

SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT

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Early Survey Results from the Community

Superintendent Sherman distributed preliminary results from the community survey which was sent out in the District Newsletter. He reviewed the results and said they would be summarized and put in a report for the Board and will be published in the January 2007 District Newsletter.

Kiwanis’ Report

Superintendent Sherman said that he and Mr. Bonaker recently attended a Kiwanis meeting and gave a presentation on the proposed EXCEL Aid program. He said that the group was receptive and understanding.

RFP for Architect

Superintendent Sherman said two responses to the RFP for architect services were received. President Spies said there would be a discussion on this topic in Executive Session because of contractual issues.

Audit Committee Report

Mr. Robert Bonaker, Business Administrator, distributed a report from Mr. Todd Cipperly, chairperson of the Audit Committee who was unable to attend the meeting. Mr. Bonaker noted that the District is still in need of an Internal Auditor. He said it is being advertised and proposals are due by January 8, 2007.

BOARD OF EDUCATION REPORT

BOE REPORT

Mr. Stoddard said he would like to be part of a Committee to research needs for the school in regard to the EXCEL Aid. He said that the Administration and Mr. George Wilber, Supervisor of Buildings and Grounds, should also be part of the Committee.

PERSONNEL – INSTRUCTIONAL

Motion was made by Mr. Stoddard, seconded by Mr. Quandt that the Board of Education accept the recommendation of Superintendent Brian Sherman to appoint Michaela Lawless-Kehrer and add her name to the Certified Substitute List, effective 12/21/06.

APPOINT
LAWLESS-KEHRER
CERTIFIED
SUBSTITUTE

Yes – 6

No – 0

Absent – 1 (Gathen)

Motion Carried

PERSONNEL – NON-INSTRUCTIONAL

Motion was made by Mr. Schlieder, seconded by Mr. Quandt that the Board of Education accept the recommendation of Superintendent Brian Sherman to appoint Graham Savio and add his name to the Non-Certified Substitute List, effective 12/21/06.

APPOINT
G. SAVIO
NON-CERTIFIED
SUBSTITUTE

Yes – 6

No – 0

Absent – 1 (Gathen)

Motion Carried

Motion was made by Mr. Quandt, seconded by Mr. Reinhart that the Board of Education accept the recommendation of Superintendent Brian Sherman to appoint Kraig Cummings and add his name to the Non-Certified Substitute List, effective 12/21/06.

APPOINT
K. CUMMINGS
NON-CERTIFIED
SUBSTITUTE

Yes – 6

No – 0

Absent – 1 (Gathen)

Motion Carried

BUSINESS

Motion was made by Mr. Reinhart, seconded by Mr. Stoddard that the Board of Education accept the recommendation of Superintendent Brian Sherman to approve the November 2006 Treasurer’s Report as presented.

TREASURER’S
REPORT

Yes – 6
No – 0
Absent – 1 (Gathen)

Motion Carried

Mr. Bonaker presented the Budget Status Reports for review.

Motion was made by Mr. Stoddard, seconded by Mr. Quandt that the Board of Education authorize budget transfers as presented.

AUTHORIZE
BUDGET
TRANSFERS

Yes – 6
No – 0
Absent – 1 (Gathen)

Motion Carried

Motion was made by Mr. Reinhart, seconded by Mr. Quandt that the Board of Education authorize the payment of Warrant #6B as follows:

WARRANT #6B

Warrant #6B totaling \$320,615.99 from the General Fund; \$14,080.53 from the School Lunch Fund; \$11,963.74 from the Federal Fund; \$71,020.71 from the Capital Fund; \$209.39 from the Trust and Agency Fund; and -0- from the Expendable Trust Fund.

Yes – 6
No – 0
Absent – 1 (Gathen)

Motion Carried

Motion was made by Mr. Reinhart, seconded by Miss Wilber that the Board of Education approve the 2nd Reading of and adopt Board Policy #5671 – Health Insurance Portability and Accountability (HIPAA).

APPROVE & ADOPT
BOE POLICY #5671
HEALTH INSURANCE
PORTABILITY &
ACCOUNTABILITY

Yes – 6
No – 0
Absent – 1 (Gathen)

Motion Carried

Mr. Bonaker reviewed the current Senior Citizens’ Tax Assessment Exemption for Schoharie Central School District. He noted that it was last updated by the Board 6 years ago. The Board said they would like more information and asked Mr. Bonaker to show the number of properties that would be affected, their current assessment value and to develop a proposed new sliding scale of partial assessment exemptions. Mr. Bonaker said he would have a report for the Board at the January 3rd meeting.

REVIEW SENIOR
CIT. TAX EXEMPT.

There was a presentation regarding the Five-Year Financial Plan of the District.

REPORT
FIVE-YEAR
FINANCIAL
PLAN

Superintendent Sherman opened the presentation with slides regarding the fiscal objectives and the educational mission of the District. He said the purpose of the finances is to adequately support the critical aspects of the education plan.

Mr. Bonaker presented material about factors that are involved that impact the budget and the financial status of the District. For appropriations, the factors are employee salaries and related benefits, the need to upgrade the technology capabilities of the schools, debt service on capital project bonds, retirement system costs and energy costs. For revenues, state aid and the fund balance were reviewed in concert with forecasts regarding the tax levy and the property tax rates. He stressed that assessed values in the three largest towns (Schoharie, Wright and Esperance) that comprise 90 percent of the tax-base have a pattern of increasing 2 to 4 percent each year over the last 5 years.

Five-Year Financial Plan Report (cont.)

Based on the factors listed previously in the presentation, the baseline budget is projected to increase in the range of 5 to 6 percent. The recent trend is that property values assessed for school purposes grow incrementally, which helps to ease the impact of changes in the school tax. As an example, in the present school budget, although the levy increased by a little over 4 percent, the average tax rate increased by less than 1 percent because of property assessment changes and equalization percentage adjustments. A good portion of the projected budget changes over the next 5 years will be offset by state aid increases, effective maximization of other revenues, and strategic utilization of designated fund balance to stabilize tax rate increases.

Motion was made by Mr. Stoddard, seconded by Mr. Quandt that the Board of Education authorize a Shared Municipal Services Incentive Grant: Electrical Switchgears for Generator Hook-Up.
(Copy attached to official minutes)

AUTHORIZE
SHARED MUNIC.
SERVICES INCENT.
GRANT

Yes – 6

No – 0

Absent – 1 (Gathen)

Motion Carried

This resolution was approved by the Board last year, but was never funded by the State of New York. Superintendent Sherman recently received notice that funding was available and the deadline for submission was December 22, 2006. He noted that the Resolution is identical to the resolution which the Board had previously adopted.

Motion was made by Mr. Quandt, seconded by Mr. Reinhart that the Board of Education accept the recommendation of Superintendent Brian Sherman to authorize the Bid Award for Temporary Bus Lease of a 2006 GMC, 20 Passenger Bus, effective 1/2/07 – 6/30/07 to Noonan Leasing Co., 227 Noonan Rd., Fort Johnson, NY in the amount of \$9,177.02.

AUTHORIZE
BID AWARD FOR
TEMP. BUS LEASE
NOONAN LEASING

Yes – 6

No – 0

Absent – 1 (Gathen)

Motion Carried

Motion was made by Miss Wilber, seconded by Mr. Reinhart that the Board of Education authorize the District to declare Bus #141 as surplus and sell it to the highest bidder. Bus #141 will be replaced by the new bus for the lease just approved by the Board.

DECLARE
BUS #141 SURPLUS

Yes – 6

No – 0

Absent – 1 (Gathen)

Motion Carried

President Spies made note that the next Board of Education Meeting will be on Wednesday, January 3, 2007 at 7:00 p.m. in the High School Library Classroom.

NEXT
MEETING

Motion was made by Mr. Reinhart, seconded by Miss Wilber to enter into Executive Session to discuss negotiations and specific personnel issues.

Yes – 6

No – 0

Absent – 1 (Gathen)

Motion Carried

President Spies declared the meeting to be in recess at 9:00 p.m.

The Executive Session came to order at 9:05 p.m. with Mr. Spies, Mr. Quandt, Mr. Schlieder, Mr. Reinhart, Miss Wilber, Mr. Stoddard, Mr. Sherman and Mr. Bonaker present.

EXECUTIVE
SESSION

Mr. Gathen arrived at 9:20 p.m.

Motion was made by Mr. Quandt, seconded by Mr. Reinhart to end the Executive Session and return to the Regular Meeting.

Yes – 7

No – 0

Motion Carried

President Spies declared the Regular Meeting to be reconvened at 11:13 p.m.

Motion was made by Mr. Quandt, seconded by Mr. Reinhart to deny Grievance #2E 2006-2007 as filed by the Schoharie Teachers' Association.

DENIAL OF
GRIEVANCE
#2E 2006-2007

Yes – 6

No – 0

Abstain – 1 (Gathen)

Motion Carried

Motion was made by Mr. Reinhart, seconded by Mr. Gathen to adjourn the Regular Board of Education Meeting.

ADJOURN

Yes – 7

No – 0

Motion Carried

President Spies declared the meeting of December 20, 2006 to be adjourned at 11:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Rosemary Wilber
District Clerk