

HAVERHILL SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING  
Thursday, May 2, 2013 - 7:00 P.M.



*This meeting was recorded.*

Mayor James J. Fiorentini opened the meeting at 7:00 p.m. Present were: Mr. Joseph Bevilacqua, Attorney Magliocchetti, Mr. Scott Wood, Mr. Raymond Sierpina, Mrs. Susan Danehy, Mr. James F. Scully, Superintendent of Schools, and Dr. Mary Malone, Assistant Superintendent. Ms. Kara Kosmes, Assistant Superintendent of Finance was absent. Mr. Shaun Toohey was recorded as absent (arrived at 7:09 p.m.).

**Public Participation**

None at this time.

**New Business**

Moved by Mr. Wood and seconded by Attorney Magliocchetti to approval Warrant Number EV20130503A totaling \$373,587.01 and Warrant Number JE20130503 totaling \$30,496.34. A roll call vote was held with the following results.

Mrs. Danehy	Yes	Mr. Wood	Yes	Mr. Bevilacqua	Abstained
Mr. Sierpina	Yes	Attorney Magliocchetti	Yes	Mayor Fiorentini	Yes

Motion passes.

Moved by Mr. Bevilacqua and seconded by Attorney Magliocchetti to suspend the rules to discuss the interim business administrator's position and special ed director's position. A verbal vote indicated all in favor.

Motion passes.

The Superintendent was seeking approval to bring David Jack in as Interim Business Administrator until a permanent administrator is appointed. There would be an overall savings of \$23,000. Mr. Scully reviewed Mr. Jack's resume for members indicating his certifications for this position. Mr. Scully informed members if an interim is not selected they may have to go to an outside accounting firm which could be more costly. Mr. Jack would work with Ms. Kosmes in June to transition prior to her departure. Discussion ensued with members expressing their concerns of appointed without interviewing him for this key position.

Moved by Attorney Magliocchetti and seconded by Mrs. Danehy that the Superintendent post the position for the Interim Business Manager as soon as possible. We interview Mr. Jack on or before the next meeting on May 23rd. If we receive any other applicants prior to the next meeting we will interview as well. A friendly amendment was made that the people brought forward be properly licensed. A roll call vote was held with the following results

Mrs. Danehy	Yes	Mr. Toohey	Yes	Mr. Wood	Yes
Mr. Bevilacqua	Yes	Mr. Sierpina	Yes	Attorney Magliocchetti	Yes
Mayor Fiorentini	Yes				

Motion passes.

Moved by Mr. Bevilacqua and seconded by Mr. Toohey that during the interim period the Superintendent prepare a posting for the permanent job. A roll call vote was held with the following results:

Mrs. Danehy	Yes	Mr. Toohey	Yes	Mr. Wood	Yes
Mr. Bevilacqua	Yes	Mr. Sierpina	Yes	Attorney Magliocchetti	Yes
Mayor Fiorentini	Yes				

Motion passes.

Mr. Scully recommended to members the appointment of Theresa Senio as Director of Special Education. There would be a net savings of \$20,000 including stripping all add ons. She would be relocating to this area from Delaware and is well aware of the state laws. He feels she is the best person to move forward in this position.

Moved by Mrs. Danehy to accept the Superintendent's recommendation for the Director of Special Education to be Theresa Senio.

Motion dies for lack of a second.

Members had similar concerns on this position as to not interviewing the candidate for this position. A video conference call was recommended for next week.

Moved by Mr. Bevilacqua and seconded by Mr. Toohey to have a sub-committee with the Superintendent interview Theresa Senio. The sub-committee of the School Committee shall communicate in some way with the individual, interview and authorize the Superintendent to off a contract. A roll call vote was held with the following results.

Mrs. Danehy	Yes	Mr. Toohey	Yes	Mr. Wood	Yes
Mr. Bevilacqua	Yes	Mr. Sierpina	Yes	Attorney Magliocchetti	Yes
Mayor Fiorentini	Yes				

Motion passes.

The Mayor would schedule a conference call and a special meeting next week.

#### Approval of conference request(s)

- Becky Roberts, PLS, CPI Instructor Recertification-Build Bridges Between Two Work, June 4-6, 2013, Revere MA, \$1,999

#### Approval of field trips request(s)

- Chris Valaskatgis, Nettle, Grade 8, 5/31/13, Captain's Fishing and Whale Watch, Newburyport MA, \$20.00

Moved by Mr. Bevilacqua and seconded by Mr. Toohey to approve the Item B, Field Trips request. A roll call vote was held with the following results.

Mrs. Danehy	Yes	Mr. Toohey	Yes	Mr. Wood	Yes
Mr. Bevilacqua	Yes	Mr. Sierpina	Yes	Attorney Magliocchetti	Yes
Mayor Fiorentini	Yes				

Motion passes.

Moved by Mr. Wood and seconded by Mr. Toohey to approve Item B, Conference requests, and C, Field Trips. A roll call vote was held with the following results:

Mrs. Danehy	Yes	Mr. Toohey	Yes	Mr. Wood	Yes
Mr. Bevilacqua	Yes	Mr. Sierpina	Yes	Attorney Magliocchetti	Yes
Mayor Fiorentini	Yes				

Motion passes.

The Superintendent distributed a letter from Attorney Cox who requested a filing of an Amicus Brief.

Moved by Mr. Wood and seconded by Attorney Magliocchetti to request MASC to file and amicus brief in the matter of Wilkens v. City of Haverhill. A verbal vote indicated all in favor.

Motion passes.

A brief recess was held at 7:49 p.m.

### **FY14 Budget Review & Discussion.**

#### **Distribution of Budget Document.**

The Superintendent reviewed the preliminary budget figures indicating a 5.06% increase with a total of \$90,638,215 for FY2014. The following is included in this budget: the services are maintained with gradually expansion, reduced class size, all day kindergarten, no reduction of staff or materials, improvement of MCAS scores, steady increase of enrollment in high school athletic budget which includes funding for girls hockey and not the crew program, a decrease in Hillview Montessori Charter School reimbursement, the Medicaid offset being the same, some grant offsets are down with local revenues up, and transportation costs increasing. Discussion was held as to adjusting the transportation requirements for bussing and the distance the children walk. The Mayor will take this under advisement and will look at other options. Ms. Kosmes indicated they may not have the final numbers until mid-June and may need to go to City Council for approval without them. It was recommended to try to obtain the figures for accuracy prior going to Council. The Superintendent indicated they may have the Public Hearing for the Budget at the next meeting.

### **Adjournment**

Moved by Mr. Wood and seconded by Mr. Toohey to adjourn the meeting at 8:21 p.m. A verbal vote indicated all in favor.

Motion passes.

*List of Documents: School Committee Agenda; Warrants; conference request; field trip request*

*Distributed at meeting: Resume of David Jack and Theresa Senio, letter from Attorney Cox, Budget Documents*