

APPROVED

**TOWN OF STRATTON
STRATTON SCHOOL BOARD
STRATTON TOWN OFFICE
September 4, 2018**

The Stratton School Board held its monthly meeting on Tuesday, September 4, 2018 at the Stratton Town Office. The meeting was called to order at 7:00 P.M.

ATTENDING: Thomas Montemagni, Board Chairman, Siobhan Eddy Young, Director, Lorraine M. Weeks-Newell, Secretary, Alyson Marcucci, Stratton Town Treasurer, Allison Young, Stratton resident, Jessica Baron and Deborah J. Newson.

MODIFICATIONS: None

MINUTES: The minutes for the August 7, 2018 Stratton School Board meeting were read. Thomas Montemagni motioned to approve the minutes and Siobhan Eddy Young seconded. The minutes for 8/7/18 were approved.

RESIDENCY APPLICATONS: Ms. Deborah J. Newson attended the meeting to submit her completed application for Stratton residency and tuition assistance. She provided her completed residency application, VT driver's license, a letter from SMS verifying her residency and employment status at the school, birth certificate and postage slips for home delivery. Her information was reviewed by the Board and her application accepted. She will be notified by letter of the Board's decision.

Ms. Jessica Baron attended the meeting to submit her completed application for Stratton Residency and tuition assistance. She provided her completed application, VT driver's license, children's birth certificates, lease agreement, copy of a recent Comcast bill as well as two mail delivery stubs. Her information was reviewed by the Board and her application accepted. She will be notified by letter of the Board's decision.

Ms. Debra Lyons, who submitted her Residency application at the August 7, 2018 meeting, provided a letter requested by the Stratton School Board from her employer. The letter states that Ms. Lyons residence is at the home where she is employed as caretaker of the property. In addition, Ms. Lyons completed the information on her residency application which will be added to her file.

The Board approved her application and she will be notified by letter of the Board's decision.

NEW BUSINESS: The Stratton School Board reviewed the Quitclaim Deed which detailed the sale of the Town Common lot from the Stratton School District to the Town of Stratton. The

document was signed by Thomas J. Montemagni, Director of the Stratton Town School District and witnessed by Lorraine M. Weeks Newell. Candie Bernard, Notary Public, also witnessed the signing and applied her seal, signed and dated the document.

OLD BUSINESS:

It was reported in the August 7, 2018 minutes that two Stratton families had not filed their Homestead Declaration. Registered letters were sent requesting that they address the situation in order to receive tuition assistance. Alyson Marcucci, Town Treasurer, informed the Board that both families have since filed their Homestead Declarations.

IN ADDITION:

At the August school board meeting, Alyson Marcucci informed the Board that the State of Vermont has mandated a new system of accounting for school business. At that time she stated that due to the limited amount of transactions and billing that she does on a monthly basis, it would not be beneficial to the town for her to learn the new programming. She requested that the Board consider approving the payment of school billing to be handled by the WCSU. It was decided at the August meeting that more information would be required before any decision could be made.

Ms. Marcucci had limited information to add to her request since last month's meeting. She discussed the situation with Stratton School Auditors, Sullivan, Powers & Co. who saw no issue in handling the billing through the WCSU. The question was raised regarding a conflict of interest. Ms. Mariucci would receive copies of each months billing, which she would review to verify student residency for tuition payment and then refer the bills to the WCSU who would then send out the payments.

No decision was made regarding the issue. The new payment program would go into effect by July 2019 with implementation of the new software by July 2020.

STUDENT TUITION PAYMENT

There was an inquiry made at the August 2018 meeting regarding additional tuition payments to be made for Special Education student attending school at the Pre-K level. The Board requested that more information be provided by the students IEP team that would support the need for the additional school instruction time and tuition. The Board has received the necessary information from the student's educators and is satisfied with the request. Thomas Montemagni motioned to approve the payment of additional tuition and Lorraine Weeks Newell Seconded.

NEW BUSINESS: ACT 46 STATE BOE MEETING IN CHESTER VT

On September 19, 2018, Stratton School Board Chair, Thomas Montemagni and Board member Lorraine Newell are scheduled to meet with members of the Vermont State Board of Education. At that time the State BOE will

- a) review and analyze the Secretary's proposal under the provisions in Sec.10 (a)
- b) approve the proposal either in its original form or in an amended form
- c) publish on the Agency's website its order merging and realigning districts and supervisory unions where necessary.

On April 10, 2018 Stratton School Board members Thomas Montemagni and Lorraine Weeks Newell met with the Vermont State Board of Education in Barre, VT to present Stratton's petition to the State to remain an independent school district. On June 1, 2018, the Stratton School Board learned that its petition to the VT Department of Education was approved and that it will continue to manage and conduct school business as a stand-alone district.

The Stratton Board members will attend the meeting in Chester at which time members of the VT State Board of Education will review the VT Secretary of Education's decision to approve Stratton's petition to remain an independent school district.

BILLING:

Maple Street School – 1 st semester tuition - \$22,573.00	CK#4417
Stratton Mountain School – 1 st semester tuition - \$101,517.00	CK#4418
Wardsboro Elementary School – tuition - \$6,500.00	CK#4420
Sullivan, Powers & Co., P.C. – Audit/progress billing - \$3,965.00	CK\$4419

The 9/4/18 order was reviewed, approved and signed.
The total amount of the order was \$134,555.00.

ADDITIONAL BILLING PAID:

With the approval of Ms. Baron and Ms. Newson's applications for residency at the 9/4/18 meeting, the Board approved tuition payments to be made for their children who are enrolled at Maple Street School and SMS.

The following payments were made and will be reflected in the billing report total on the October 2, 2018 statement.

Stratton Mountain School – tuition for Simon Baron -	\$15,618.00
and Charles Gnoza	
Maple Street School – tuition for Asher Baron -	\$6,955.00

Total amount of the tuition payment \$ 22,573.00

As there was no other business to address, Siobhan Eddy Young motioned to adjourn the meeting and Lorraine Weeks-Newell seconded. The meeting was adjourned at 8:20 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,


Lorraine M. Weeks-Newell
Stratton School Board Secretary