

Haverhill School Committee  
Regular Meeting of March 10, 2010

*This meeting was recorded.*

Mayor Fiorentini led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mayor Fiorentini opened the meeting at 7:03 p.m. (left at 10:10 p.m.). Present were: Mr. Joseph Bevilacqua, President; Mr. Scott Wood; 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 & Operations (arrived at 8:10 p.m.) and Mrs. Mary Malone, Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum and Instruction. Mr. Shaun Toohey was recorded as absent (arrived at 7:14 p.m.).

**Public Participation:**

None at this time.

Moved by Attorney Magliocchetti and seconded by Mr. Bevilacqua to suspend the rules to have members of the Sheriff's Department speak on the work detail in the schools. A verbal vote indicated all in favor.

Paul Fleming and Joseph Fennari gave a short presentation of how work details are provided for services to the city and schools by the supervised community work program through the Essex County Sheriff's Department.

**Communication and Reports:**

*Student Advisory Council Report – Timothy Danehy*

Michelle Abate, Student Council Vice President, updated members on high school events: the model UN is underway in New York; the National Honor Society and Spanish Club; read Dr. Seuss books to several smaller school students; second coffee house was held; dodge ball tournament is next Wednesday at 3 p.m.; roman night is next Thursday night presented by the Classical Academy; spring sports starting the 21<sup>st</sup> and a musical is being held on March 31<sup>st</sup>.

*Superintendent's Comments/Reports:*

The Superintendent referenced the Urban Superintendent's meeting summary notes and SPED review of mid year review which are to be reviewed at members' leisure.

He shared a video with members showing the good that goes on at the high school. This is a rolling document which will be updated and used throughout the community along with a letter from the athletic director promoting the positives of receiving an education at Haverhill High School.

The new webpage is rolling out and being released tomorrow morning. It features success of all students, homework assignments, etc. and its target is to integrate with parents with classroom goings on with ease of access. Tony Lei, web designer, gave an overview for members through a PowerPoint presentation.

### Teacher Evaluations – Early June

The teacher evaluation process given the new state standards will be revised. The teachers' union is working with them through the RTTT initiative.

### Common Core State Standards with existing School Calendar & Professional Development – under new state requirements

Given the new state standards, the calendar as stated makes it difficult to accomplish everything. The calendar is being questioned by the state education officials on the amount of time allotted in each community. Due to the changes they are looking at the amount of professional development time, demands and regulations and stipulations relative to these days. This is one item that will be incorporated into the new calendar.

### Distribution of Technology Report and Sports Review

The timeline in their packet was referenced. The real issue with the shortage of funds is everything has been done piecemeal. They have engaged a firm with assistance from Apple to deal with the infrastructure since the system is not compatible with the software. He will return at the end of the month with goals of where they are headed with technology.

### **Subcommittee Reports**

Mr. Bevilacqua is working in conjunction with the City Solicitor and the Personnel Department relative to contracts. Updates will be forthcoming.

Mr. Sierpina stated the Strategic Planning subcommittee with Mrs. Malone and staff is working on a district improvement plan with ideas being discussed regarding a timeline and district goals.

### **School Committee Communications**

*Mr. Bevilacqua, Attorney Magliocchetti & Mr. Sierpina*

#### Heating of Stadium during Winter

Mr. Bevilacqua referenced the previous meeting regarding heating the stadium during the winter. The previous estimate indicated it costlier to turn off the heat than to maintain the heat in the winter. Mr. Bevilacqua recommended moving the equipment to open space in the schools. Mr. Scully and Mr. O'Brien will be reviewing this and structure it differently for next year due to the escalated costs in heating fuel. Attorney Magliocchetti asked to review other areas that had previous cost analyses done that may warrant reexamination and savings throughout the district.

#### *Mr. Bevilacqua*

#### Electronic Textbook Review

Mr. Bevilacqua referenced the previous discussions held on a proposed leasing of electronic readers. He asked to move forward with a pilot program. Electronic textbooks can make changes quickly and asked for an update from the Superintendent as to such a program. The Superintendent stated they need to provide the confidence with the staff and are looking at the social science areas. Corey Masson presented a study on the backpack. The Superintendent stated the entire approach has to be a blended environment with a sensible plan over a period of time.

Attorney Magliocchetti requested to move up the Stadium Commission RFP.

Stadium Commission RFP (tabled 02.10.11) – Attorney Magliocchetti

Stadium Commission Contract Extension – Attorney Magliocchetti

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

The temporary lease has expired and there is a need for renewal. His recommendation was to renew it until August 31, 2012 with the understanding that it may need modification once the ordinance is in place.

Moved by Attorney Magliocchetti and seconded by Mrs. Danehy to renew the lease until 8.13.12.

Mr. Wood questioned the ordinance reading the Athletic Director is Chair. The custodial service under the proposed ordinance is under Vinnie Ouellette; however, it now is under the Athletic Director which complies with the language of the ordinance.

Mr. Wood moved to amend the motion to read under Section 13 Custodial and Security Services that it read “the committee continues to provide custodial services under the control of the lesser Superintendent”. Motion was seconded by Mr. Toohey. A roll call vote was held on the amendment with the following results:

Attorney Magliocchetti	No	Mr. Sierpina	No	Mr. Toohey	Yes
Mr. Wood	Yes	Mrs. Danehy	No	Mr. Bevilacqua	Yes
Mayor Fiorentini	Yes				

Motion passes.

A roll call vote was held on the amended motion with the following results:

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

Motion passes.

Mr. Bevilacqua recused himself at this time due to a potential conflict of interest.

Attorney Magliocchetti proposed the School Committee allow the Stadium Commission put out an RFP for naming the stadium with a minimum bid of \$25,000 for four years. Mr. Wood asked for a friendly amendment that the acceptance of the RFP come before the members for acceptance.

A roll call vote was held on the amended motion with the following results:

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

Motion passes.

Mr. Bevilacqua returned to the meeting at this time.

***Attorney Magliocchetti***

Approved 10.13.11

#### Building Maintenance; Details of Merger with City

Attorney Magliocchetti went back to the agreements at the beginning of the merger between the city and schools. He read from an excerpt from the meeting of April 25, 2002. Documents from the Superintendent and Roger Young indicated capital improvements would be paid by the city. Attorney Magliocchetti stated it is his understanding that the city has not contributed the \$400,000 and the schools have paid for approximate \$169,000 in capital improvements over two years. With the information he has been provided the city has not complied with the agreement and will continue to look into this. He tied this into the Chapter 70 payments made to the school department for net school spending. He asked to rethink this if the city is not going to abide by this and they need to look at it to see if they can work with the city which will be in best interest for all. Mayor Fiorentini reviewed capital improvements during his administration with the cuts in state aid. If they were to put in \$400,000 yearly, it would have to come from somewhere and something cut. The city will continue to pay for capital improvements.

Ms. Kosmes stated expenditures under \$100,000 are allowed. Mr. Dill added up smaller capital expenditures for Attorney Magliocchetti. Last year \$674,753 was spent in general maintenance and the previous year \$656,455 which is more than the \$400,000 started years ago. Mr. Wood stated they need to find a way to come up with a new agreement. Mr. Sierpina asked for a listing of capital improvements paid for by the city and school side for the next meeting. Attorney Magliocchetti stated there is a breach and no agreement in place. Ms. Kosmes stated she was not her present position and will get more specifics. She understands that it was a way for both sides to gain and to provide better service through a centralized system and will try to get further information from the previous business manager.

#### Use of School Property for cell towers, wind turbines and solar panels

Attorney Magliocchetti discussed his research on the possibility of leasing school property for cell towers, wind turbines and solar panels. He asked to engage the public to see if this could generate significant revenue and help with financial issues. An old study is obsolete and he recommended a new study be done to see what is available.

Moved by Attorney Magliocchetti and seconded by Mr. Sierpina to look at all three, cell, solar and wind, and set up a subcommittee to meet with a regional energy consultant and return to the school committee with full recommendation. A roll call vote was held on the amended motion with the following results:

Attorney Magliocchetti	Yes	Mr. Sierpina	Yes	Mr. Toohey	No
Mr. Wood	Yes	Mrs. Danehy	Yes	Mr. Bevilacqua	Yes
Mayor Fiorentini	Yes				

Motion passes.

Mayor Fiorentini, Mr. Sierpina, and Attorney Magliocchetti will comprise the subcommittee.

#### ***Mr. Sierpina***

#### RTTT Year One Progress to Date

Mrs. Malone stated this is a four grant and for the first year we funded \$88,000 which covered the exploratory team. The state is behind on the instrument. The advisory committee has 12 volunteer teachers. The grant provided for substitutes and professional development for the summer. The RFP will be out on April 29<sup>th</sup>. Mr. Sierpina requested names and grade levels involved this year. The Superintendent indicated they are very appreciative of the cooperation of the union.

#### Testing "Growth" to Date Grades K – 8

Mr. Sierpina reference Golden Hill setting the tone and the copy of reading levels of grades K – 8. Mrs. Malone stated the reading assessments are based on report cards K – 8 and the intent at the end of the year is to translate them with the MCAS scores and look at the data to see an accurate picture of the student and their growth. Data for Hill View and Silver Hill was requested.

#### Building Utilization

Mr. Scully indicated they may not need two buildings next year. They are working on building a full time kindergarten program for the city to make children more successful. They are reviewing the buildings with large numbers and moving students to a K-8 concept in neighborhood schools.

#### Budget

##### Leighton O'Connor – Preview of Financial & Human Resources Review

Mr. Scully reviewed how they want to build a budget including all costs for a clearer picture for members; however, we don't have the capabilities to do this. The Superintendent introduced Leighton O'Connor who is navigating through this data and scrutinizing the budget in order to see what the budget will look like within the next two to three year. Mr. O'Connor reviewed preliminary information which showed where they are headed and how they will create different views of the budget to see different perspectives. They will continue to use the cost center budget theme with the purpose of the project being data driven, decision making and the school committee goals related to finance. They will maintain appropriate class size and maintain one school system, and be able to see what will be funded and what will go unfunded. The Superintendent indicated a copy of the PowerPoint presentation will be forwarded to members for review and requested them to forward concerns to he or Mr. O'Connor.

#### **Old Business:**

##### Francis H. M Maroney Bill in the amount of \$2,815.13 (tabled at the 1.27.11 meeting)

Moved by Mr. Wood and seconded by Mr. Toohey to remove the item off the table. A verbal vote indicated all in favor.

Motion passes.

Mr. Scully stated the bill has been reduced to \$1908.10 and no action needs to be taken due to being previously authorized.

Mr. Wood expressed concerns of not receiving backup information for the bills and asked for this to be addressed. Mrs. Danehy indicated we have a work order tracking system that matches invoices with work orders. This was a three year old invoice. By reviewing this system of who is paying what, we are now getting a better handle on this and confident in the numbers. Attorney Magliocchetti's concern is to see that all the bills are school department bills and they don't have incite to verify the bills.

Moved by Attorney that the language be amended at the top of the warrant and would like to add at the end remove the period after contracts and add the language, that the contracts, and that all names, bills, and payrolls in the amounts as scheduled are school department charges. Seconded by Mr. Bevilacqua.

Moved by Mr. Wood to take a recess at 10:10 p.m. with the meeting resuming at 10:15 p.m. A verbal vote indicated all in favor.

Mayor Fiorentini left the meeting; Mr. Bevilacqua took over as Chair.

Ms. Kosmes was not comfortable with the language and asked to come up with an alternative solution but will give members the confidence they need. Ms. Kosmes asked to add "to the best of my knowledge". Attorney Magliocchetti asked to indicate if it is a city or school service.

Mr. Toohey moved to make this as a friendly amendment.

A roll call vote was held on the amended motion with the following results:

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

Motion passes.

### **New Business:**

Approval of Warrant Number EV20110225 totaling \$985,935.25 and Warrant Number EV20110311 totaling \$465,655.41

Moved by Mr. Wood and seconded by Mr. Toohey to approve Warrant EV20110225 totaling \$985,935.25.

Attorney asked to take the warrants separate.

A roll call vote was held on Warrant EV20110225 totaling \$985,935.25 with the following results:

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

Motion passes.

Attorney Magliocchetti questioned two charges: One for Patriot Properties on an appraisal which could be a city charge in the amount of 2,000 and he questioned the possibility of a capital improvement charge for Francis Maroney totaling \$12,396.44.

Moved by Mr. Wood and seconded by Mr. Bevilacqua to approve Warrant EV20110225 minus the two items. A roll call vote was held with the following results:

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

Motion passes.

### **Items by Consensus:**

#### **Approval of the Use of Facilities:**

- Requested by Clint Clay of the Haverhill YMCA for the use of the Pentucket Lake School Gym on Friday Evening from 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. from March 11, 2011 thru April 22, 2011 for Floor Hockey. Process Fee: \$ 10.00; Utility Fee: \$ Waived (student program); Custodial Fee: \$ 30.00 per hour ; Rental Fee: \$ Waived
- Requested by Thomas J. Chatigny of the Championship Wrestling Association/N.W.A. for the use of the Haverhill High School Gym Saturday, April 30, 2011 from 4:00 p.m. to 11:00 p.m. for Wrestling Show. Process Fee:\$ 10.00; Utility Fee: \$ 20.00 per hour; Custodial Fee: \$ 45.00 (weekend rates) per hour; Rental Fee: \$ 100.00
- Requested by Gretchen Arntz, Chief of Development of the Emmaus, Inc.for the use of Haverhill High Lobby outside of the Auditorium on Saturday, May 7, 2011from 4:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. for Cycle for Shelter. Process Fee: \$ 10.00; Utility Fee:\$ Waived; Custodial Fee:\$ 45.00 (weekend rate); Rental Fee: \$ Waived

Approved 10.13.11

- Requested by Danielle Hamel of All that Jazz for the use of the Haverhill High School Auditorium on Saturday, June 4, 2011 and Sunday, June 5, 2011 from 12:00 noon to 4:00 p.m. for a Dance Recital. Process Fee:\$ 10.00; Utility Fee:\$ 20.00 per hour; Custodial Fee: \$ 45.00 (weekend rate) per hour; Rental Fee:\$ 100.00
- Requested by Michael Tang of New England Sports Association for the use of the Haverhill High School Gym on Saturday, April 23, 2011 from 7:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. for Tae Kwon Do(MA State Championships).Process Fee: \$ 10.00; Utility Fee:\$ 20.00 per hour; Custodial Fee: \$ 45.00 (weekend rate) per hour; Rental Fee: \$ 100.00

#### Approval of the field trip request(s):

- Catherine Bilmazes, Nettle, Grade 8, May 31 – June 2, 2011, Washington, DC, \$525
- Zachary Simmons, HHS,, Grade 9-12, March 9-12, New York City Model UN, \$350 tagging Mt. HHS
- Bernie McCann, Consentino, Grade 6, 6/15-6/17, Ferry Beach Ecology School, Saco ME, \$215
- Linda Crapsey, HHS, Grade 9-12, April 20, 2011, New York, \$70 (original rescheduled
- John Craven, HHS, Grade 11, April 29, 2011, New York City, \$70

#### Approval of the conference request(s):

- Betsy Chipman, Golden Hill, Massachusetts Music Educators Conference, March 24-26, 2011, Boston, \$776

#### Approval of the consultant contract(s)

- Northern Essex Community College, \$4,500

Approval of the minutes of the regular meetings of November 18, 2010; December 16, 2010 and January 27, 2011

Approval of the legal bills for Attorney David Grunebaum (\$1,639.04) and for Rosen Law Office P.C. (\$10,056.48)

Attorney Magliocchetti asked to remove Item F.

Moved by Mr. Toohey and seconded Mr. Wood to approve Items A – E. A roll call vote was held with the following results:

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

Motion passes.

Attorney Magliocchetti asked to discuss the legal bills in executive session and moved to table Item F in its entirety. Seconded by Mrs. Danehy. A roll call vote was held with the following results:

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

Motion passes.

#### Executive Session/Adjournment

Moved by Mr. Wood and seconded by Mr. Toohey to go into executive session at 10:22 p.m. to discuss litigation and legal ((*the Chair declares that an Open Meeting may have a detrimental effect on the bargaining and litigating position of the public body; will/will not reconvene in Open Session*) A roll call vote was held with the following results:

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

Approved 10.13.11

Motion passes.

*List of Documents:*

*School Committee Agenda; Memo from Pamela Carr regarding Update from the Technology Department; Email from Tom O'Brien regarding Winter Sports Highlights; Email from Joe Bevilacqua regarding agenda items; Andover Townsman Article; Memo from Paul Magliocchetti regarding agenda items; Memo from Ray Sierpina regarding agenda items; Email from Kara Kosmes regarding Maroney Inc. Bill; Warrant Numbers EV20110225 & EV20110311; Email from Paul Magliocchetti regarding Stadium Lease Extension along with current Lease document; Use of Facilities; Field Trips Requests; Conference Request along with memo from Betsy Chipman; Memo from Maria Fontaine, Co-site Coordinator regarding Consultant Contract with NECC for Mac Design Course for HHS students; School Committee Minutes of Regular Meetings of November 18, 2010; December 16, 2010; January 27, 2011; Legal Bills from Attorney David Grunebaum and Rosen Law Office P.C.*

*Informational: Memo from City Treasurer Mary Beth Roy regarding investment of scholarship monies; PTO Attendance and 2010-2011 Student Data by School provided by Mary Malone*

Documents at meeting:

Attorney Magliocchetti – Excerpt from School Committee Meeting of April 25, 2002