

**TIMBERLANE REGIONAL SCHOOL BOARD
MEETING MINUTES**

**Special Board Meeting
January 16, 2020
8:18PM**

**Performing Arts Center
40 Greenough Road
Plaistow, NH**

Call to Order

Chairman O'Neil opened this January 16, 2020 Timberlane Regional School Board special meeting immediately following the public hearing on the proposed budget at 8:18pm.

Board Members Present

Lee Dubé, Kimberly Farah, Sheila Lowes, Sarah Machemer, Shawn O'Neil, Kristin Savage, and Susan Sherman. Absent: Brian Boyle who was attending the Budget Committee's special meeting immediately following the public hearing and Jennifer Silva.

Also Present

Dr. Earl Metzler, Superintendent of Schools
Atty. James O'Shaughnessy

SIGNATURES

Board members applied their signatures to the MS-DS form, the warrant, and check registers.

STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE

Student representative Kyle Duffy spoke about student concerns relative to the Title IX deficiencies with regard to the male and female locker rooms at the high school.

SCHOOL DISTRICT CLERK

Chairman O'Neil announced the interest of Kaitlyn Hilbert to serve as the School District Clerk; she is an Atkinson resident and the daughter of board member Brian Boyle.

MOTION: Ms. Lowes motioned to appoint Kaitlyn Hilbert as School District Clerk; seconded by Dr. Farah.

Discussion ensued on the duties associated with the role and the lack of compensation. Board members agreed to add district clerk compensation to the February 20th agenda.

VOTE: The motion passed 7-0-0.

COLLECTIVE BARGAINING AGREEMENTS

Chairman O'Neil presented a motion for board consideration relative to the terms and conditions of all the bargaining units of the school district.

MOTION: Dr. Farah stated per advice of legal counsel, as the Board is obligated by law to bargain in good faith over all terms and conditions of employment with all of the bargaining units in the District, she motioned the Superintendent is no longer authorized to modify the terms and conditions of employment for the members of any bargaining unit in the District outside of collective bargaining, including by not limited to issuing discretionary merit pay increases or modify any other mandatory terms and conditions of employment; and to further affirm that the Board is committed to upholding its duty to negotiate in good faith with all bargaining units in the District; seconded by Ms. Lowes.

Discussion ensued on the intent of the motion in that it applied to the two unions currently in negotiations with the Board (Timberlane Administrators and Timberlane Administrative Assistants and Skilled Maintenance Workers), as well as the Board's support to negotiate in good faith.

VOTE: The motion passed 7-0-0.

RECOMMENDATION ACTION ON WARRANT ARTICLES

Noting the Board had already taken recommendation action on Articles 2-8, discussion ensued on the Board's responsibility to provide recommendation action on the two citizen's petitions (Articles 9 and 10) per statute as well as the provision that recommendations may be changes only if the article is amended on the deliberative session floor, discussion ensued on the citizen's petitions and the lack of citizen presentation.

Article 9 – Expendable Trust Fund for Withdrawal by Petition

If Article 7, Withdrawal from SAU55, is approved, shall the Timberlane Regional School District raise and appropriate the sum of \$228,600 to fund a new expendable trust fund and to authorize the Timberlane School Board to use/transfer money from this fund to pay Timberlane's share of ongoing healthcare liabilities of retired SAU55 employees?

MOTION: Mrs. Savage motioned to recommend Article 9; seconded by Mrs. Sherman.

Discussion ensued on the \$228k reference to retirement healthcare liabilities when the current rate is \$8k-\$10 per year and that the new SAU will have the funds to address these liabilities.

VOTE: The motion failed 0-6-1 (Mrs. Machemer abstained).

Article 10 – Funding for Transition in Preparation for Withdrawal from SAU55 by Petition of Rob Collins et al

If Withdrawal from SAU55 is approved, shall the voters of the Timberlane Regional School District raise and appropriate \$100,000 to fund the recommended transition period defined in the SAU55 Withdrawal Plan by the SAU55 Withdrawal Planning Committee?

MOTION: Mrs. Sherman motioned to recommend Article 10; seconded by Mrs. Savage.

Discussion ensued on the *no means no* provision, the article having no effect on the withdrawal article, and the need to fund the transition in both a proposed or a default budget.

VOTE: The motion failed 0-6-1 (Mrs. Machemer abstained).

Discussion ensued on a deliberative session snow date (needs to be held within 48 hours of the original date), changing the data on Article 4 (CBA) to reflect salary increase only with regard to percentages as well as benefit costs and on Article 6 (TRMS Roof) in that it was not the article or subject originally approved by the Board at their last meeting.

The Board recessed from 8:52pm-8:55pm.

Article 6 – Middle School Roof Maintenance and Repair

Shall the voters of the Timberlane Regional School District raise and appropriate \$500,000 for maintenance and repairs of the Timberlane Regional Middle School roof as referenced in the Timberlane Regional School District Capital Improvement Plan? This special warrant article will be a non-lapsing appropriation per RSA 32:7, VI and will not lapse until June 30, 2023. (MAJORITY VOTE REQUIRED)

Discussion ensued on Article 6, the need to specify the purpose of the article, the need for repair of the middle school roof, addressing the ventilation and building management systems with surplus, and obtaining a quote for up to \$500k on the middle school roof, amending the article as needed on the deliberative session floor, and adding language specific to in the event the proposed budget fails.

MOTION: Mr. Dubé motioned amend Article 6 to add, "Should Article 2 fail"; seconded by Dr. Farah.

Discussion ensued on the no means no provision, using fund balance monies by way of emergency request to the

NHDOE.

VOTE: The motion passed 7-0-0.

MOTION: Mr. Dubé motioned to recommend Article 6; seconded by Ms. Lowes. The motion passed 7-0-0.

Chairman O'Neil adjourned the meeting at 9:06pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Catherine Belcher
Recording Secretary

Approved by the Board on March 5, 2020.