

MINUTES OF THE JOINT DISCUSSION/REGULAR BOARD MEETING
OF THE
BOARD OF SCHOOL DIRECTORS
MT. LEBANON SCHOOL DISTRICT

July 18, 2016

A Joint Discussion/Regular Meeting of the Board of School Directors was held at 7:33 p.m. on Monday, July 18, 2016, in Room D205, Mt. Lebanon High School.

Mr. Lebowitz called the meeting to order and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL

Present: Mr. Hugh Beal, Mrs. Mary Birks, Mrs. Elaine Cappucci, Mr. William Cooper, Mr. William Moorhead, Ms. Sarah Olbrich, Mr. Daniel Remely, Mr. Michael Riemer, Mr. Lawrence Lebowitz

Absent: None

ATTENDING: Dr. Timothy Steinhauer, Superintendent
Thomas Peterson, Solicitor
Administrative Staff: Ms. Cissy Bowman; Dr. Ronald Davis; Ms. Katie Devine; Dr. Marybeth Irvin; Ms. Janice Klein; Mr. Rick Marciniak; Mr. Christopher Stengel

BOARD PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Mr. Lebowitz presented an update of activities around the schools to prepare for the beginning of the school year.

BOARD REPORTS

PSBA/NSBA – Mrs. Birks reported that the State Budget for 2016-2017 passed. Increases include: \$200 million for basic education funding, \$20 million for special education funding and nearly \$40 million in higher education funding.

There was no General Fund appropriation for PlanCon (called “Authority Rentals and Sinking Fund Requirements”) in either the 2015/16 or 2016/17 budgets. The 2015/16 fiscal code (Act 25 of 2016) authorized the Commonwealth Financing Authority (CFA) to issue up to \$2.5 billion in bonds to be made available for the PlanCon program.

The U.S. Secretary of Education, John King, was in Harrisburg last week with PA’s Ed. Secy, Pedro Rivera, to discuss the implementation of ESSA and potential school reforms that comply with ESSA with public education advocates from around the commonwealth. King said the new law relies less on strict federal regulation, letting individual states and districts customize their educational approach and Pennsylvania has significant equity gaps among students. He noted strong correlations between race and socioeconomic status, and how well kids do in school.

Parkway West CTC – Mr. Remely reported that Peters Township School District is buying the old Rolling Hills Country Club and are requesting PlanCon funding for a new high school.

BOARD DISCUSSION

The Board discussed the following items: Monthly treasurer’s report; monthly list of bills; ratification of June 30 list of bills; list of district bank accounts; tax refunds; publication of listing of liened taxes; filing of liened taxes on properties with assessments of \$4,000 or less; food service budget and lunch rates for 2016-2017; monthly personnel report; AIU educational services agreement; designation of voting delegates to PSBA conference; duplicating paper bid award; natural gas supply contract; change order for high school project; and student adjudication.

COMMENTS FROM RESIDENTS

One resident spoke before the Board about the following:

Questioned McKamish change order and why it wasn’t one in first draft of drawings

NEW BUSINESS

It was moved by Cooper and seconded by Remely that the Board approves, ratifies and accepts the following financial reports: (Copies in official minutes)

- a. Treasurer’s Report dated June 30, 2016
- b. List of Bills dated July 13, 2016
- c. June 30, 2016, List of Bills
- d. List of District Bank Accounts dated July 13, 2016
- e. List of Tax Refunds dated June 30, 2016

ROLL CALL: For: Beal, Birks, Cappucci, Cooper, Moorhead, Olbrich, Remely, Riemer, Lebowitz
 Against: None
 MOTION UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED

It was moved by Moorhead and seconded by Cappucci that the Board approves for public display the list of liened taxes for the 2015 tax year. (Copy in official minutes)

ROLL CALL: For: Beal, Birks, Cappucci, Cooper, Moorhead, Olbrich, Remely, Riemer, Lebowitz
 Against: None
 MOTION UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED

It was moved by Beal and seconded by Birks that the Board approves authorizing the Tax Collector to remove all delinquent properties with assessments of \$4,000 or less from the properties to be liened for the 2015 tax year and approves the filing of liens on all remaining properties.

ROLL CALL: For: Beal, Birks, Cappucci, Cooper, Moorhead, Olbrich, Remely, Riemer, Lebowitz
 Against: None
 MOTION UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED

It was moved by Birks and seconded by Remely that the Board approves a food service budget in the amount of \$1,740,844 with lunch prices set at \$2.30 for the elementary schools and at the secondary schools prices are to be \$2.45 for Tier One lunches, \$2.80 for Tier Two lunches, \$3.35 for Tier Three lunches and \$1.60 for breakfast. (Copy in official minutes)

ROLL CALL: For: Beal, Birks, Cappucci, Cooper, Moorhead, Olbrich, Remely,
Riemer, Lebowitz
Against: None
MOTION UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED

It was moved by Remely and seconded by Birks that the Board approves the July 18, 2016, list of personnel changes. (Copy in official minutes)

ROLL CALL: For: Beal, Birks, Cappucci, Cooper, Moorhead, Olbrich, Remely,
Riemer, Lebowitz
Against: None
MOTION UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED

It was moved by Cappucci and seconded by Remely that the Board approves the Educational Services Agreement with the Allegheny Intermediate Unit for special education services for the 2016-2017 school year in the form presented. (Copy in official minutes)

ROLL CALL: For: Beal, Birks, Cappucci, Cooper, Moorhead, Olbrich, Remely,
Riemer, Lebowitz
Against: None
MOTION UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED

It was moved by Cappucci and seconded by Riemer that the Board authorizes Mary Birks to be a voting delegate at the Legislative Policy Council meeting on October 15, 2016, at the Annual PSBA Conference in Hershey, PA.

ROLL CALL: For: Beal, Birks, Cappucci, Cooper, Moorhead, Olbrich, Remely,
Riemer, Lebowitz
Against: None
MOTION UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED

It was moved by Birks and seconded by Cappucci that the Board awards bid number 2016-2017, Duplicating Paper to W.B. Mason at their bid price of \$67,298 and Cover Stock Paper to Bulldog Office Products, Inc. at their bid price of \$5,613.50. (Copy in official minutes)

ROLL CALL: For: Beal, Birks, Cappucci, Cooper, Moorhead, Olbrich, Remely,
Riemer, Lebowitz
Against: None
MOTION UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED

It was moved by Riemer and seconded by Cooper that the Board ratifies the contract with People's Natural Gas at their bid price of NYMEX commodity price minus \$0.35 per Dth. (Copy in official minutes)

ROLL CALL: For: Beal, Birks, Cappucci, Cooper, Moorhead, Olbrich, Remely,
Riemer, Lebowitz
Against: None
MOTION UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED

It was moved by Olbrich and seconded by Birks that the Board awards change order number ME-37-300 to McKamish at their price of \$47,515 for HVAC corrections. (Copy in official minutes)

ROLL CALL: For: Beal, Birks, Cappucci, Cooper, Moorhead, Olbrich, Remely,
Riemer, Lebowitz
Against: None

MOTION UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED

It was moved by Olbrich and seconded by Riemer that the Board approves the Student Adjudication in the form presented.

ROLL CALL: For: Beal, Birks, Cappucci, Cooper, Moorhead, Olbrich, Remely, Riemer, Lebowitz
Against: None
MOTION UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED

DISCUSSION

The Board held a discussion regarding air conditioning of the elementary and middle school buildings. The Board agreed to continue to pursue the option. No action taken.

BOARD ANNOUNCEMENT

Mrs. Cappucci announced that she would be resigning from her board position because of the District nepotism policy. A family member is interested in seeking employment in the District.

Mr. Lebowitz announced that the Board will have 30 days to fill the vacancy to expire in 2017. A notice will be published with the superintendent to receive resumes of interested candidates. The vacancy will be filled wither August 8 or 13. This evening is a notice that the position is open and the Board is asking for resumes.

COMMENTS FROM RESIDENTS

Twelve residents spoke before the Board about the following:

- Supports air conditioning at Jefferson Elementary; is a safety issue for child with health issues
- Supports air conditioning at all buildings
- Invited Board to visit schools
- Classrooms are too hot summer and winter
- Children have allergies
- Need working windows
- Supports any type of air conditioning
- Hard for children to concentrate with heat
- Portable air conditioner does not work
- Challenge for child with health issues
- Windows can't stay open at ground level due to safety issues
- If teachers don't like work conditions, then can leave the job
- Can't afford the air conditioning
- Does not like the timing of tax bills
- Do we know what funding we will get from the state
- Design/build will cost a premium since so few contractors can to the work
- Questioned O & M costs for air conditioning and is concerned
- Is concerned about impact of politics on cost for schools
- Concerned about where money for AC will come from
- Children have health issues with heat in buildings
- Questioned if there were any F-1 students this year and where were they coming from
- Questioned natural gas supply contract end
- Not interested in the vacant board position but wants process to be visible

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Lebowitz announced that an Executive Session was held before this evening's meeting for the purpose of personnel matters.

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 8:37 p.m.

Cecile D. Bowman, Secretary
Board of School Directors