

ESSEX NORTH SHORE AGRICULTURAL & TECHNICAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

REGULAR MEETING

MINUTES

APRIL 17, 2014

MEMBERS PRESENT: G.R. Harvey, Essex, Chairman
L. Bonfanti, Peabody, Secretary
L. Siewko-Story, Department of Agriculture
D. Blake, Beverly
R. Fravel, Danvers
M. Teixeira, Gloucester
D. Ketcham, Hamilton
P. Anderson, Lynnfield
J. Sabella, Manchester
M. Sweeney, Marblehead
E. Weitzler, Middleton
B. Perkins, Rockport
T. St. Pierre, Salem
W. Jackson, Swampscott
C. Robinson, Topsfield
W. Nichols, Wenham

MEMBERS ABSENT: M. Patterson, Department of Agriculture, Vice Chairman
Boxford
Department of Agriculture
Nahant

OTHERS PRESENT: D. O'Connell, Superintendent-Director
B. Morgan, Principal
C. Worth, District Treasurer
P. Frazier, Senior Vice President, FirstSouthwest
S. Burke, PMA Consultants
C. Levesque, Recording Secretary

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 7:03 p.m. The recording secretary called the roll. It was noted that a quorum was present.

Mr. Harvey stated that Item 8A2 would move forward after review and approval of the Minutes.

2. Tentative Public Hearing Minutes of March 20, 2014 for Approval

A motion was made by Mrs. Sweeney and seconded by Ms. Teixeira and VOTED to approve the Tentative Public Hearing Minutes of March 20, 2014 as presented. Abstentions: Mr. Bonfanti, Dr. Story, Mr. Blake, Dr. Anderson, Mrs. Weitzler and Mr. Robinson

2a. Tentative Regular Meeting Minutes of March 20, 2014 for Approval

A motion was made by Mrs. Sweeney and seconded by Dr. Anderson and VOTED unanimously to approve the Tentative Regular Meeting Minutes of March 20, 2014 as amended.

8A2. Long-Term Debt (Mr. Peter Frazier, Sr. Vice President, FirstSouthwest)

Mr. O'Connell stated that he has been able to reduce the FY15 Budget to \$26,459,377.00. Mr. O'Connell reported that this new budget total includes the debt service of Plan 1, with the adoption of Plan 5 the new budget total will be \$25,780,027.00. A legislative Technical Amendment will be added to the House Ways and Means.

Mr. O'Connell recommends Plan 5 as it better serves all the communities.

A motion made by Ms. Teixeira and seconded by Dr. Anderson that the School Committee adopt the School Financing Plan for the Capital Debt Service set forth in the document prepared and presented by FirstSouthwest labeled "School Financing Plan 5-30 Year Level Debt Principal Structure - Two Bond Issues."

Mr. O'Connell suggested that the maker of the motion amend it to include "premiums are put toward Debt principal." Ms. Teixeira agreed to amend the motion and include this language.

Mr. Frazier explained the difference between the financing options that he prepared. Mr. Frazier stated that adopting Plan 5 is a good compromise and also takes advantage of today's low interest rates.

Mr. O'Connell stated that Plan 5 would result in a reduction of \$1,446,613.00 to the FY15 Budget.

Discussion followed. Mr. Bonfanti, Peabody; Mr. St. Pierre, Salem and Ms. Teixeira, Gloucester stated that their Mayors and Finance Directors are in favor of Plan 5. Mrs. Sweeney, Marblehead stated the Town preferred Plan 2. Mr. Blake, Beverly and Mr. Jackson, Swampscott stated their city/town preferred Plan 1.

A Roll Call Vote was taken to adopt School Financing Plan 5.

YES - Dr. Story, Mr. Fravel, Ms. Teixeira, Mr. Ketcham, Dr. Anderson, Mr. Sabella, Mrs. Weitzler, Mr. Bonfanti, Mr. Perkins, Mr. St. Pierre, Mr. Robinson, Mr. Nichols, Mr. Harvey

NO - Mr. Blake, Mrs. Sweeney, Mr. Jackson

Total Member - YES 12 NO 3

Total Weight - YES 22 NO 6

Motion Carried.

3. Business Manager's Report

Mrs. Worth, Treasurer, reviewed the March 31, 2014 Balance Sheet and the Profit and Loss statements. There were no comments or questions from members of the School Committee.

A motion was made by Dr. Anderson and seconded by Mrs. Sweeney and VOTED unanimously to approve the Balance Sheet of March 31, 2014 and place it on file for audit.

A motion was made by Dr. Anderson and seconded by Mrs. Sweeney and VOTED unanimously to approve the March 2014 Profit and Loss Statement and place it on file for audit.

4. Communications

All communications included in the packet were read and accepted.

Mr. O'Connell commented on the hiring of Mr. Haberland as the new head football coach. Although not necessary the district honored Essex Aggie's ten (10) day posting hiring requirement for this position and North Shore Tech's contract with the North Shore Educational Association that states full and half-time teachers will be given preference to stipend positions. Only non-unit candidates may be appointed if, in the judgment of the Superintendent-Director, such appointment is in the best interest of the students to be coached. Mr. Haberland's credentials were demonstrably stronger than the in-house candidate.

5. Owner's Project Manager Report – Mr. Sean Burke

Mr. Burke reported that construction is 80% complete and he reviewed the status of each academy. Demolition of Berry Hall will begin at the end of May. Mr. Burke expressed appreciation to Ms. White, Director-Principal, and the staff at Essex Aggie for their efforts to vacate Berry Hall.

Mr. Burke stated that the construction trailers are no longer on site and they have set up temporary offices in Academy A.

Request to Award (RTA)

A motion was made by Mr. St. Pierre and seconded by Ms. Teixeira and VOTED unanimously to award a contract to Emanouil, Inc. of Tyngsboro for the Field Irrigation of the Lower Middleton Field and the two Danvers Fields not to exceed \$225,000.00, as recommend by the School Building Committee.

A motion was made by Mr. St. Pierre and seconded by Ms. Teixeira and VOTED unanimously to award Final Cleaning Package to Onsite Service Corporation of Providence, RI in the amount of \$185,000.00, as recommended by the School Building Committee.

A motion was made by Mr. St. Pierre and seconded by Ms. Teixeira and VOTED unanimously to award a contract to GVW, Inc. of East Boston, MA for the installation of the Haybarn and the Fishbarn furnish and installation in the amount of \$186,700.00, as recommended by the School Building Committee.

Change Order #8

A motion was made by Mr. St. Pierre and seconded by Mrs. Sweeney and VOTED unanimously to approve Change Order #8 in the amount of \$164,156.00, as recommended by the School Building Committee.

Gilbane Co. Requisition #23

A motion was made by Mr. St. Pierre and seconded by Ms. Teixeira and VOTED unanimously to approve Gilbane Co. Requisition #23 not to exceed the amount of \$3,756,460.85, as recommended by the School Building Committee.

Invoices

A motion was made by Mr. St. Pierre and seconded by Ms. Teixeira and VOTED unanimously to approve DesignPartnership of Cambridge Invoice #10848 in the amount of \$13,860.00, Invoice #10852 in the amount of \$7,342.50 and Invoice #10856 in the amount of \$91,986.00, as recommended by the School Building Committee.

A motion was made by Mr. St. Pierre and seconded by Ms. Teixeira and VOTED unanimously to approve CDW-LSP Invoice #3 in the amount of \$4,414.20, Invoice #4 in the amount of \$4,760.00 and Invoice #5 in the amount of \$800.00, as recommended by the School Building Committee.

Ms. Teixeira expressed appreciation to the members of the School Building Committee for their due diligence and guidance throughout this process.

Mr. Robinson stated that the contingency was at \$28,556.00; however, after Mr. O'Connell and his team met to review the contingency it now stands at \$381,987.00. Mr. St. Pierre added that they were able to identify needs vs. wants and some projects will be done by the students.

Members discussed the tuition for out-of-district students vs. in-district students.

Mr. St. Pierre stated that Mr. O'Connell recently met with the Finance Directors and has instilled a level of confidence as everything he said he would do he has done.

6. Superintendent-Director's Report – Mr. O'Connell

Merger Transition Plan Update

Mr. O'Connell reported that administrators continue to work on the items and update the status as progress is made. One item of importance is that the schedule will have a 10 period day vs. 9 periods. This change to the schedule resulted in a significant change to staff hiring.

Negotiations Update

Mr. O'Connell reported that the Department of Labor (DLR) scheduled an election to be represented for the purposes of collective bargaining by MTA, AFT or no employee organization. The election is scheduled for Thursday, May 22, 2014 at Essex Aggie and North Shore Tech from 2:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. and Peabody Vocational from 2:00 p.m. to 2:30 p.m.

The bus drivers petitioned the DLR to unionize and negotiate with AFSCME and those negotiations are scheduled to begin in May.

Healthcare Update

Mr. O'Connell reported that an amendment to the Legislation to table Health Insurance for one year is in its third reading in the Senate. If the amendment is passed, employees will keep the insurance they currently are enrolled in and new employees will be eligible for coverage through the Massachusetts Bay Health Trust. Mr. O'Connell will arrange to have representatives from each company present their plans to employees. Mr. O'Connell recommends that the Committee appoint an Ad Hoc Healthcare Committee in the future.

Ms. Teixeira strongly recommends that GIC information is released to employees at least six months in advance and employees should visit the GIC's website.

Sports Complex Update

Mr. O'Connell reported that an amendment to the Legislation for the land lease of 25 years was forwarded to the Inspector General's Office to review.

Admissions Update

Mr. O'Connell reported that at this time 1,077 students are enrolled for the 2014-15 school year.

Machine Technology Partnership with Compumachine

Mr. O'Connell reported that on behalf of Machine Technology he negotiated and signed the first partnership with Compumachine of Danvers, MA for \$648,000.00. This partnership will entitle Compumachine naming rights and use of the site for demonstrations. It also keeps FF&E under budget and there are no new equipment costs to the operating budget.

Mr. O'Connell reported that he is very close to completing negotiations with a Child Care Center "Pea in the Pod." This will enable the district to offer on-site childcare for staff member's children and grandchildren from infant to 6 years old. Childcare will be offered daily from 7:30 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. at a cost to employees of \$145.00 weekly. After-school programs will be available for a nominal tuition for 6 – 13 year olds. There is no registration fee to attend the "Pea in the Pod" and the organization is fully licensed.

Mr. Robinson stated that being able to offer on-site child care is exciting and helps to retain and maintain high quality teachers and staff. He also stated he has a childcare program at his school and his rates can't match the proposed ones for Essex Tech staff.

7. Old Business

There was no Old Business to report.

8. Sub-Committee Reports

There was no meeting or report by the **Finance & Property Sub-Committee.**

There was no meeting of the **District Policy Sub-Committee.**

There was no meeting of the **Personnel Policy Sub-Committee.** Mrs. Sweeney stated that she will schedule a meeting soon.

9. Warrant

A motion was made by Dr. Anderson and seconded by Mrs. Sweeney and VOTED unanimously to accept the warrant of April 17, 2014 and place it on file for audit.

10. Adjourn

A motion was made by Mrs. Sweeney and seconded by Ms. Teixeira and VOTED unanimously to adjourn.

Mr. Harvey, Chairman, declared the meeting adjourned.

The Essex North Shore Agricultural and Technical School Committee adjourned at 8:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Secretary

Meeting handouts: Tentative Regular Meeting Minutes of April 17, 2014

All reference documents and reports are filed in the Superintendent-Director's office.