

Haverhill School Committee
Regular Meeting of March 24, 2011

This meeting was recorded

Mayor Fiorentini, Chairperson (left at 8:35 p.m.) opened the meeting at 7:02 p.m. Present were; Attorney Paul Magliocchetti; Mr. Raymond Sierpina; Mrs. Susan Danehy, Vice President; Mr. James F. Scully, Superintendent of Schools, Ms. Kara Kosmes, Assistant Superintendent for Finance and Mrs. Mary Malone, Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum and Instruction. Mr. Joseph Bevilacqua, President; Mr. Shaun Toohey (arrived at 7:03 p.m.) and Mr. Scott Wood were recorded as absent.

Mayor Fiorentini led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Public Participation.

None

Communication and Reports:

Student Advisory Council Report – Timothy Danehy.

Tim Danehy reported on the Model UN, the Student Council going to the State House on April 1, the spring sports season beginning Monday, the theater club is working on a play, the senior class whitewater rafting trip in Main is scheduled for May 14-15, grades are ending and notices are being sent to seniors regarding available scholarships.

Superintendent's Comments/Reports

This item is being held for the next meeting.

School Calendar

A proposed calendar was distributed indicating school beginning on August 29th for teachers August 30th for the first day for students; June 8th for closing day and the 185th day being June 15th. Graduation is on June 1st. The Superintendent indicated this will go on the website and be circulated next week for review and comments.

Subcommittee Reports

Mr. Sierpina thanked Mrs. Malone and Mrs. Donahue for the minutes of the RTTT and STEM projects. They are discussing partnerships with UMass Lowell and NECC. Mr. Scully reviewed the Naval Academy with the STEM program and scholarships availability. They are looking at the template the committee is using for the Strategic Plan and involving the middle school students.

School Committee Communications

Attorney Magliocchetti

Technology: details of merger with City, including explanation of charge backs to and from City and the School Department; other contributions; and projected costs to update systems and implemented technology instruction.

A brief overview of the Technology merger was given. Ms. Kosmes discussed the savings for the Technology Director of \$50,000 by sharing this position and keeping the same staff. Mr. Scully indicated a number of issues with the capacity to the schools. To bring the network up to date, \$800,000 is needed to correct this. The management of the technology needs to be addressed and we are not responding to the schools and it is an issue. Attorney Magliocchetti recommended using the cable franchise tax/fee to

offset the anticipated costs for these upgrades. He asked where this money is going and what it can be used for. The Mayor stated this contract was widely debated and there is no such law that states the money goes towards technology and does go into the city budget. Mr. Toohey requested a subcommittee on Technology to discuss all issues including infrastructure, capacity, software and hardware. A subcommittee of Mr. Toohey, Mr. Sierpina, and Mrs. Danehy will be assigned to oversee this issue and return in 30 days with a report.

Stadium Commission update

Moved by Attorney Magliocchetti and seconded by Mr. Toohey to table this item. A verbal vote indicated all in favor.

Projected timetable for budget presentation

Attorney Magliocchetti questioned the timeline and when they can expect to see what the budget will look like. Mr. Scully indicated they should have numbers by the end of April. The House numbers should be out by the middle of the month so they should be receiving budgets by the third or fourth week in April. Ms. Kosmes stated they will see the budget in the new and old format which would help bridge what they are looking for. The year end information will be incorporated and they will have comparisons for next year and still have a historical perspective. Level service is a top priority.

Mr. Sierpina

Report of money spent from school side on "capital" improvements and report of money spent from city side on "capital" improvements Building Maintenance: Details of Merger with City

Mr. Sierpina referenced the capital improvement list and questioned stabilization and capital budget. The Mayor clarified the payment of cash for the school side whereas the city can float it. Attorney Magliocchetti referenced the city is the landlord and the schools the tenant and questioned what the tenant should be responsible for indicating the largest part of the school maintenance fall under capital improvements. Eight-five percent has been spent for school capital projects with the high school being the largest project. The Mayor will be putting together an amended plan and asked for input from members as to the proper priorities for the schools.

Status of "green schools" grant

Mr. Sierpina asked for a status on the grants. Ms. Kosmes stated the documents were completed and submitted and have been received. The Mayor needs to bring before Council the feasibility study to decide if they wish to continue with all eight projects. The Mayor indicated the state will contribute 72 percent and is proposing selling the Smiley and Cogswell Schools and use the money for their share of the green project. Ms. Kosmes stated if they go forward with the entire project the cost minus the reimbursable 72% should be \$30 - \$40,000. Mayor Fiorentini will bring this forward to the Council for the following Tuesday.

A "draft plan" to relieve Tilton Elementary Schools overcrowding for next school year

Mr. Sierpina questioned if there was a draft plan for next year to relieve the high numbers in the classrooms at Tilton. Mr. Scully stated the hope is to have a K-4 program at Bartlett and Consentino a K-8 program. They are looking to make it a full day kindergarten and are looking at the numbers. They plan to link the Tilton with the Consentino and to identify students closer to Consentino which would eliminate bussing. They are working on the numbers and are looking at modular classrooms to offset costs at the smaller schools. They are looking at all the facilities to make sure they are used correctly.

Status of computer lab for Greenleaf Elementary

Mr. Sierpina questioned the Greenleaf students being bussed to do the computer and asked for the status of the computer lab. Mr. Scully indicated they do not have the capability of running the hardware. Money has been appropriated to be done and is in progress. Mr. Scully will get a date for Mr. Sierpina.

Mayor Fiorentini left the meeting and Mrs. Danehy took over as Chair.

Old Business:

Francis Maroney Bill in the amount of \$12,396.44 (tabled 03.10.11).

Moved by Attorney Magliocchetti and seconded by Mr. Toohey to remove this item from the table. A roll call vote was held with the following results.

Attorney Magliocchetti	Yes	Mr. Sierpina	Yes	Mr. Toohey	Yes
Mrs. Danehy	Yes				

Motion passes.

Attorney Magliocchetti requested a copy of the bill and considers a capital expense and should not be a school department expense and does not support payment of the bill. Ms. Kosmes stated this was a major piece that fed the water heater and is under some warranty. Most boiler repairs fall under routine maintenance. Mr. Toohey wants the invoice to be paid; however, asked for further clarification as to who should pay this invoice since it is not routine maintenance. Ms. Kosmes will notify Maroney as to the clarification.

Moved by Mr. Toohey and seconded by Attorney Magliocchetti to table the Maroney bill for further clarification. A verbal vote indicated all in favor.

Motion passes.

Legal Bills from Attorney David Grunebaum totaling \$1,639.04 (tabled 03.10.11).

Moved by Mr. Toohey and seconded by Attorney Magliocchetti to remove this item from the table. A verbal vote indicated all in favor.

Motion passes.

Moved by Mr. Toohey and seconded by Attorney Magliocchetti to approve the Grunebaum bill totaling \$1,639.04. A verbal vote indicated all in favor.

Motion passes.

Mr. Scully indicated they need clear guidelines as to who will be paying the bills since this is an ongoing problem. Members asked to go back to the landlord/tenant concept relative to building maintenance issues. Mr. Scully indicated these are legal questions that need to be answered who understand the law to receive the answer. A communication will be sent to the Counsel for the DOE of who should be dealing with this for further clarification. The Joint Facilities subcommittee will work with Mr. Scully on this issue.

New Business:

Approval of Warrant Number EV201100325 totaling \$937,857.92

Approved 10.13.11

Moved by Attorney Magliocchetti and seconded by Mr. Toohey to approve Warrant EV201100325 totaling \$937,957.92.

Attorney Magliocchetti questioned charges relative to snow removal from the roof for J & R Gutters and who should be paying for it. Ms. Kosmes received a communication from the City Auditor indicating it does not meet the criteria and could be paid by the schools. Mr. Scully recommended to put this in the bundle of debate issue and suggest paying the bill and will bring back the answer.

A roll call vote was held with the following results:

Attorney Magliocchetti	No	Mr. Sierpina	Yes	Mr. Toohey	Yes
Mrs. Danehy					

Motion fails.

Moved by Attorney Magliocchetti and seconded by Mr. Toohey to pay the warrant and removing Caruso & McGovern 3 emergency snow removal items, J N R Gutter 3 emergency roof snow removal and 1 bill for Lagasse Removal due to a conflict. A roll call vote was held with the following results:

Attorney Magliocchetti	Yes	Mr. Sierpina	Yes	Mr. Toohey	Yes
Mrs. Danehy	Yes				

Motion passes pending the review of Attorney Cox per the Chair.

Moved by Attorney Magliocchetti and seconded by Mr. Toohey to approve all warrants except those just removed. A roll call vote was held with the following results.

Attorney Magliocchetti	Yes	Mr. Sierpina	Yes	Mr. Toohey	Yes
Mrs. Danehy	Yes				

Motion passes.

Moved by Mr. Toohey and seconded by Mr. Sierpina to approve the bill for Lagasse Removal. A roll call vote was held with the following results.

Attorney Magliocchetti	Abstained	Mr. Sierpina	Yes	Mr. Toohey	Yes
Mrs. Danehy	Yes				

Motion passes.

Moved by Attorney Magliocchetti and seconded by Mr. Toohey to table the bills for Caruso & McGovern and J & R Gutters as stated previously. A roll call vote was held with the following results.

Attorney Magliocchetti	Yes	Mr. Sierpina	No	Mr. Toohey	Yes
Mrs. Danehy	Yes				

Motion passes.

The Superintendent introduced the following Items by Consensus:

the Use of Facilities:

- Requested by Courtland Holloway of the Granite United Church for the use of the Pentucket Lake School Cafeteria on Friday April 14, 2011 from 6:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. and Sunday, April 17, 2011 from 8:00 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. for Palm

Approved 10.13.11

Sunday Church Service. Process Fee: \$ 10.00; Utility Fee: \$ 20.00 per hour; Custodial Fee: \$ 30.00 per hour; Custodial Fee: \$ 45.00 (weekend rates) per hour; Rental Fee:\$ 100.00

the field trip request(s):

- Genevieve Torrisi, J. G. Whittier, Grade 8, June 6-11, Washington DC, \$750

the legal bills for Attorney William Cox totaling \$12,499.98 and for Attorney David Grunebaum totaling \$2,315.04

Moved by Attorney Magliocchetti and seconded by Mr. Toohey to approve the Items by Consensus. A roll call vote was held with the following results.

Attorney Magliocchetti	Yes	Mr. Sierpina	Yes	Mr. Toohey	Yes
Mrs. Danehy	Yes				

Motion passes.

Moved by Mr. Toohey and seconded by Attorney Magliocchetti to suspend the rules to add a field trip. A verbal vote indicated all in favor.

Motion passes.

Moved by Attorney Magliocchetti and seconded by Mr. Toohey to approve the field trip for the HHS Key Club at the Springfield Marriott. A verbal vote indicated all in favor.

Motion passes.

Executive Session/Adjournment

Moved by Mr. Toohey and seconded by Attorney Magliocchetti to adjourn the meeting at 9:08 p.m. A verbal vote indicated all in favor.

Motion passes.

List of Documents:

School Committee Agenda;; Memo from Paul Magliocchetti regarding agenda items; Memo from Ray Sierpina regarding agenda items; Memo from Kara Kosmes regarding Maintenance Expenditures; Memo from Kara Kosmes regarding Maroney Bill; Legal Bills from Attorney David Grunebaum (tabled 3.10.11);Warrant Number EV20110325; Use of Facilities; Field Trips Request; Legal Bills from Attorney William Cox and Attorney David Grunebaum

Informational: RTTT Curriculum Advisory Committee Members

Documents distributed at meeting:

School Calendar