

**NEW BOSTON SCHOOL DISTRICT
DELIBERATIVE SESSION
February 10, 2017**

Pro Tempore School District Moderator Lee Nyquist recognized a quorum of voters was present and declared the meeting open at 7:02pm. He introduced himself saying he has been the Town Moderator since 1992. Lee is here as School District Moderator. Jed Callen has moved out of town and is unavailable to conduct the meeting. Lee was appointed Pro Tempore School District Moderator this year, his second time since 1996. He noted this meeting is being held to prepare for the official ballot on March 14, 2017 and consider School District Warrant Articles two and three. He led the people in the Pledge of Allegiance.

He confirmed that he has examined the documents and found them to be in order. The legal requirements were met and the Warrant was posted appropriately.

Reverend Woody Woodland led the people in an invocation.

School Board Chairman Wendy Lambert thanked everyone for attending tonight as the School Deliberative Session has been rescheduled twice this week due to the weather. She thanked all who work and volunteer at NBCS, the custodial staff for helping set up for the Town and School Deliberative Sessions, the Recreation Department for rescheduling activities multiple times to allow the Deliberative Sessions to happen, the Supervisors of the Checklist for their readiness to attend the Deliberative Sessions and the PTA and teens for providing babysitting for the Deliberative Sessions and Lee for filling in for Jed tonight.

Wendy Lambert thanked Jed Callen for over 21 years of service as School District Moderator. He and his family are now moving out of town. He also volunteered on the Solid Waste Committee and as a Library Trustee for many years. His volunteerism, dedication, knowledge and guidance throughout the years is appreciated. He conducted the many meetings he moderated with great leadership, governance, good humor and proper decorum. He helped make New Boston a great place to live and will be missed. The School District wishes him well.

Wendy Lambert mentioned a few things the School Board has been busy with over the past year as follows:

- The Board has a Space Needs Committee which was given a pretty comprehensive charge back in October to dive into the space needs within our school. There is quite an increase in students at New Boston Central School and space is very tight. The Space Needs Committee is looking into the many different options to help alleviate the needs. The District is on the CIP schedule for an addition to the school. The committee will help to move forward some very important decisions to the town that the district is facing.
- The Board continues to be part of Goffstown's Sub Committees (like the Goffstown Curriculum and Enrichment Committee and the Goffstown Policy Review Committee). The Goffstown School Board has been very supportive of this involvement over the past few years at these committees and invites us to have a seat at the table with a voice. This is important to us, as our students are directly affected by these committees. We are able to be part of the process by collaborating with Goffstown which helps to understand some of the decisions that are made.

- Facilities – we have a new Facilities Director who we share with the Goffstown School District. He has helped us identify and prioritize the many facility related issues our building is in need of. The School Board has made this a priority as we need to get the building back in order to help reduce costs in the long term and be proactive in keeping costs down.
- The Board continues to move forward reviewing School District Policies with the help from MaryClaire Barry and Denise Morin at the SAU. There are many policies to go through and we are ensuring these are all up to date and meet the needs of our District.

Wendy Lambert explained how the District budget process works. It starts with the school principal, Tori Underwood. The formal process starts in late August/Early September, but the budget is being reviewed all year long by Tori, the SAU and the School Board. The Board gets updates and reviews all manifests and vouchers at each Board meeting. Each receipt is looked at by a School Board representative (over the past few years it has been Mr. Dickey). In Early September, Tori asks that the teachers bring forward their budgets at the building level. She reviews, adjusts, and really works to bring a thoughtful, frugal and sensible budget to the SAU. Multiple meetings are held at the SAU level where the budget is scrutinized, adjusted and looked at line by line many times over. In October, the Board reviews the budget line by line in multiple work sessions and meetings where the Board scrutinizes, questions and fine-tunes it yet again. After all these reviews and adjustments have taken place, the budget is then given to the Finance Committee for review. Wendy thanked the Finance Committee for taking the time to really review what the District brings forward. The Finance Committee is very thorough and asks great questions. Once the Finance Committee gives their input and their questions are answered, the budget is adjusted as necessary, finalized and prepared for voters.

Wendy Lambert noted School Board meetings are always open to the public and the Board makes great efforts for all who attend to have an opportunity to speak both before and at the conclusion of the meetings. The Board and SAU are always available to answer any questions and are all welcome to the meetings.

Lee Nyquist introduced School Board Chairman Wendy Lambert, Vice Chair and State Representative Glen Dickey and the other School Board Members: Kary Jencks and Fred Hayes, and noted Board Member Bill Schmidt was unable to attend tonight. Lee introduced New Boston Central School staff, Principal Tori Underwood, Assistant Principal Tim Stokes and Interim Special Education Facilitator Jenn Gilliland as well as Superintendent Brian Balke, Assistant Superintendent MaryClaire Barry, Business Administrator Ray Labore, Human Resources Director Kate McGrath and School District Clerk Maralyn Segien. Director of Special Education Salina Millora, Facilities Director Randy Loring and Technology Director Gary Girolimon did not attend tonight. Lee also introduced State Representative Keith Ammon and the Supervisors of the Checklist, Dave Mudrick, Sarah Chapman and Dot Marden.

Approximately 122 people were present at the Deliberative Session.

Lee Nyquist briefly reviewed the rules and procedures of the Deliberative Session, and invited the audience to voice any questions they may have.

ARTICLE 1

To choose two members of the School Board for the ensuing three years

To choose one school district moderator for the ensuing three years

To choose one school district treasurer for the ensuing three years

To choose one school district clerk for the ensuing three years

Fred Hayes and Kary Jencks filed for the School Board member positions. Keith F. Diaz, Esq. filed for the School District Moderator position, Barbara Hayes filed for the School District Treasurer position and Maralyn Segien filed for the School District Clerk position.

ARTICLE 2

“Shall the 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 FIFTEEN MILLION THREE HUNDRED TWENTY-FOUR THOUSAND FOUR HUNDRED TWENTY-EIGHT DOLLARS (\$15,324,428.00) Should this article be defeated, the default budget shall be FIFTEEN MILLION TWO HUNDRED EIGHTY-ONE THOUSAND ONE HUNDRED FIFTEEN DOLLARS (\$15,281,115.00), which is the same as last year, with certain adjustments required by previous action of the 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.” This warrant article (the Operating Budget Article) does not include appropriations in ANY other warrant articles. (Majority vote required)

The School Board Voted 5-0-0 To Recommend

Glen Dickey **MOVED** to pass the warrant article as written. Wendy Lambert seconded the motion.

Tori Underwood presented a PowerPoint presentation on the budget.

With no questions or discussion from the audience, Lee Nyquist restated the motion to pass the warrant article as written. It **PASSED**.

ARTICLE 3

To see if the School District will vote to raise and appropriate up to **ONE HUNDRED THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$100,000.00)** for deposit into the existing New Boston Central School Facilities Renovation and Repair Fund and to authorize the use of that amount from the June 30, 2017 Unreserved Fund balance (surplus) available for transfer on July 1, 2017. This appropriation is in addition to Warrant Article #2, the Operating Budget Article. (Majority vote required.)

The School Board Voted 5-0-0 To Recommend

Fred Hayes **MOVED** to pass Article 3 as written. Kary Jencks seconded the motion.

Fred Hayes spoke to the article saying this article is asking the voters for authorization to deposit up to \$100,000.00 into the Renovations and Repair Capital Reserve Fund, should there be adequate funds to do so at the end of the fiscal year. The purpose of this fund is to cover renovation and repair costs of the school (e.g., roof replacement, parking lot reclamation) as well as emergency repairs. This fund has been used in the past for the White Building and Fire Cistern projects in 2013 and the more recent oil remediation, septic system and portable classroom projects. Currently the fund contains \$235,000, a good level to maintain for emergency purposes. \$100,000 is being requested to cover the lengthy list of repairs learned of through comprehensive studies by contractors, engineers and tradesmen. The entire list encompasses projects from landscape and grounds maintenance, interior and exterior building repairs and mechanical system repairs and updates, and has an estimated cost of \$650,000. The Board recognizes that while we have neither the time nor the funding to accomplish all of the items in a single year, a \$100,000 deposit would allow us to work on the top priority items. The School facility is the largest asset in Town and we have a duty to maintain it. This article would be funded from unencumbered monies from this year. The money in this account would be spent only after School Board authorization. In order to deposit money into this fund, it requires a vote by the voters on a Warrant Article each year.

Brandy Mitroff of Thorton Road was present and noted she has been in favor of this fund since it began. She said the Board has used the money very wisely across the years. She said there is a great plan in place with all that needs to be done but NBCS has a new Facility Director and she would like to wait a year to ask for \$100,000 to allow him time to review and prioritize what needs to be done and bring the recommendations forward.

Brandy Mitroff moved to amend article 3 to reduce the amount to \$50,000.00. Keith Ammon seconded the motion. Lee Nyquist noted he has received the amendment in writing as required and the School District Clerk will keep it for posterity.

Mindi Charles of Town Farm Road was present and asked what the past levels of funding approved by voters were.

Fred Hayes noted the fund began in 2010 with a \$100,000 deposit, in 2011 voters approved \$100,000, 2012 \$70,000, 2013 \$50,000, 2015 \$50,000 and in 2016 \$50,000. In 2014 there was no deposit because the Board had established an informal cap of \$250,000 and the CRF was fully funded at that time.

Fred Hayes noted he just learned tonight that the roofer was at NBCS this week addressing leaks from recent snow events. He assessed the roof at that time and said the gym roof will need to be replaced this year. Quotes have not yet been received. The District had previously thought this project would be a few years out.

Keith Ammon of Byam Road asked how much money is currently in the fund and noted he was on the School Board at the time the cap was established.

Fred Hayes noted the fund currently contains \$235,000 and there is no longer a cap of \$250,000.

Keith Ammon asked how the cap was removed and if it was by Board vote.

Wendy Lambert noted the Board removed the cap by vote due to the emergency septic and other repairs that have been needed over the years.

Robert Charles of Town Farm Road was present and asked if there is a timeline of projects.

Fred Hayes noted there is no timeline yet but the Facility Director is working on creating one.

Sherri Maloney of Greenfield Road noted she teaches gymnastics in the gym. There was a roped off area this year. She asked if that was addressed.

Brian Balke noted that cracking was noticed in a gym wall by a basketball hoop. A structural engineer reviewed the area, there is no danger and it is expected to be repaired soon, not at significant cost.

Glen Dickey noted he also serves on the Finance Committee where the same question came up, the Committee asked exactly what the deposit would be used for. The District doesn't want to be held to a list because of the possibility of unanticipated expenses, the Board feels freedom is needed to make these decisions when these issues come up as they have in the past.

Christina Brissette of Pine Road asked for clarification as the Warrant Article asks voters to authorize an amount from the June 30, 2017 unreserved fund balance, this is not in addition to the proposed budget, it is from unspent funds. She asked what would happen to the money if this Article is voted down.

Brian Balke said if this Article is voted down the money would be returned to the town for tax relief.

With no further questions or discussion from the audience, Lee Nyquist restated the motion for the amendment to the article. It **FAILED**.

With no further questions or discussion from the audience, Lee Nyquist restated the motion to pass the warrant article as written. It **PASSED** unanimously.

Sherri Maloney moved to restrict reconsideration on Articles 2 and 3, seconded by Mindi Charles. This motion also passed.

Lee Nyquist thanked the School Board, administration, ballot clerks, staff and custodians. He noted voting would take place at New Boston Central School on March 14, 2017 between 7:00AM and 7:00PM. Rodney Towne moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Keith Ammon. This motion passed.

At 8:02 PM Lee Nyquist declared the meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Maralyn Segien
School District Clerk