

District Budget Meeting
Regional School District 14
June 5, 2012

A District Meeting of Regional School District 14 was held on Tuesday, June 5, 2012, in the library of Nonnewaug High School, 5 Minortown Road, Woodbury, CT, at 7:00 p.m.

Present: Board members Charles Cosgriff, John Chapman, Maryanne Van Aken, Pamela Zmek, John Swendsen, Sophiezane Bartlett and George Bauer; Superintendent Jody Ian Goeler; Director of Finance/Operations James Reese

Absent: Board member Gary Suslavich

Audience: Six community members

Note: Prior to the meeting being called to order, Mr. Goeler responded to a contention made at the last district meeting that the public should be permitted to choose the moderator. Mr. Goeler communicated the opinion of Board counsel which was that, "We are unaware of any statute, regulation or court case requiring the public to select the moderator for the public district meeting under C.G.S. 10-51. Such a meeting must be conducted in accordance with C.G.S. 7-7, which simply states the town (or regional school district in this case) shall choose a moderator. Since the school conducts the meeting, by inference one would conclude that it (or its board chair) has the duty of selecting the moderator. Moreover, the statute describes the public voting rights and process at such meeting, but excludes any mention of public voting for the moderator. So, our analysis at this point concludes that the existing practice with regard to the moderator for tonight's district meeting is sound." Mr. Goeler went on to say that if further research into this issue is desired by the Board, it should direct him to have our attorney continue to pursue that. Board members indicated that they did not require any further information.

I. **CALL TO ORDER**

Mr. Cosgriff called the meeting to order at 7:07 pm

II. **APPOINTMENT OF MODERATOR**

Mr. Cosgriff appointed Mr. George Hale to serve as Moderator

III. **APPOINTMENT OF MEETING CLERK BY MODERATOR**

Mr. Hale appointed Debra Carlton to serve a meeting clerk

IV. **CALL OF MEETING**

Mr. Hale read the following call:

All electors and citizens who are qualified to vote in town meetings of the Towns of Bethlehem and Woodbury, Connecticut, are hereby notified and warned that a District Meeting of Regional School District No. 14 will be held in the library of Nonnewaug High School, Woodbury, Connecticut on Tuesday, June 5, 2012, at 7:00 p.m., for the following purpose:

TO CONSIDER THE BUDGET SUBMITTED BY THE BOARD OF EDUCATION FOR REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 14 FOR THE FISCAL YEAR COMMENCING JULY 1, 2012 AND ENDING JUNE 30, 2013 IN THE AMOUNT OF \$30,817,765.

The vote on said budget will be by the voting machines in the towns of Bethlehem and Woodbury, Connecticut, Wednesday, June 6, 2012, the day following the District Meeting.

V. NOTE OF REFERENDUM HOURS

Mr. Hale noted the following referendum hours:

Referendum Wednesday, June 6, 2012 from 6:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.

VI. STATEMENT BY CHAIRPERSON

Mr. Cosgriff issued the following statement:

I present the 2012-2013 School District Budget, approved by the Region 14 Board of Education in the amount of \$30,817,765 in accordance with Section 10-51 of the Connecticut General Statutes.

In accordance with Section 10-51 of the Connecticut General Statutes, the Region 14 Board of Education has established a Capital Reserve Fund in which the annual appropriation shall not exceed 1% of the annual district operating budget.

In accordance with Section 10-51 (a) of the Connecticut General Statutes, the Region 14 Board of Education has a statement of Estimated Receipts and Expenditures for the 2011-2012 and 2012-2013 fiscal years, Estimated Surplus or Deficit in operating funds at the end of the current fiscal year, Bonded Debt, and Estimated Per Pupil Expenditures for the Current and Next Fiscal Year.

Mr. Hale requested that Mr. Cosgriff repeat the budget amount, as he was not clear on whether it was stated accurately.

Resident Tom Arras raised a point of order, explaining that the district is required to provide the information listed above.

Mr. Reese directed Mr. Arras to his budget packet, which contains that information.

VII. ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Hale read the following:

The Annual District Meeting this evening is to be considered in recess until the following day, June 6, 2012, when the polls open in each of the two member towns for the purpose of voting the question. The meeting shall then be considered adjourned following the close of the polls in the two member towns and announcements made of the results of the voting question.

Mr. Hale read the referendum question:

VOTING MACHINE INFORMATION

QUESTION:

SHALL THE BUDGET SUBMITTED BY THE BOARD OF EDUCATION
FOR REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 14 FOR THE FISCAL YEAR
COMMENCING JULY 1, 2012 AND ENDING JUNE 30, 2013 IN THE
TOTAL AMOUNT OF \$30,817,765 BE APPROVED?

___ YES

___ NO

Respectfully submitted pending Board of Education approval on June 6, 2012

Debra W. Carlton