

REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 17
BOARD OF EDUCATION – SPECIAL MEETING
June 26, 2018

A special meeting of the Regional School District No. 17 Board of Education was held on June 26, 2018 at Central Office in the Board Room. Board of Education Chair, Joanne Nesti, called the meeting to order at 7:08 PM.

Members Present: *Joel D'Angelo, Maura Wallin, Peter Sonski, Eileen Blewett, Suzanne Sack, Eric Couture, Sue Twachtman, Brenda Buzzi, and Joanne Nesti*

Members Absent: *Gerry Matthews and Kathy Zandi*

Also Present: *Superintendent of Schools, Howard Thiery, Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum and Instruction, Dr. Holly Hageman, Director of Finance, Martha Vaughn, Chairman of the Public Building Committee, Tom Hogarty, Public Building Committee Member, Chip Frey, Friar Associates, Mike Sorano, and Board Clerk, Jamie Sciascia.*

Visitors: *None.*

Call to Order/Opening of Meeting: *Board of Education Chair, Joanne Nesti, called the meeting to order at 7:08 PM. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.*

Old Business

A. High School Building Project

a) Report from Public Building Committee Report

Tom Hogarty updated the Board. He spoke about meeting with the Finance Committee regarding borrowing \$2M for current building projects. He addressed the Solar Project update, and advised that Shea Electric had trouble with obtaining the solar panels since they are coming from Canada. In terms of the timeframe now when the project will be completed, it is looking to be early December possibly Spring 2018. Board Members raised questions as to the contractor being aware of the strict time table that was in place before the project went out to bid amongst other important questions. Doug Rogers, from CREC, who is the project manager, was out of state at the time; therefore, nothing could be addressed until his return.

Mike Sorano updated the Board. He briefly went over how the State asked that they break up the price of the solar panels as to what the budget will allow, with the base design and add alternates on to the contract. Mike advised that all the loud work will be completed at the end of the summer. Superintendent Thiery stated that we will lose about two months of work and Board Members also raised concerns about this project on during normal school hours with students in the school. Also, Superintendent Thiery spoke about how the cash flow that was just authorized to the PBC has been impacted by this project being halted. Board Member, Suzanne Sack, requested no further payments to CREC until this gets rectified. Also, she reiterated that Board Members should know the certainty of monies going in and out on any project like this once it commences.

Sue Twachtman **MOVED** and Eric Couture **SECONDED** a motion to move up Item 4D, Oil Tank Removal on the Agenda.

Motion passed unanimously 9-0-0 by the following show of hands:

Suzanne Sack	YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	NO <input type="checkbox"/>	A <input type="checkbox"/>	Joel D'Angelo	YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	NO <input type="checkbox"/>	A <input type="checkbox"/>
Peter Sonski	YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	NO <input type="checkbox"/>	A <input type="checkbox"/>	Eileen Blewett	YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	NO <input type="checkbox"/>	A <input type="checkbox"/>
Maura Wallin	YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	NO <input type="checkbox"/>	A <input type="checkbox"/>	Brenda Buzzi	YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	NO <input type="checkbox"/>	A <input type="checkbox"/>
Eric Couture	YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	NO <input type="checkbox"/>	A <input type="checkbox"/>	Gerry Matthews	Absent		
Sue Twachtman	YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	NO <input type="checkbox"/>	A <input type="checkbox"/>	Kathleen Zandi	Absent		
				Joanne Nesti	YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	NO <input type="checkbox"/>	A <input type="checkbox"/>

New Business:

D. Oil Tank Removal

Mike Sorano updated the Board. Mike spoke about the KES Oil Tank Removal and the reimbursement from the State will be approximately \$70,000. He also stated that State will not reimburse the District for the HES Oil Tank Removal since the building will soon be closing.

Superintendent Thiery read 5 resolutions to the Board and briefly gave a summary of each in order for the Board to make a motion regarding the Oil Tank Removal and Reimbursement which is set forth below.

Eric Couture **MOVED** and Joel D'Angelo **SECONDED** a motion to: 1) Authorize the RSD17 Board of Education to apply to the Commissioner of Administrative Services to accept or reject a grant for the underground fuel storage tank replacement project at Killingworth Elementary School; 2) Establish the Underground Fuel Storage Tank Committee as the Building Committee with regard to the underground fuel storage tank replacement project at Killingworth Elementary School; 3) Authorize the preparation of schematic drawings and outline specifications for the underground fuel storage tank replacement project at Killingworth Elementary School; 4) Appropriate \$152,000 for the underground fuel storage tank replacement at Killingworth Elementary School from the RSD17 Capital Fund 06; and 5) Adopt the educational specifications for the Town of Killingworth underground storage tank project as presented.

Motion passed unanimously 9-0-0 by the following votes:

Suzanne Sack	YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	NO <input type="checkbox"/>	A <input type="checkbox"/>	Joel D'Angelo	YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	NO <input type="checkbox"/>	A <input type="checkbox"/>
Peter Sonski	YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	NO <input type="checkbox"/>	A <input type="checkbox"/>	Eileen Blewett	YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	NO <input type="checkbox"/>	A <input type="checkbox"/>
Maura Wallin	YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	NO <input type="checkbox"/>	A <input type="checkbox"/>	Brenda Buzzi	YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	NO <input type="checkbox"/>	A <input type="checkbox"/>
Eric Couture	YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	NO <input type="checkbox"/>	A <input type="checkbox"/>	Gerry Matthews	Absent		
Sue Twachtman	YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	NO <input type="checkbox"/>	A <input type="checkbox"/>	Kathleen Zandi	Absent		
				Joanne Nesti	YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	NO <input type="checkbox"/>	A <input type="checkbox"/>

B. Strategic Capital Planning Committee Report

Suzanne Sack updated the Board. She stated how Board Member, Peter Sonski, lined up three commercial real estate agents that came to HES to give a synopsis on what the Board should do with the HES building once it is empty. The recommendation from all was to begin marketing the building to hopefully get much interest as possible. Suzanne also spoke about the possible town's interest and piecing data together to make a check list of the process to follow to make a smooth transition. Also, she spoke briefly about making the HES building assessable to everyone that is interested in seeing it.

Superintendent Thiery updated the Board. He stated how there have been two committee meetings held, one for design of the intermediate school and then the two primary schools. He stated that over the summer the Admin team will be working to design and obtain raw material/ideas for the various committees in September. Also, spoke on engaging the Community in the process and keeping updates posted on the RSD17 website and social media. Board Member, Peter Sonski, will work on the real estate aspect of it and coordinate with Board Member, Gerry Matthews, for the social media aspect of it. Lastly, Superintendent Thiery briefly spoke about how Dr. Holly Hageman is talking with other various intermediate schools that have the same District layout.

Consent Agenda:

The donations on the Consent Agenda are made to the school system as a whole, and the Superintendent may direct any monies to specific schools or programs at his discretion.

- A. Acceptance of a donation in the amount of \$100.00 from the Haddam Junior Woman’s Club to be deposited into the Student Activity Fund. Submitted by Eric D. Larson, Principal of Burr Elementary School.
- B. Acceptance of a donation in the amount of \$50.00 from the Community Foundation of Middlesex County, Inc. to be used for Memorial Day Poetry Awards and to be deposited into the Student Activity Account. Submitted by Dr. Jennifer Olsen, Principal of Haddam-Killingworth Middle School.
- C. Acceptance of a donation in the amount of \$1,159.06 from Stop & Shop A+ Rewards to be deposited into the Student Activity Account. Submitted by Dr. Jennifer Olsen, Principal of Haddam-Killingworth Middle School.
- D. Acceptance of a donation in the amount of \$1,049.25 from Stop & Shop A+ Rewards to be deposited into the Student Activity Donation Fund. Submitted by Eric D. Larson, Principal of Burr Elementary School.
- E. Acceptance of a donation in the amount of \$1,511.32 from Stop & Shop A+ Rewards to be deposited into the Principal’s SAF Account. Submitted by Donna L. Hayward, Principal of Haddam-Killingworth High School.
- F. Acceptance of a donation in the amount of \$60.47 from Lathrop Vending, Inc. Submitted by Donna Hayward, Principal of Haddam-Killingworth High School.

*Maura Wallin **MOVED** and Suzanne Sack **SECONDED** a motion to accept Items A-F listed on the Consent Agenda with gratitude.*

Motion passed unanimously 9-0-0 by the following show of hands:

Suzanne Sack	YES <u>√</u>	NO <u> </u>	A <u> </u>	Joel D’Angelo	YES <u>√</u>	NO <u> </u>	A <u> </u>
Peter Sonski	YES <u>√</u>	NO <u> </u>	A <u> </u>	Eileen Blewett	YES <u>√</u>	NO <u> </u>	A <u> </u>
Maura Wallin	YES <u>√</u>	NO <u> </u>	A <u> </u>	Brenda Buzzi	YES <u>√</u>	NO <u> </u>	A <u> </u>
Eric Couture	YES <u>√</u>	NO <u> </u>	A <u> </u>	Gerry Matthews	Absent		
Sue Twachtman	YES <u>√</u>	NO <u> </u>	A <u> </u>	Kathleen Zandi	Absent		
				Joanne Nesti	YES <u>√</u>	NO <u> </u>	A <u> </u>

New Business:

A. Superintendent’s Contract and Evaluation*

Board Chair, Nesti, TABLED the discussion to a later time in the meeting.

B. Social Media Policy

Joanne Nesti updated the Board. She spoke about the Social Media Policy and it was the consensus of the Board to ask the Policy Committee to take a look at it; specifically, as part of the Committee's work on Section 4000.

*Peter Sonski **MOVED** and Sue Twachtman **SECONDED** a motion to move the Social Media Policy to the Policy Committee for their assessment and recommendation.*

Motion passed unanimously 9-0-0 by the following votes:

Suzanne Sack	YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	NO <input type="checkbox"/>	A <input type="checkbox"/>	Joel D'Angelo	YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	NO <input type="checkbox"/>	A <input type="checkbox"/>
Peter Sonski	YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	NO <input type="checkbox"/>	A <input type="checkbox"/>	Eileen Blewett	YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	NO <input type="checkbox"/>	A <input type="checkbox"/>
Maura Wallin	YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	NO <input type="checkbox"/>	A <input type="checkbox"/>	Brenda Buzzi	YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	NO <input type="checkbox"/>	A <input type="checkbox"/>
Eric Couture	YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	NO <input type="checkbox"/>	A <input type="checkbox"/>	Gerry Matthews	Absent		
Sue Twachtman	YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	NO <input type="checkbox"/>	A <input type="checkbox"/>	Kathleen Zandi	Absent		
				Joanne Nesti	YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	NO <input type="checkbox"/>	A <input type="checkbox"/>

C. Trash Contract Bid

Superintendent Thiery updated the Board. He spoke about the Trash contract coming up for Renewal, how it went out to bid late spring and came back with 1 bidder. The bid went out a second time, and they did get one other bidder who unfortunately, did not meet the requirements. All Waste is the bidder and also holds the Trash Contract right now. Superintendent Thiery will update the Board with the bid amount and further details at the next Board meeting in July.

From the Director of Fiscal Operations:

A. Budget Transfers

Martha Vaughn updated the Board. Martha included in the BOE packet two Budget Transfers that the Finance Committee reviewed back in May. She briefly spoke about each Budget Transfer in detail before a motion was made.

*Peter Sonski **MOVED** and Eileen Blewett **SECONDED** a motion to approve the Budget Transfers as presented.*

Motion passed unanimously 9-0-0 by the following votes:

Suzanne Sack	YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	NO <input type="checkbox"/>	A <input type="checkbox"/>	Joel D'Angelo	YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	NO <input type="checkbox"/>	A <input type="checkbox"/>
Peter Sonski	YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	NO <input type="checkbox"/>	A <input type="checkbox"/>	Eileen Blewett	YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	NO <input type="checkbox"/>	A <input type="checkbox"/>
Maura Wallin	YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	NO <input type="checkbox"/>	A <input type="checkbox"/>	Brenda Buzzi	YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	NO <input type="checkbox"/>	A <input type="checkbox"/>
Eric Couture	YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	NO <input type="checkbox"/>	A <input type="checkbox"/>	Gerry Matthews	Absent		
Sue Twachtman	YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	NO <input type="checkbox"/>	A <input type="checkbox"/>	Kathleen Zandi	Absent		
				Joanne Nesti	YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	NO <input type="checkbox"/>	A <input type="checkbox"/>

B. End of Year Fund/Balance Report

Martha Vaughn updated the Board. Martha distributed to the Board the Project Balance for fiscal year ending June 30th and briefly gave a summary of same. She spoke on Funding Capital at 1%, and Reduction of State Grants. Board Member, Suzanne Sack, thanked the Leadership both at Board level and that of Superintendent Thiery for the amazing work to make this happen. She also stated that this is the result of coordination with both Towns, and result of good planning to

get half of the capital funded. Board Chair, Joanne Nesti, spoke briefly how communication is so important in this process and both the First Selectwomen were heard and listened to and heard on the reduction.

Suzanne Sack **MOVED** and Peter Sonski **SECONDED** a motion to approve transferring \$208,877.18 from the Operating Budget to the Capital Fund 06 by June 30th.

Motion passed unanimously 9-0-0 by the following votes:

Suzanne Sack	YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	NO <input type="checkbox"/>	A <input type="checkbox"/>	Joel D'Angelo	YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	NO <input type="checkbox"/>	A <input type="checkbox"/>
Peter Sonski	YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	NO <input type="checkbox"/>	A <input type="checkbox"/>	Eileen Blewett	YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	NO <input type="checkbox"/>	A <input type="checkbox"/>
Maura Wallin	YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	NO <input type="checkbox"/>	A <input type="checkbox"/>	Brenda Buzzi	YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	NO <input type="checkbox"/>	A <input type="checkbox"/>
Eric Couture	YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	NO <input type="checkbox"/>	A <input type="checkbox"/>	Gerry Matthews	Absent		
Sue Twachtman	YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	NO <input type="checkbox"/>	A <input type="checkbox"/>	Kathleen Zandi	Absent		
				Joanne Nesti	YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	NO <input type="checkbox"/>	A <input type="checkbox"/>

Executive Session:

Sue Twachtman **MOVED** and Maura Wallin **SECONDED** a motion to enter into Executive Session regarding documents related to a contract negotiation and a legal matter.

Motion passed unanimously 9-0-0 by the following votes:

Suzanne Sack	YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	NO <input type="checkbox"/>	A <input type="checkbox"/>	Joel D'Angelo	YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	NO <input type="checkbox"/>	A <input type="checkbox"/>
Peter Sonski	YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	NO <input type="checkbox"/>	A <input type="checkbox"/>	Eileen Blewett	YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	NO <input type="checkbox"/>	A <input type="checkbox"/>
Maura Wallin	YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	NO <input type="checkbox"/>	A <input type="checkbox"/>	Brenda Buzzi	YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	NO <input type="checkbox"/>	A <input type="checkbox"/>
Eric Couture	YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	NO <input type="checkbox"/>	A <input type="checkbox"/>	Gerry Matthews	Absent		
Sue Twachtman	YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	NO <input type="checkbox"/>	A <input type="checkbox"/>	Kathleen Zandi	Absent		
				Joanne Nesti	YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	NO <input type="checkbox"/>	A <input type="checkbox"/>

The Board went into Executive Session at 8:10 p.m.

Superintendent Thiery left the meeting at approximately 8:25 p.m.

The Board came out of Executive Session at 8:44 p.m.

Maura Wallin **MOVED** and Sue Twachtman **SECONDED** a motion to accept and evergreen the contract for Superintendent Howard Thiery.

Motion passed 8-0-1 by the following votes:

Suzanne Sack	YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	NO <input type="checkbox"/>	A <input type="checkbox"/>	Joel D'Angelo	YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	NO <input type="checkbox"/>	A <input type="checkbox"/>
Peter Sonski	YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	NO <input type="checkbox"/>	A <input type="checkbox"/>	Eileen Blewett	YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	NO <input type="checkbox"/>	A <input type="checkbox"/>
Maura Wallin	YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	NO <input type="checkbox"/>	A <input type="checkbox"/>	Brenda Buzzi	YES <input type="checkbox"/>	NO <input type="checkbox"/>	A <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Eric Couture	YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	NO <input type="checkbox"/>	A <input type="checkbox"/>	Gerry Matthews	Absent		
Sue Twachtman	YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	NO <input type="checkbox"/>	A <input type="checkbox"/>	Kathleen Zandi	Absent		
				Joanne Nesti	YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	NO <input type="checkbox"/>	A <input type="checkbox"/>

Maura Wallin **MOVED** and Eric Couture **SECONDED** a motion to increase the salary of Superintendent Howard Thiery to \$190,000.

Motion passed unanimously 9-0-0 by the following votes:

Suzanne Sack	YES <u>√</u>	NO <u> </u>	A <u> </u>	Joel D'Angelo	YES <u>√</u>	NO <u> </u>	A <u> </u>
Peter Sonski	YES <u>√</u>	NO <u> </u>	A <u> </u>	Eileen Blewett	YES <u>√</u>	NO <u> </u>	A <u> </u>
Maura Wallin	YES <u>√</u>	NO <u> </u>	A <u> </u>	Brenda Buzzi	YES <u>√</u>	NO <u> </u>	A <u> </u>
Eric Couture	YES <u>√</u>	NO <u> </u>	A <u> </u>	Gerry Matthews	Absent		
Sue Twachtman	YES <u>√</u>	NO <u> </u>	A <u> </u>	Kathleen Zandi	Absent		
				Joanne Nesti	YES <u>√</u>	NO <u> </u>	A <u> </u>

Adjournment:

Board Chair, Joanne Nesti, called for the meeting to adjourn at 8:45 PM.

Respectfully submitted,



Jayne Sciascia
Board Clerk

Approval: 
Eileen Blewett, Secretary

Date: 8/7/18