

Chebeague Island School Committee Meeting Minutes Tuesday, September 6, 2016

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 6:05 pm by Chairperson Suzanne Rugh. Present: School Committee members Suzanne Rugh, Jeff Putnam, Beverly Johnson, Jen Belesca and Steven Todd (arrived late); school staff Superintendent/Principal Mike Pulsifer and Pre K Teacher Nancy Earnest; and guests Bob Earnest, Marjorie Stratton, Carol White, Laura Summa and David Brunner.

Flag Salute

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Approval of Agenda

A motion was made by Jeff Putnam and seconded by Beverly Johnson to approve the agenda with the addition of one item: Music Teacher resignation as item #11 under Other Business. The motion passed 4-0.

Approval of Minutes

A motion was made by Jeff Putnam and seconded by Beverly Johnson to approve the August 16, 2016 meeting minutes as written. The motion passed 3-0-1 (Rugh abstained).

Correspondence

Mike Pulsifer shared that a joint workshop with the School Committee, Board of Selectmen and Chebeague Island Recreation Center Board has been set for October 4th at 6:30 pm. The purpose of the meeting will be to discuss any facility needs of the three groups. The regular School Committee meeting will begin at 5:00 pm that night, with the joint workshop beginning after it.

Mike also shared that CIS received two grants from the Recompense Fund (Maine Community Foundation Grants) in the amount of \$1,860. One grant of \$250 will go to the art program for a "Gallery for a Day" at the school, and the other grant in the amount of \$1,610 will go to our K – 5th grade students for a one-day Outdoor Leadership program on Cow Island led by Ripple Effect. We were very grateful for the generous donations to our school.

Public Comment

None

Reports

School Committee Chair: None

Superintendent/Principal: Mike Pulsifer reported that the opening workshops for our CIS staff on August 30, 31 and September 1 went very smoothly and were productive days for our staff. The three-day schedule was shared with the School Committee.

The CIS Open House this fall will be held from 5:00 – 6:00 pm on Tuesday, September 20th.

Mike reported that the first student day was a very productive day, and all of the students appeared to be excited and happy to be back at school. It should be a very positive school year.

CIS will be getting its boiler hooked up with our alarm system to a Cunningham Security link, in case the boiler ever goes down when no one is in the building. The work will be done this fall, prior to cold weather coming.

Mike shared a report on student numbers for Chebeague Island for Pre-K to grade 12. At this time, we are just about at our earlier predictions on student numbers that was done last February at budget time. CIS has 26 students (projected 24), HMS has 14 students (projected 16) and YHS and GHS have 12 students (projected 13). There is also one student going to Baxter Academy.

And finally, the roof work that was needed over the far end of the building was recently completed, and it very water tight and ready for the new school year.

Old Business

CIS Space Use Study: David Brunner attended the meeting to follow up on the work he has been doing with the School Committee (SC) on its facility needs and renovation ideas. David previously attended the May 25th SC meeting and shared three draft options that the SC might consider when doing renovations. He suggested at that meeting that he would like to do some more review of the site, include the feedback from the May 25th meeting, and get back to the SC with additional ideas. The meeting tonight was set for that follow up meeting. David came with three updated options again, after reviewing site plans, discussing facility needs with the Town Manager, discussing needs with the School Committee previously, and after considering set back regulations and fire codes. A lot of discussion was held on the three new options, and it was agreed that our upcoming meeting with the BoS and CIRC Board will be helpful. But, it was also noted that the SC should continue forward with its planning even if the other two groups do not have facility needs. David said he needed a site plan that shows the exact plot of land owned by the town that the school is on currently. Marjorie Stratton thought that the town had those plans at Town Hall. The SC offered suggestions to David, as did guests in attendance, and David will return to a future SC meeting with some drafts that consider those suggestions into his proposed plans. The SC was interested in knowing what “approximate costs” might be for the different options. The date for that follow up meeting was not set. David will let the SC know when he is planning on being on Chebeague again.

CTC Ferry Contract: The 2016-17 CTC contract with the School Department was reviewed. It was noted that it was only for this year, and there are two specific runs set up for CI students to go over to Cousins and back from Cousins. These runs were put in place to meet the changing school times by island students. There was some discussion on who pays for parent(s) who take their students to the mainland to attend private schools. The contract clearly states that the school department will pay for a parent to go to the mainland to attend extracurricular functions with/for their child, but it does not clearly state if it covers daily transportation costs for a parent taking their child to a private school. After the lengthy discussion, Steven Todd motioned and

Jen Belesca seconded to approve the CTC/Chebeague Island School Department 2016-17 Contract, and give permission for the Superintendent to sign that contract. The motion passed 4-0.

New Business

None – due to time constraints, a motion was made by Suzanne Rugh and seconded by Beverly Johnson to move all new business to the next regular meeting's agenda. The motion passed 4-0.

Other Business

Music Teacher Resignation: A motion was made by Beverly Johnson and seconded by Jen Belesca to accept the resignation of Carey Rasco, the part time Music Teacher, effective September 22, 2016. The motion passed 4-0.

Warrant #3: Warrant #3 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 7:47 pm. The motion passed 4-0.