

Timberlane Regional School Board

Atkinson, Danville, Plaistow and Sandown
New Hampshire

Minutes of the Deliberative Session February 10, 2011

Call to Order

At the Timberlane Performing Arts Center, Moderator Barry Sargent called the February 10, 2011 Deliberative Session to order at 7:00 PM. He reminded the voters to get their ballots from their respective Supervisors of the Checklists and noted the seating area for the non-voters in attendance. He then led the assembly in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Moderator Sargent then noted that it was his last year as District Moderator, and thanked everyone for their support for the past twenty three years.

Moderator Sargent reviewed the rules of the assembly for the public and the handouts provided for all residents. He reviewed the process of the voter cards and amendment of articles; he explained the rules of debate and what is expected of each person wishing to speak at this meeting. He stated that the voters have the right to request a secret ballot. He clarified that he will be using Roberts Rules of Order as a guide at this Deliberative Session. He informed the public that after a vote is taken a registered voter may request restriction and reconsideration of that specific article. This means that the issue cannot be revisited at the meeting. All requests for warrant article changes must be submitted in writing and the 10% rules does apply, which means that the budget presented this evening by the budget committee cannot be changed by more than 10% overall. No quorum is needed tonight.

Moderator Sargent read the following list of non-voters that may speak or present information at the Deliberative Session.

Richard La Salle	Superintendent of Schools
George Stokinger	Business Administrator
Michael Elwell	District Legal Counsel
Kelli Killen	Director of Elementary Education
Scott Strainge	Director of Secondary Education
Edwina Lovett	Director of Pupil Personnel
Beth Rincon	Assistant Director of Pupil Personnel
Nancy Danahy	Director of Human Resources
Michelle Auger	Principal - Pollard
Douglas Rolph	Principal - Sandown Central
Michael Hogan	Principal - Timberlane Regional Middle School
John Holland	Director of Technology
Tony DiBartolomeo	Director of Music
Jim Hughes	Director of Facilities
Linda Heuer	Technology Coordinator
Bob Dawson	Assistant Principal - Evening Division

On a motion by Shawn O'Neil, seconded by Louise Pajak

- **Voted:** To accept the non-resident list as stated above.
- **Having no further discussion the motion passed unanimously.**

Moderator Sargent then read the first and second session of the annual meeting, noting each town's voting times and locations.

Review of the proposed Warrant and 2011-2012 Budget

Article One – Election of Officers

Moderator Sargent outlined the Election of Officers that will be voted on March 8th, 2011.

Atkinson Voters	School Board Member	3-Year Term
Danville Voters	School Board Member	3-Year Term
Plaistow Voters	School Board Member	3-Year Term
Atkinson Voters	Budget Comm. Member	3-Year Term
Danville Voters	Budget Comm. Member	3-Year Term
Plaistow Voters	Budget Comm. Member	3-Year Term
Sandown Voters	Budget Comm. Member	2-Year Term
District Voters	District Moderator	3-Year Term

Article Two – Operating Budget

Moderator Sargent read Article Two:

Shall the Timberlane Regional School District raise and appropriate as an operating budget, not including appropriations by special warrant articles and other appropriations voted separately, the amounts set forth on the budget posted with the warrant or as amended by vote of the first session, for the purposes set forth therein, totaling **\$62,437,055**? Should this article be defeated, the operating budget shall be **\$62,708,119** which is the same as last year, with certain adjustments required by previous action of the Timberlane Regional School District or by law; or the governing body may hold one special meeting, in accordance with RSA 40:13, X and XVI, to take up the issue of a revised operating budget only. Note: Warrant Article 2 (the operating budget) does not include appropriations proposed under any other warrant articles. (MAJORITY VOTE REQUIRED)

Recommended by the School Board 7-0

Recommended by the Budget Committee 5-1

Moderator Sargent then introduced Mrs. O'Neil, Budget Committee Chair, who asked the Budget Committee members to introduce themselves.

Budget Committee members in attendance: Normand Bouchard, Heidi Chaput, Michele Conte, Cathy Lisi, Christine Maffeo, Len Mullen, Catherine Rochford (Vice Chair). Absent: Charles Balanoff

Mrs. O'Neil then presented the proposed operating budget that voters will consider in March. She noted the proposed budget of \$62,437,055 and the default budget of \$62,708,119 and that the operating budget is less than the default budget. She noted the major budget factors including an increase in Salaries and Benefits and decreases in Instruction Related expenses and Facilities Related expenses. She made special note of the efforts of Jim Hughes, Director of Facilities in making District buildings more energy efficient, thus reducing energy costs. She noted that the Salaries and Benefits increase includes a staff reduction of 7 FTE.

At the conclusion of the presentation, Moderator Sargent asked the School Board and the Administrators present to introduce themselves. Timberlane Regional School Board members in attendance: Lori Aubrey (Vice Chair), William Baldwin, Robert Collins, Elizabeth Kosta (Chair), Michael Mascola, John Paone, Louis Porcelli, Nancy Steenson and Lisa Withee.

Others present: Richard La Salle (Superintendent of Schools), Winfried Feneberg (Assistant Superintendent), George Stokinger (Business Administrator), Michael Elwell (District Legal Counsel).

Resident Kate Russell of Danville asked where the cuts in salaries were, and asked for clarification of the cuts in the Special Education budget. Mr. La Salle explained the salary cuts as attributed to reduced enrollment as related to District policy on class size, and to the reduction of 1 custodial position in Sandown with a custodian

to be shared by both Sandown Central and Sandown North. Mrs. Lovett clarified the Special Education budget as an increase, not a decrease. Resident Dennis Heffernan of Plaistow asked why one Budget Committee member voted against the Operating Budget. Mr. Mullen of Danville explained his reason for not recommending the Operating Budget as a concern that if costs such as insurance or heating costs are higher than budgeted, the educational expenses will be cut to balance the budget.

Having no further discussion the Moderator directed Article Two be placed on the ballot as written.

A motion by Michelle O'Neil to restrict reconsideration of Article Two, seconded by Elizabeth Kosta. The motion passed by voice vote.

Article Three – Capital Reserve Fund

Moderator Sargent read Article Three:

Shall the Timberlane Regional School District raise and appropriate up to **\$200,000** to be placed in the School Building Construction, Reconstruction, Capital Improvement and Land Purchase Capital Reserve Fund established in 1996, with such amount to be transferred from the June 30, 2011 undesignated fund balance (surplus) available for transfer on July 1 of this year? (MAJORITY VOTE REQUIRED)

(The funds for this article come from the 2010-2011 school budget surplus, not from additional taxes.)

Recommended by the School Board 7-0

Recommended by the Budget Committee 5-1

A motion by Michelle O'Neil, seconded by Nancy Steenson, to place Article Three on the floor for discussion.

The moderator solicited questions and comments, having none he directed Article Three be placed on the ballot as written.

Article 4 – Pollard School Kitchen Renovation

Moderator Sargent read Article Four:

Shall the Timberlane Regional School District vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$300,000** to renovate the kitchen at Pollard School and to authorize the District to withdraw the sum of **\$300,000** from the existing School Building Construction, Reconstruction, Capital Improvements and Land Purchase Capital Reserve Fund for that purpose? (MAJORITY VOTE REQUIRED)

(The funds for this article come from existing money in the District's Capital Reserve Fund, not from additional taxes. This article, therefore, will not increase the 2011 tax rate.)

Recommended by the School Board 7-0

Recommended by the Budget Committee 6-0

A motion by Elizabeth Kosta, seconded by Lisa Withee, to place Article Four on the floor for discussion.

Mr. La Salle gave a presentation on the recent history of District kitchen renovations, noting that Pollard is the third kitchen renovation project. He noted that the kitchens in Danville and Atkinson had been renovated over the past two years.

Moderator Sargent solicited questions and comments. Resident Martha Fowler of Plaistow asked how much was currently in the Capital Reserve Fund. Mr. La Salle noted that the balance is just over \$300K, and explained that this project would almost deplete the fund. He further noted that as the reason for the \$200K capital reserve fund appropriation in Article Three instead of the \$100K requested in previous years.

As there were no further questions or comments, Moderator Sargent directed Article Four be placed on the ballot as written.

Article Five – General Acceptance of Reports

Moderator Sargent read Article Five:

Shall the Timberlane Regional School District accept reports of agents, auditors, and committees as written in the 2010 Annual Report? (MAJORITY VOTE REQUIRED)

Motion by Elizabeth Kosta, seconded by Michelle O’Neil, to place Article Five on the floor for discussion.

The moderator solicited questions and comments. Resident Shawn O’Neil asked if the general acceptance of reports is required by RSA. Mr. La Salle responded that it is required under NH RSA.

As there were no further questions or comments, Moderator Sargent directed Article Five be placed on the ballot as writt

Having no other business to present Moderator Sargent adjourned the Deliberative Session at 7:40pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Lorna Walker".

Lorna Walker
District Clerk