

Chebeague Island School Committee Meeting Minutes Tuesday, September 20, 2016

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 6:03 pm by Chairperson Suzanne Rugh. Present: School Committee members Suzanne Rugh, Jeff Putnam, Beverly Johnson, Steven Todd, and Jen Belesca (late); school staff Pre-K teacher Nancy Earnest, Cook/Custodian Laura Summa, and Superintendent/Principal Mike Pulsifer, and guests Geoff Summa and Bob Earnest.

Flag Salute

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Approval of Agenda

A motion was made by Jeff Putnam and seconded by Steven Todd to approve the agenda as written, but to move item *9e Use of Pizza Oven* to first on the agenda due to Bob Earnest being present and needing to leave as soon as possible. The motion passed 4-0.

Approval of Minutes

A motion was made by Jeff Putnam and seconded by Suzanne Rugh to approve the September 6, 2016 meeting minutes as written. The motion passed 4-0.

Correspondence

Mike Pulsifer shared a preliminary report that the town's new audit firm gave to the Town Manager. While it is not official, it is similar to what was calculated earlier for the 2015-16 revenue and expenditures for the school department.

Mike also shared that in a recent conversation with Laura Mike, the Guidance Counselor from Harrison Middle School, he heard that our 6th graders going over to Yarmouth this year have settled in nicely and are doing well. It was suggested that the School Committee would like to hear first hand from the 6th graders sometime in the late fall, and they will be invited to a future meeting.

Public Comment

Nancy Earnest shared that a recent field trip to get "critters" for the multipurpose room tank was a success. The students went to Bennett's Cove and were able to get many things for the tank.

Reports

School Committee Chair: None

Superintendent/Principal: Mike Pulsifer reported that our long-time Bus Driver Virginia Tatakis resigned her position for a job on the mainland, and Mike has hired Kevin Wentworth as our new Bus Driver.

Old Business

Use of Pizza Oven: Bob Earnest asked the School Committee if it would be possible for a group other than the School Department to use the pizza oven. He suggested it might be used for a fundraiser, or for a family reunion type pizza cookout, or some other similar situation. A general discussion was held, and the overall consensus of the School Committee was that they would be agreeable to having others use the oven, but would like to have some written policy or contract in place to be signed by others seeking permission to use the oven and/or school. It was agreed that the Superintendent would work with the Policy Committee to draft something for the full School Committee to review at a future meeting.

CTC Ferry Contract: A lengthy discussion was held on the costs of the CTC contract, and whether the School Department should be paying for different situations that could come up during the course of the year. The School Committee agreed that they would like to include the following in the new agreement:

- Cover any student transportation costs for any student going to school on the mainland, regardless of the grade
- Cover one adult's transportation costs for taking a K-5 student to a private school on the mainland
- Clarify the language for parents/step-parents taking students to events at school on the mainland

The language will be put into the agreement and shared with the full School Committee prior to the Superintendent signing it.

Water Filtration System for CIS: This item was tabled until a future meeting, so Mike Pulsifer could gather more information.

Playground Maintenance Fund: The School Committee discussed a recent donation of \$5,270 by John Wilson, that he requested be used for the maintenance of the playground. At the direction of the Town Manager in an email, she suggested that the School Committee accept the donation, and designate it into an account at the Town Hall to be used for the maintenance of the school's playground. A motion was made by Beverly Johnson and seconded by Steven Todd to accept the donation of \$5,270 from Mr. Wilson, and to designate that donation into an account to be used for the Chebeague Island School's playground maintenance. The motion passed 5-0. The Superintendent will send a letter to Mr. Wilson thanking him for his generous donation and will notify the Town Manager of the approval of the designation for the funds.

Move Some Regular Education Ed Tech Funds to Special Education E. Tech Funds: The Superintendent recommended to the School Committee that they move some budget funds from Trio 8303 (Regular Education Ed Tech Salaries) to Trio 8503 (Special Education Ed Tech Salaries). This would allow the School Department to continue to meet state requirements for special education expenditures, and it might give us an opportunity to get Local Entitlement funds to reimburse the district for Ed Tech salary expenditures this year. This Trio change would not increase or decrease our overall budget at all, as it would only shift some funding from one Trio line to another. A motion was made by Beverly Johnson and seconded by Jen Belesca to move \$5,500 from Trio 8303 to Trio 8503. The motion passed 5-0.

Student Ferry Costs: An inquiry was made by our new CIS Ed Tech Jessica Ireland to the School Committee to see if they would consider helping to pay for ferry transportation costs for her 3rd grader to come over each school day from the mainland to attend CIS. After discussion, the consensus of the School Committee was for the School Department to pay the full ferry costs on school days for Jessica's daughter to attend CIS.

New Business

First Reading of Policies: At the urging of our liability insurance company, the Policy Committee recently worked on policies developed to give parameters for use of buses and vehicles by school employees. A motion was made by Beverly Johnson and seconded by Steve Todd to approved the following policies as a first reading:

- EEBA School Department Owned Vehicles
- EEBA-R1 School Department Vehicle Regulations
- EEBA-R2 School Department Vehicle Guidelines
- EEBA-E1 Notification of Traffic Violation
- EEBA-E2 Permission for Release of Individual Records
- EEBA Use of Private Vehicles for School Business

The motion passed 5-0.

Resignation of Physical Education Teacher: Our part-time Physical Education teacher Virginia Tatakis resigned her position to work on the mainland. A motion was made by Jeff Putnam and seconded by Beverly Johnson to accept the resignation of Virginia Tatakis as our part-time Physical Education teacher. The motion passed 5-0.

Music Teacher Appointment for 2016-17: This item was tabled until a future meeting as the Superintendent did not have a nomination for the School Committee at this time.

Physical Education Teacher Appointment for 2016-17: Mike Pulsifer recommended that the School Committee appoint Penelope Wahlstrom as the part-time Physical Education teacher for the 2016-17 school year. A motion was made by Beverly Johnson and seconded by Jeff Putnam to appoint Penelope Wahlstrom as the part-time Physical Education teacher for the 2016-17 school year. The motion passed 5-0.

Other Business

Warrant #4 was reviewed by the School Committee and approval was authorized for the warrant.

Adjournment

Steven Todd motioned and Beverly Johnson seconded to adjourn the School Committee meeting at 7:45 pm. The motion passed 4-0.