

**HAMILTON-WENHAM REGIONAL SCHOOL COMMITTEE
PUBLIC HEARING FY18 BUDGET
Buker Elementary School Thursday, January 19, 2017 6:30 PM – 7:00 PM
Buker Multi-Purpose Room**

Present:

Michelle Bailey
Deb Evans
Gene Lee
Josh Liebow
Stacey Metternick, Chair
David Polito

Also present:

Michael Harvey, Superintendent
Jeff Sands, Assistant Superintendent
Nancy Bergner, H-WRSC Clerk

I. Call To Order: Stacey Metternick called the meeting to order at 6:37 pm in the Buker School Multi-Purpose Room.

FY 2018 Budget: Presented by Mike Harvey and Jeff Sands
See *FY18 Superintendent's Budget Recommendation Presentation* in SC Meeting Packet

Discussion/Questions from the Community

Lisa Bial, representative of the Buker Playground Committee: Hamilton CPC will contribute \$20,000 to the project on the conditions that the Town of Wenham contribute \$20,000 and the School Committee contribute \$10,000 toward the same. The Buker Playground Committee would appreciate a response to this request before their next meeting with the Hamilton CPC on Feb. 8.

The SC appreciates the request. Further discussion on this issue can continue after it is posted.

Meeting went into recess for 2 minutes.

**HAMILTON-WENHAM REGIONAL SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING
MINUTES
January 19, 2017
7:00 PM**

Present:

Michelle Bailey
Deb Evans
Stacey Metternick, Chair
David Polito
Josh Liebow
Gene Lee

Also present:

Michael Harvey, Superintendent
Jeff Sands, Assistant Superintendent
Nancy Bergner, H-WRSC Clerk

I. Call To Order: Stacey Metternick called the meeting to order at 7:08 pm in the Buker School Multi-Purpose Room.

II. Pledge of Allegiance

III. Citizens' Comments

Brief Discussion of Open Meeting Law and bearing on changes to the Agenda

**I MOVE THAT THE HAMILTON-WENHAM REGIONAL SCHOOL
COMMITTEE ADD A DISCUSSION OF TOPICS SURROUNDING THE
REQUEST FOR MATCHING FUNDS FOR THE BUKER PLAYGROUND
PROJECT TO THIS EVENING'S AGENDA.**

MOTION by Josh Liebow; SECONDED by Michelle Bailey

Discussion: the capacity to add items to the agenda on an emergency basis is obviously valuable. Is this item truly urgent? If so, it should be added. The SC has policies about when responses are made to citizen concerns such as this. The policies for response ensure that agenda items are properly prepared and reviewed in order to promote thoughtful and informed deliberation and decision making. Adding this to the agenda for a subsequent meeting would allow the SC to give it the full consideration and preparation for discussion.

The motion was called to a vote: 2 members for, 4 opposed, no abstentions. The motion does not pass.

This item will be added to Feb. 2 Agenda

A Citizen Concern which was sent to a SC member via email has been forwarded to the Superintendent for consideration.

IV. Chair's Report

- Former SC member Robert P. Whittier died Jan. 11 at the age of 92. He served as a Hamilton representative on the SC from 1986-1998 and was instrumental in developing the facility ofr

the Miles River Middle School. The family wishes to open a fund to benefit STEM development in the district. The School Committee will need to authorize donations.

I MOVE THAT THE HAMILTON-WENHAM REGIONAL SCHOOL COMMITTEE AUTHORIZE THE TREASURER TO ACCEPT FUNDS IN THE MEMORY OF ROBERT P. WHITTER TO SUPPORT STEM DEVELOPMENT.

MOTION by Deb Evans; SECONDED by Michelle Bailey

discussion on the most effective way to honor the family's desire to establish a fund and the point in the process at which a SC motion is necessary to facilitate it.

The motion was rescinded by Deb Evans, Seconded by Josh Liebow

- At the last meeting, the SC authorized a change to the Treasurer's vacation. The matter was reviewed by legal council, which provided recommendations for altering the Treasurer's contract via amendment approved by SC vote.
- Update on Assistant Treasurer search: Dr. Harvey has agreed to work on a shared services plan with the Town of Wenham for Assistant Treasurer services.
- Warrant Committee: A shared document has been circulated to ensure that there is a quorum of Warrant Committee members present for each meeting of the committee. Three signatures are necessary to release checks. Be sure to check your calendars and sign up for the meetings so that there will be no disruption in release of checks.
- Regional Agreement Working Group will present later during this meeting.
- CPC application was submitted on time. The SC must present the application in Wenham on Wed. Feb 8 at 7 PM.
- There was a Turf Field meeting on Tuesday. Susequent SC meetings should schedule time to discuss developments. Options include scheduling segments of the discussion over several meetings, or calling a special meeting on a Saturday morning to address all concerns in one meeting, or scheduling this discussion after budget discussions are completed.

V. Superintendent's Report

Prospective Kindergarten registration is open.

School Committee Nomination Papers for April Town Elections are now available. Nomination papers will be available effective Monday, January 9, 2017 for (4) open positions, (2) three-year terms and (2) one-year terms as members of the Hamilton-Wenham Regional School District Committee.

The nomination papers are available at the Superintendent's Office, 5 School Street, Wenham. The papers must be returned with at least 40 registered voter signatures from the Towns of Hamilton and/or Wenham on or before 5:00 PM on Thursday, February 16, 2017. Signatures will be verified from the voters' list of the Towns of Hamilton & Wenham by Wednesday, February 22, 2017.

If you have any questions, please call Donna Bunk @ 978-626-0821.

Open House for Integrated Preschool:

Feb 1 and 8 from 9-10 at Winthrop Elementary School. See Pre-school web page at <http://hamiltonwenhampreschool.weebly.com> . For more information, call 978-468-5489 or direct email inquiries to preschool@hwschool.net .

Accepting applications for School Choice

We are now accepting School Choice Applications for September 2017 for Grades 9-12. The acceptance of students will be conditional upon availability of space within each of the classes. Applications will be accepted through February 1, 2017. Selection is by lottery. Application form is found on the High School webpage.

Turf Project: updated slides are posted on the district website.

Two groups from China are visiting the MS and the HS.

VI. Consent Agenda

A. Minutes of January 5, 2017

Exhibit A

I MOVE THAT THE HAMILTON-WENHAM REGIONAL SCHOOL COMMITTEE REMOVE THE MINUTES OF THE JANUARY 5, 2017 SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING. FROM THE CONSENT AGENDA PENDING AMENDMENTS.

MOTION by Michelle Bailey

discussion: amending spelling of names—Josh Liebow; Lisa Bial.

I MOVE THAT THE HAMILTON-WENHAM REGIONAL SCHOOL COMMITTEE ACCEPT THE MINUTES OF THE JANUARY 5, 2017 SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING, WITH AMENDMENTS TO CORRECT SPELLINGS OF NAMES PER SC DISCUSSION. THERE CAN BE NO FURTHER CHANGES TO THE AGENDA.

MOTION by Josh Liebow; SECONDED by Deb Evans

Unanimously approved by 6 members present; none opposed, no abstentions

VII. New Business

A. FY18 Budget Review facilitated by Jeff Sands

Exhibit B

- 1. Middle School Programs:** presented by Principal Craig Hovey
- 2. High School Programs:** Principal Eric Tracey and Asst. Principal Brian Menegoni
discussion: prospect of diminished enrollment; course offerings; class size considerations; students considering private schools; upcoming capital needs
- 3. Athletic Budget:** presented by Craig Genualdo
discussion: athletic costs are funded by the combined contributions of the district (covering all administrative costs), by user fees (70%) and by donations; scholarships to assist with user fees; discontinued sports; facility restrictions

More topics for budget discussions will be presented at subsequent SC meetings. There are 2 more regular SC meetings before voting on the budget. Concern was expressed about receiving a final installment of information at the same meeting at which the final vote is called. The sequence of preparatory meetings the SC uses has been in place for the last four years, and was laid out at the beginning of the process this year. Standard operating procedures are in place to have all budget materials available to SC members via Drop Box the Friday prior to a regular meeting. Interest was expressed in discussing District Food Service after budget season is over in order to look ahead to the following year.

B. Amend Treasurer's Contract: an administrative piece following up on the vote to roll over the 9 days.

Discussion: concern is expressed about the insertion of this item into the Agenda for tonight. Strong objection to pursuing this

I MOVE THAT THE ADDITION OF THE AMENDED ADDITION TO THE TREASURER'S CONTRACT BE REMOVED FROM THIS AGENDA AND MOVED TO THE FEBRUARY 2 MEETING.

MOTION by Deb Evans; SECONDED by Josh Liebow

*Discussion: Chair explained how the item came to be inserted into the Agenda. Discussion was recalled to the motion on the table. Issues involved in the timing include time sensitivity of the request, the need for the SC to be working from a fully informed perspective, including the recommendations of legal counsel as reviewed by the entire SC. **The motion was called.***

The motion to remove this item from the Agenda passed with 4 members for, 2 members opposed, no abstentions.

VIII. Committee Reports

- A. Communications (Michelle Bailey)
- B. Planning (Stacey Metternick): No further developments at this time
- C. Policy (Michelle Bailey) First readings of policies will be presented tonight.
 - 1. Policy Review
 - a) Memorials for Deceased Students or Staff—1st Reading Exhibit C
 - b) Policy Revision and Review—1st Reading (not yet enacted) Exhibit D
- D. Warrant (Stacey Metternick). First meeting is on Jan 31, so a report to the SC will be made on Feb. 2.
- E. Regional Agreement (Stacey Metternick). Decision should be made about who will present to the Selectmen of each town. Should the presentation be made by the SC in its entirety or by the Regional Agreement Working Group? The complexity of obtaining consensus between the three stake-holding bodies was raised.
- F. Student Rep (not in attendance)
- G. Other Schools Liaisons Updates

IX. Vote To Adjourn

I MOVE THAT THE HAMILTON-WENHAM REGIONAL SCHOOL COMMITTEE VOTE TO ADJOURN AT 19:49 PM.

MOTION by Josh Liebow; SECONDED by Gene Lee

Unanimously approved by 6 members present; none opposed, no abstentions

Respectfully Submitted,

Nancy R. Bergner
Clerk, H-WRSC Meeting