’s interview questions.

As noted in the profile, the Wayland community is looking for a Superintendent who has significant depth of experience and knowledge in the following four areas:

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- Building and maintaining a positive culture and climate
- Leading a system of continuous improvement
- Engaging and collaborating with families, community partners and other stakeholders
- Professional and skilled oversight of fiscal and human resources

At 2:33 p.m., Ellen's call dropped off as she could no longer hear to participate in the meeting.

Each of these themes has a bulleted list of indicators. The School Committee reviewed and discussed these indicators and, in some cases, had suggestions and additions. However, all the categories and indicators noted in the profile are important to the School Committee. Carolyn will revise the candidate profile based on the School Committee's input and the Committee will review it again on January 30th.

Due to the time constraints of a member of the public, public comment was re-opened.

She was speaking on behalf of families in the Claypit Hill School about the high class sizes, particularly next year's 5th grade class. Parents would like to make a change to the budget and she asked what the best approach would be. Barb responded that she could contact any member of the School Committee or contact Barb directly with their concerns.

The discussion with NESDEC resumed regarding the importance and benefits of having focus groups at the beginning of this process. Once the final draft of the candidate profile is available to the School Committee, the Committee will vote to approve this document.

Jeanne informed the School Committee that it must vote to appoint the members of the Screening Committee on January 30th. The appointment may possibly continue until June 30th.

3. Financial Matters (continued):

(a) Continued Discussion regarding School Bus Parking (out of order):

Susan updated the School Committee on the four sites being considered for school bus parking, the next steps, the time lines, and costs to move forward. There is data in terms of the proximity of the abutters for all four locations, the time that the buses start up, and the estimated cost if the buses were to be parked in two locations. Susan is working on compiling information and the costs associated with the former dump, including the timeline for the RFP.

Susan reported that the WRAP Committee is working with the town surveyor and the Conservation Committee to understand the process of how the old landfill was closed. She noted that currently there are four documents dating back to 1980 regarding the old landfill.

- The time of closure
- Information regarding solid waste at that site
- A 1977 aerial photo
- A town land use study showing a proposed bike trail

Susan further commented that The Engineering Corporation has learned from DEP records that the landfill site was capped and completed in 1980. She has met with town officials and will meet with others regarding this site. She will have more updates at the January 30th meeting.

As a result of this update, members of the audience interjected a few comments regarding the landfill site.

Kathie commented that no decisions have been made by the School Committee, she is keeping an open mind, and no stone has been unturned in this regard. Susan added that this project has been a collaborative effort between the school department and town, especially the WRAP Committee.

(b) Continued Review and Discussion of FY18 Operating and Capital Budgets:

Barb read an email from Dave Watkins, Chair of the Finance Committee that was sent to the Town Administrator and Paul Stein regarding finding alternative sources of funding other than taxation to support the FY18 recommended budget. The School Committee will discuss this request in more detail at the January 30th meeting.

Paul reported that he is working with the administrators and Nan Balmer in terms of a response to this request. A discussion ensued in terms of the timing of this request and to understand what it means to "identify alternative

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funding other than taxation.”

- (c) Continued Review of Budget Book, Frequently Asked Questions, and Presentation for the Budget Hearing:
Barb did not have updates regarding this agenda topic. This topic will be put on the January 30th agenda, and all drafts will be reviewed at that time.

4. **Matters not Reasonably Anticipated by the Chair:**

None.

5. **Executive Session:**

Upon a motion duly made by Barb Fletcher, seconded by Kathie Steinberg, the School Committee voted unanimously (3-0) to enter Executive Session at 3:51 p.m., to discuss strategy with respect to and in preparation for collective bargaining with the Wayland Teachers Association, Wayland Educational Secretarial Association, the School Custodians Union and the Food Service Association, as permitted by M.G.L. Chapter 30A, §21(a)(3), as such a discussion in open session may have a detrimental effect on the bargaining position of the School Committee and an Executive Session is necessary to protect the bargaining position of the School Committee. A roll call vote was taken as follows:

<u>Roll Call</u>	<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>
Ellen Grieco, Chair	absent	
Barb Fletcher, Vice Chair	X	
Jeanne Downs	X	
Kim Reichelt	absent	
Kathie Steinberg	X	

The School Committee will be joined by Brad Crozier, Assistant Superintendent, and Diane Marobella, recording secretary.

The School Committee will reconvene in open session for adjournment purposes only.

6. **Adjournment:**

Upon a motion duly made by Kathie Steinberg, seconded by Jeanne Downs, the School Committee voted unanimously (3-0) to adjourn at 4:08 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Paul Stein, Clerk
Wayland School Committee

Observers:

Tom Sciacca, WVN, BUZZ
Carol Plumb, Wayland
Linda Segal, Wayland
Denis O’Driscoll, Wayland
Nancy McNitt, Wayland
Anne Bransly, Wayland

Corresponding Documentation:

1. Agenda
2. WPS Superintendent Search Successful Candidate Profile – Draft
3. Email from Dave Watkins to Town Administrator and Superintendent of Schools
4. Executive Session Motion