

**SHELTER ISLAND UNION FREE SCHOOL DISTRICT
BOARD OF EDUCATION**

**SPECIAL MEETING
April 19, 2023**

- Members Present: Margaret Colligan, Katherine Rossi-Snook, Kathleen Lynch, Tracy McCarthy, Dawn Hedberg
- Others Present: Dr. Brian Doelger, Superintendent; Todd Gulluscio, Director of Athletics, Physical Education, Health, Wellness, & Personnel; Jacqueline Dunning, District Clerk; Deborah Vecchio, District Treasurer; Julie Lane, Shelter Island Reporter; 13 faculty/staff/student and 5 community residents
- Absent: Karina Montalvo; Jennifer Rylott, Assistant Superintendent; Deborah Vecchio, District Treasurer; Harrison Weslek, Student Liaison

The meeting was called to order at 5:03 pm by President Colligan.

Executive Session

A motion was made by Tracy McCarthy, seconded by Kathleen Lynch, BE IT RESOLVED THAT: The Board of Education hereby voted to go into an executive session at 5:03 pm to discuss the employment of particular individuals in the District.

The members of the Board of Education came out of Executive Session at 6:00 pm. President Colligan led everyone in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Dawn Hedberg read the following Shelter Island School Mission Statement – Engage, Explore, Empower:

We want our students to cherish our small Island community while applying and expanding their learning about, understanding of, and engagement with the wider world. To do this, they must be: ethical and moral individuals; respectful and responsible communicators; creative and analytical thinkers; knowledgeable and literate readers, writers, mathematicians and scientists; participants in and audiences for art, drama, music, athletics, and other artistic, cultural, and social activities; skilled and successful workers and consumers; and committed and active citizens.

Visitor Questions (Specific to the agenda)

Councilwoman Barbara Jean Ianfolla made a plea to the Board of Education to reconsider joining the Town’s septic system project. Ms. Ianfolla pointed out that the school’s planned IA system would continue the pollution of Menantic Creek and that waste water treatment is better for the environment. Ms. Ianfolla stated that anything above 10 milligrams of nitrates in drinking water is considered toxic and questioned how the Board of Education is okay with installing a system that will bring those levels to 19 when 3 milligrams is within reach with the Town’s proposed system. Ms. Ianfolla went on to say that the Town jumped through hoops to prove the impact the proposed system would have. Next, Ms. Ianfolla referred to the Green Amendment of the New York State Constitution’s Bill of Rights which states, “each person shall have a right to clean air and water, and healthful environment.” Ms. Ianfolla stated that this refers to both fresh and salt water and noted that installing an IA system at the school could be a violation of the constitution. In closing, Ms. Ianfolla asked the Board of Education to act in the best interest of the Island for the long-term.

President Colligan told Councilwoman Ianfolla that the Town Board and Engineer Joe Finora did a great job giving the Board of Education information along the way, but the Board cannot put this project off any longer. The plan is to install an IA system to reduce what we can now. It may not be perfect right now, but there is potential for the future.

Dr. Brian Doelger stated that the Board of Education is doing what they think is best for the environment now and that when the system is completed in September, the nitrogen levels will be better. Dr. Doelger stated that it was made clear to the Town that the district had a December 2022 deadline and he also cited the fact that the financing agreement changed – not that the financing was a big reason for the district to move forward with its own IA system. Dr. Doelger reiterated that the Board of Education believes they are doing something good for the Town.

President Colligan assured Councilwoman Ianfolla that the installation of an IA system at the school would not be sealed and forever, and that if the Town moves forward with their project, the school still has the ability to join.

Call to Order

Executive Session

Pledge of Allegiance

Mission Statement

Visitor Questions

Kathleen Lynch thanked Councilwoman Ianfolla, stating how she could see how passionate she was about the topic. Ms. Lynch stated that she has been talking about septic for nine (9) out of the ten (10) years she has been on the Board of Education and that it's now time to remediate what we can and open school in September.

Tracy McCarthy stated that installing an IA system is the best the Board of Education feels they can do for now. Councilwoman Ianfolla responded that the decision the district makes now should be the one that is best for the future, not the immediate moment in time.

Kathleen Lynch reiterated that the Board of is open to improving the system in the future; adding that what they are not open to is the price increasing more and more as the project is put further on hold. Councilwoman Ianfolla disagreed about the costs continuing to rise; citing that a recession is near. Reading the room, Ms. Ianfolla stated that she was done. Ms. Lynch assured her that the room was a friendly one, with no time limits on speaking and she was welcome to continue speaking. Ms. Ianfolla declined and thanked the Board of Education for their time.

Presentations

Disney Field Trip

Officers of the Classes of 2027 and 2028 asked permission for their classes to attend the Disney Field Trip in Orlando, FL on November 5, 2023 through November 11, 2023; pending the passing of the 2023-2024 proposed budget on Tuesday, May 16, 2023.

A motion was made by Kathleen Lynch, seconded by Katherine Rossi-Snook, BE IT RESOLVED THAT: The Board hereby approves the following agenda item: 6.1

6.1 Disney Trip

- a. Approve the Classes of 2027 and 2028 to attend the Disney Field Trip, in Orlando, FL on November 5, 2023 through November 11, 2023; pending the passing of the 2023-2024 Proposed Budget on Tuesday, May 16, 2023.

Motion carried unanimously.

2023 Library Renovation Special Vote

Terry Lucas, Shelter Island Public Library Director requested the Board of Education approve a special meeting of the voters of the school district to be scheduled for Saturday, June 17, 2023 for the purpose of voting on the construction of additions, alterations and improvements to the existing Library building and approve the legal notice.

A motion was made by Kathleen Lynch, seconded by Tracy McCarthy, BE IT RESOLVED THAT: The Board hereby approves the following agenda item: 6.2

6.2 2023 Library Renovation Special Vote

- a. Approve the special meeting of the voters of the school district to be scheduled for Saturday, June 17, 2023 for the purpose of voting on the construction of additions, alterations and improvements to the existing Library building and approve the legal notice as follows.

WHEREAS, pursuant to Section 260 of the Education Law (the "Section 260"), the Board of Trustees of the Shelter Island Public Library Society, located in the Town of Shelter Island, Suffolk County, New York (the "Library") has, by resolution adopted on April 17, 2023, determined that it is necessary and desirable to construct additions, alterations and improvements to the existing Library building (the "Project"); and has requested the Board of Education of the Shelter Island Union Free School District to call, give notice of and conduct a Special District Meeting on behalf of the Library, all in accordance with the provisions set forth herein, for the purposes of voting upon a proposition authorizing the Project, the financing thereof and certain other matters related thereto.

Now, therefore, be it RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF EDUCATION OF THE SHELTER ISLAND UNION FREE SCHOOL DISTRICT, IN THE COUNTY OF SUFFOLK, NEW YORK AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. A Special District Meeting of the qualified voters of the Shelter Island Union Free School District, in the County of Suffolk, New York (the "District"), shall be held on Saturday, June 17, 2023 at 10:00 o'clock A.M. (Prevailing Time) at the Shelter Island Public Library Society, 37 North Ferry Road, Shelter Island, New York, as provided in the Notice calling said Special District Meeting hereinafter prescribed. The voting at such Special District Meeting shall be by paper ballot, as provided by the Education Law, and the polls shall remain open from 10:00 o'clock A.M. until 4:00 o'clock P.M. (Prevailing Time) on said day and as much longer as may be necessary to enable the voters, then present, to cast their votes.

Section 2. The business to be acted upon at said Special District Meeting shall be as stated in the Notice thereof, and the District Clerk is hereby authorized and directed to cause the Notice of said Special District Meeting to be published in "The Reporter" and "Noticia," two newspapers each having a general circulation in the District, such publications to be made four (4) times within the seven (7) weeks next preceding such Special District Meeting, the first publications to be at least forty-five (45) days prior to the date of said Special District Meeting.

Section 3. Said Notice of Special District Meeting shall be substantially in the following form:

NOTICE OF SPECIAL DISTRICT MEETING OF THE SHELTER ISLAND UNION FREE SCHOOL DISTRICT ON BEHALF OF THE SHELTER ISLAND PUBLIC LIBRARY SOCIETY, LOCATED IN THE TOWN OF SHELTER ISLAND, SUFFOLK COUNTY, NEW YORK

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Board of Education of the Shelter Island Union Free School District, in the County of Suffolk, New York, has adopted a resolution on April 19, 2023, authorizing a Special District Meeting of the qualified voters of said School District to be held on

Saturday, June 17, 2023

from 10:00 o'clock A.M. to 4:00 o'clock P.M. (Prevailing Time) at the Library building located at 37 North Ferry Road, Shelter Island, New York, for the purpose of voting upon the following Bond Proposition:

LIBRARY PROPOSITION

RESOLVED:

The Board of Trustees of the Shelter Island Public Library Society (the "Library") located in the Town of Shelter Island, Suffolk County, New York is hereby authorized: (i) to construct additions, alterations and improvements to the Library building located at 37 North Ferry Road, Shelter Island, New York, the foregoing to include the original furnishings, equipment, machinery, apparatus and ancillary or related site work required in connection therewith (the "Project"), substantially as described in a plan prepared by the Library with the assistance of BHC Architects, Melville, New York, which plan is on file and available for public inspection at the office of the Director of the Library; and to expend therefor, including preliminary costs and costs incidental thereto and to the financing thereof and to reimburse prior expenditures made by the Library for the Project, not to exceed the estimated cost \$9,500,000, plus any additional amounts received by the Library in connection with the financing of said Project, including but not limited to bond sale premiums, investment income on bond proceeds, grants, donations or charitable contributions; (ii) to finance such cost by borrowing a principal amount not to exceed \$9,500,000 from the Dormitory Authority of the State of New York (the "Dormitory Authority"), a qualified industrial development agency, local development corporation or other lending institution(s); (iii) to cause the appropriate taxing authority, or to authorize and direct the Shelter Island Union Free School District, pursuant to Education Law Section 259, to authorize and direct the appropriate taxing authority to levy therefor a tax payable in annual installments in an amount not to exceed \$727,000 per year, which annual installment of the tax shall be in addition to the amount raised annually by tax for the Library's annual appropriations, over a maximum period of thirty (30) years for the payment of all principal, interest, redemption premiums, if any, and expenses relating to the financing of the Project; (iv) to assign and pledge all of said tax to the Dormitory Authority, industrial development agency, local development corporation or other lending institution(s); and (v) to enter into mortgages, loan agreements and any other agreements and/or to take any and all other actions incidental or necessary to the completion of the Project and the financing thereof.

Such Library Proposition shall appear on the ballots used for voting at said Special District Meeting in substantially the following condensed form:

LIBRARY PROPOSITION

YES

NO

Presentations
(continued)

RESOLVED:

The Board of Trustees of the Shelter Island Public Library Society (the "Library") located in the Town of Shelter Island, Suffolk County, New York is hereby authorized: (i) to construct additions, alterations and improvements to the Library building located at 37 North Ferry Road, Shelter Island, New York (the "Project"), and to expend therefore, including the reimbursement of prior expenditures made by the Library for the Project, not to exceed \$9,500,000, plus any additional amounts received by the Library in connection with the funding of said Project; (ii) to finance such cost by borrowing a principal amount not to exceed \$9,500,000 from the Dormitory Authority of the State of New York (the "Dormitory Authority"), a qualified industrial development agency, local development corporation or other lending institution(s); (iii) to cause the appropriate taxing authority, or to authorize and direct the Shelter Island Union Free School District, pursuant to Education Law Section 259, to authorize and direct the appropriate taxing authority to levy therefor a tax payable in annual installments not to exceed \$727,000 per year, which annual installment of the tax shall be in addition to the amount raised annually by tax for the Library's annual appropriations, over a maximum period of thirty (30) years for the payment of all principal, interest, redemption premiums, if any, and expenses relating to the financing of the Project; (iv) to assign and pledge all of said tax to the Dormitory Authority, industrial development agency, local development corporation or other lending institution(s); and (v) to enter into mortgages, loan agreements and any other agreements and/or to take any and all other actions incidental or necessary to the completion of the Project and the financing thereof.

The voting will be conducted by paper ballot as provided in the Education Law and the polls will remain open from 10:00 o'clock A.M. to 4:00 o'clock P.M. (Prevailing Time) and as much longer as may be necessary to enable the voters then present to cast their ballots.

NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that personal registration of voters is required either pursuant to Section 2014 of the Education Law or pursuant to Article 5 of the Election Law. If a voter has heretofore registered pursuant to Section 2014 of the Education Law and has voted at an annual or special district meeting within the last four years, he/she is eligible to vote at this election; if a voter is registered and eligible to vote under Article 5 of the Election Law, he/she is also eligible to vote at this election. All other persons who wish to vote must register.

Registration for the purpose of registering all qualified voters of the District pursuant to Section 2014 of the Education Law who are to be added to the Register to be used at the aforesaid election will be conducted from 2:00 o'clock P.M. to 6:00 o'clock P.M., (Prevailing Time), on Thursday, June 8, 2023 at the Library building, located at 37 North Ferry Road, Shelter Island, New York, any person will be entitled to have his or her name placed on such Register, provided that he or she is known or proven to the satisfaction of the Registrar to be then or thereafter entitled to vote at the Special Meeting for which the register is to be prepared. The register so prepared pursuant to Section 2014 of the Education Law and the registration list prepared by the Board of Elections of Suffolk County will be filed in the Office of the Clerk of the School District and will be open for inspection to any qualified voter of the District beginning on each of the five (5) days prior to June 17, 2023 between the hours of 8:00 o'clock A.M. and 3:00 o'clock P.M., (Prevailing time); in addition, the registration list shall be available at the Library building on the day of the vote.

NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that applications for absentee ballots may be applied for at the Office of the District Clerk, 33 North Ferry Road, Shelter Island, New York, or at the Library building located at 37 North Ferry Road, Shelter Island, New York, between the hours of 8:00 o'clock A.M. and 3:00 o'clock P.M. (Prevailing Time) Monday through Friday, excluding holidays. If the ballot is to be mailed to the voter, the completed application must be received by the District Clerk no later than Friday, June 9, 2023. If the ballot is to be delivered personally to the voter at the office of the District Clerk, the completed application must be received by the District Clerk no later than Friday, June 16, 2023. Absentee ballots must be received by the District Clerk no later than 5:00 o'clock P.M. (Prevailing Time), on Saturday, June 17, 2023.

A list of all persons to whom absentee ballots shall have been issued will be available in the office of the District Clerk between the hours of 8:00 o'clock A.M. and 3:00 o'clock P.M. (Prevailing Time) on each of the five (5) days prior to the day set for the Special District Meeting, except Saturday and Sunday. Such list will also be posted in a conspicuous place at the polling place during the election or at such places as the Board of Education shall designate.

NOTICE is hereby given, that military voters who are not currently registered may apply to register as a qualified voter of the school district. Military voters who are qualified voters of the school district may submit an application for a military ballot. Military voters may designate a preference to receive a military voter registration, military ballot application or military ballot by mail, facsimile transmission or electronic mail in their request for such registration, ballot application or ballot. Military voter registration application forms must be received in the Office of the District Clerk no later than 5:00 P.M. (Prevailing Time) on May 24, 2023. Military ballot applications must be received in the Office of the District Clerk by mail or in person no later than 5:00 P.M. (Prevailing Time) on May 24, 2023. No military ballot will be canvassed unless it is returned by mail or in person and (1) received in the Office of the District Clerk before the close of the polls on election day and showing a cancellation mark of the United States postal service or a foreign country’s postal service, or showing a dated endorsement of receipt by another agency of the United States government; or (2) received by the Office of the District Clerk by no later than 5:00 p.m. on election day and signed and dated by the military voter and one witness thereto, with a date which is associated be not later than the day before the election. Only qualified voters who are duly registered will be permitted to vote.

NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that an Information Meeting will be held at the Library on June 7, 2023 at 5:00 P.M. (Prevailing Time). Library Trustees and personnel will be present to provide information to the public regarding the proposed improvements to the existing Library.

Motion carried unanimously.

Personnel

A motion was made by Tracy McCarthy, seconded by Dawn Hedberg, BE IT RESOLVED THAT: The Board of Education hereby accepts the recommendations of the Superintendent on the following Personnel actions: 7.1

7.1 Medical Leave

- a. Approve a medical leave of absence for Gregory Sulahian, Maintenance Worker, to commence on April 3, 2023, through on or about May 12, 2023; with said period credited towards the employee’s FMLA leave of absence.

Motion carried unanimously.

Program

A motion was made by Katherine Rossi-Snook, seconded by Kathleen Lynch, BE IT RESOLVED THAT: The Board of Education hereby accepts the recommendations of the Superintendent on the following Program actions: 8.1 – 8.2

8.1 Election of Members to the ESBOCES Board of Education

- a. To cast votes for up to five (5) candidates for the Eastern Suffolk BOCES Board of Education for 2023-2024

Imran Latif Susan Lipman Anne Mackesey
Catherine Romano Norman A. Wagner

8.2 ESBOCES Administrative Budget

- a. To pass a resolution either approving the Eastern Suffolk BOCES Administrative Budget for 2023-2024

Motion carried unanimously.

Business

A motion was made by Katherine Rossi-Snook, seconded by Kathleen Lynch, BE IT RESOLVED THAT: The Board of Education hereby accepts the recommendations of the Superintendent on the following Business actions: 9.1

9.1 Rejection of Bids for the Shelter Island Septic System Project

- a. Hirsch & Company, Shelter Island, NY
- b. Terry Contracting Corporation, Riverhead, NY

Motion carried unanimously.

Prior to the Board of Education voting on 9.1 - Rejection of Bids for the Shelter Island Septic System Project, Dr. Doelger explained that he was recommending that the Board of Education reject the bids for the Shelter Island Septic System Project as they came in much higher than anticipated and that once the Board of Education rejected the bids, the district’s engineers would modify the proposal with the hope the new bids would fall more within the district’s budget.

Consent
Agenda –
Personnel

Consent
Agenda –
Program

Consent
Agenda –
Business

Visitor Comments

Community Member Gordon Gooding suggested putting in an application for a Water Quality Improvement Project (WQIP) grant; noting that since the project is “shovel ready” it may be easier to get funding. Dr. Doelger stated that the district would look into this grant opportunity.

Community member Elizabeth Gilpin shared that she has worked with several school districts that have been awarded grants to upgrade their water systems and suggested the district look into the New York State Environmental Facilities Corporation for grant opportunities.

Adjournment

A motion was made by Tracy McCarthy, seconded by Katherine Rossi-Snook, BE IT RESOLVED THAT: The Board of Education hereby adjourns the meeting.

Motion carried unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 6:32 pm.

Jacqueline Dunning
District Clerk

The next meeting of the Board of Education of the Shelter Island Union Free School District is Monday, May 8, 2023, at 6:00 pm in the Conference Room.

*Visitor
Comments*

Adjournment