

**REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 7**  
NEWBURY LIBRARY-MEDIA CENTER  
**BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING MINUTES**  
April 17, 2023 – 7 p.m.

**MOTIONS**

**PRESENT:** Chair Ms. Molly Sexton Read (B), Vice-Chair Mr. Robert Jerram (NH), Ms. Theresa Kenneson (C), Ms. Deborah Bell (N), Ms. Kim Crone (N), Ms. Mary Duran (B), Ms. Lisa Fragale(C), Superintendent Dr. Judith Palmer, Middle School Principal Mr. Fran Amara, Director of Finance & Operations Mr. James Gaskins. Student Representatives: Ms. Fiona Leon, and Ms. Morgan Plitt.

**Absent:** Secretary/Treasurer Mr. Noel Gauthier (NH), High School Principal Mr. Gary Franklin.

**CALL TO ORDER:** Ms. Sexton Read called the Board of Education meeting to order at 7:02 p.m.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**MOTION** by Ms. Bell, seconded by Ms. Crone, to **APPROVE** the March 22, 2023 First Informal Budget Presentation-Colebrook Minutes, as presented. **AYE:** Ms. Sexton Read, Mr. Jerram, Ms. Bell, Ms. Crone, Ms. Fragale.

**NAY:** None. **ABSTAIN:** Ms. Kenneson, Ms. Duran. **MOTION PASSED.**

**MOTION** by Ms. Fragale, seconded by Ms. Bell, to **APPROVE** the March 22, 2023 Regular Board of Education Meeting-Colebrook Minutes, as presented. **AYE:** Ms. Sexton Read, Mr. Jerram, Ms. Bell, Ms. Crone, Ms. Fragale.

**NAY:** None. **ABSTAIN:** Ms. Kenneson, Ms. Duran. **MOTION PASSED.**

**MOTION** by Mr. Jerram, seconded by Ms. Crone, to **APPROVE** the March 24, 2023 Special Board of Education Meeting-Student Expulsion Minutes, as presented. **AYE:** Ms. Sexton Read, Mr. Jerram, Ms. Crone.

**NAY:** None. **ABSTAIN:** Ms. Kenneson, Ms. Duran, Ms. Bell, Ms. Fragale. **MOTION PASSED.**

**MOTION** by Ms. Crone, seconded by Ms. Kenneson, to **APPROVE** the March 29, 2023 Second Informal Budget Presentation-Norfolk Minutes, as presented. **AYE:** Ms. Sexton Read, Mr. Jerram, Ms. Bell, Ms. Crone, Ms. Fragale, Ms. Kenneson, Ms. Duran. **NAY:** None. **ABSTAIN:** None. **MOTION PASSED.**

**MOTION** by Ms. Duran, seconded by Mr. Jerram, to **APPROVE** the April 4, 2023 Third Informal Budget Presentation-Barkhamsted Minutes, as presented. **AYE:** Ms. Sexton Read, Mr. Jerram, Ms. Bell, Ms. Duran. **NAY:** None. **ABSTAIN:** Ms. Crone, Ms. Kenneson, Ms. Fragale. **MOTION PASSED.**

**MOTION** by Mr. Jerram, seconded by Ms. Fragale, to **APPROVE** the April 6, 2023 Fourth Informal Budget Presentation- New Hartford Minutes, as presented. **AYE:** Ms. Sexton Read, Mr. Jerram, Ms. Bell, Ms. Duran, Ms. Crone, Ms. Bell. **NAY:** None. **ABSTAIN:** Ms. Kenneson. **MOTION PASSED.**

**MOTION** by Ms. Fragale, seconded by Ms. Bell, to **APPROVE** the April 6, 2023 Regular Board of Education Meeting- New Hartford Minutes, as presented. **AYE:** Ms. Sexton Read, Mr. Jerram, Ms. Bell, Ms. Crone, Ms. Fragale, Ms. Kenneson, Ms. Duran. **NAY:** None. **ABSTAIN:** None. **MOTION PASSED.**

**NEW BUSINESS**

**ADOPTION OF BUDGET TO TAKE TO ANNUAL DISTRICT BUDGET MEETING- May 1, 2023:**

The Board agreed to move forward to Referendum with a 2023-2024 Proposed Budget of \$23,455,528 representing an increase of \$553,150 and 2.42 percent.

**MOTION** by Ms. Kenneson, seconded by Ms. Bell, to **ADOPT** the 2023-2024 Proposed Budget of **\$23,455,528 TO TAKE TO THE ANNUAL DISTRICT BUDGET MEETING** on Monday, May 1, 2023. This represents a 2.42 percent increase over 2022-2023 budget expenditures. **AYE:** Ms. Sexton Read, Mr. Jerram, Ms. Bell, Ms. Crone, Ms. Duran, Ms. Fragale, Ms. Kenneson. **NAY:** None. **ABSTAIN:** None. **MOTION PASSED.**

## **ADOPTION OF THE CALL OF ANNUAL DISTRICT MEETING WITH REFERENDUM**

Notice of DISTRICT MEETING as read by Ms. Sexton Read:

“A District Meeting of Regional School District No. 7 will be held on Monday, May 1, 2023, at 7:00 p.m., at the school building in Winsted, Connecticut, for the following business:

- 1) To authorize the Regional Board of Education to apply for, accept, and expend, in addition to the regular school budget, any state, federal or private grant money which may be available for special purposes during the fiscal year 2023-2024.
- 2) To accept the annual budget for the fiscal year commencing July 1, 2023. Copies of the budget are on hand in the offices of the Town Clerks of each of the member towns.

**The Board of Education for Regional School District No.7 has designated that the vote on the Motion to adopt the budget shall be by a “yes” or “no” vote on the optical scan machines in each of the member towns on Tuesday, May 2, 2023 with hours to be set by individual towns as established by state statutes.**

Dated this 17<sup>th</sup> day of April, 2023 at Winsted, Connecticut, and signed by Molly Sexton Read, Chair, Board of Education, Regional School District No. 7.”

**MOTION** by Ms. Crone, seconded by Ms. Duran, to **ADOPT** Call for Annual District Meeting on Monday, May 1, 2023, 7 p.m. in the Roberta S. Ohotnicky Little Theater, as presented by Ms. Sexton Read. **AYE:** Ms. Sexton Read, Mr. Jerram, Ms. Bell, Ms. Crone, Ms. Duran, Ms. Fragale, Ms. Kenneson. **NAY:** None. **ABSTAIN:** None. **MOTION PASSED.**

### **AUTHORIZATION OF EXPLANATORY TEXT**

**MOTION** by Ms. Fragale, seconded by Mr. Jerram, to **AUTHORIZE** the Secretary of the Board of Education to prepare and cause to be printed and disseminated a concise explanatory text with respect to the 2023-2024 budget referendum question that will be submitted to the District’s voters, subject to any necessary further legal review and approval by District legal counsel, and which shall otherwise be prepared, printed, and disseminated in accordance with Connecticut General Statutes Section 9-369b and the Secretary’s discretion, and to be amended as necessary. **AYE:** Ms. Sexton Read, Mr. Jerram, Ms. Bell, Ms. Crone, Ms. Duran, Ms. Fragale, Ms. Kenneson. **NAY:** None. **ABSTAIN:** None. **MOTION PASSED.**

### **APPOINTMENT OF AUDITORS**

Based on Mr. Gaskins’ recommendation, the following Motion was made:

**MOTION** by Ms. Kenneson, seconded by Ms. Duran, to **APPOINT** KING, KING AND ASSOCIATES, Certified Public Accountants, as auditors for the 2023-2024 school year. **AYE:** Ms. Sexton Read, Mr. Jerram, Ms. Bell, Ms. Crone, Ms. Duran, Ms. Fragale, Ms. Kenneson. **NAY:** None. **ABSTAIN:** None. **MOTION PASSED.**

### **CORRESPONDENCE**

#### **APPROVAL OF HIGHLANDER BASKETBALL CAMP**

**MOTION** by Ms. Duran, seconded by Ms. Crone, to **APPROVE** the building use for the Highlander Basketball Camp from July 10, 2023 to July 14, 2023, as presented in the letter of request by Brendan Fritch. **AYE:** Ms. Sexton Read, Mr. Jerram, Ms. Bell, Ms. Crone, Ms. Duran, Ms. Fragale, Ms. Kenneson. **NAY:** None. **ABSTAIN:** None. **MOTION PASSED.**

#### **OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC TO SPEAK ON AGENDA ITEMS**

None.

Brief discussion regarding the next Regular Board of Education meeting scheduled for April 26, 2023, and following Motion was made.

**MOTION** by Ms. Kenneson, seconded by Ms. Fragale, to **CANCEL** the regularly scheduled Board of Education meeting on April 26, 2023. **AYE:** Ms. Sexton Read, Mr. Jerram, Ms. Bell, Ms. Crone, Ms. Duran, Ms. Fragale, Ms. Kenneson. **NAY:** None. **ABSTAIN:** None. **MOTION PASSED.**

### **ADJOURNMENT**

**MOTION** by Ms. Fragale, seconded by Ms. Bell, to **ADJOURN** at 7:48 p.m. **AYE:** Ms. Sexton Read, Mr. Jerram, Ms. Bell, Ms. Crone, Ms. Duran, Ms. Fragale, Ms. Kenneson. **NAY:** None. **ABSTAIN:** None. **MOTION PASSED.**

Respectfully submitted,

Diane Barrett  
Board Clerk