

Special Meeting to Finalize Budget

A Special Meeting of the Board of Education of the Northport-East Northport Union Free School District was held on Monday evening, April 7, 2014, beginning at 6:10 p.m., in the Board Conference Room at the William J. Brosnan School, 158 Laurel Avenue, Northport, New York, with Mr. Stephen V. Waldenburg, Jr., Chairperson, opening the meeting and presiding.

Members present: Mr. David Badanes (arrived at 6:35 p.m.), Ms. Julia Binger, Mr. James Maloney (left at 6:50 p.m.), Mrs. Lori McCue, Mr. Joseph Sabia, Mrs. Jennifer Thompson, Mrs. Tammie Topel, Mr. Stephen V. Waldenburg, Jr.

Members absent: Mr. Andrew Rapiejko

Also present: Dr. Marylou McDermott, Superintendent of Schools
Ms. Kathleen Molander, Assistant Superintendent for Business
Mr. Matthew Nelson, Assistant Superintendent for Instruction and Administration
Ms. Rosemarie Coletti, Assistant Superintendent for Human Resources

1. President Waldenburg called the meeting to order.

Motion was made by Trustee Sabia, seconded by Trustee Topel, to convene into Executive Session to discuss matters pertaining to the employment history of particular persons.

Unanimously carried by those present.

At 7:00 p.m. the Board reconvened in public session in the Cafeteria at the William J. Brosnan School.

Public attendance: There were approximately 45 persons present.

2. Mr. Waldenburg led those present in the Pledge of Allegiance; and
3. Pointed out the emergency exits.

President Waldenburg asked for a moment of silence in memory of Stanley Rapiejko, Trustee Rapiejko's father, who passed away.

Motion was made by Trustee McCue, seconded by Trustee Sabia, to approve all items under 4.

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- 4.01 Minutes

- 4.01.1 Public Hearing, March 3, 2014
- 4.01.2 Regular Meeting, March 3, 2014
- 4.01.3 Special Meeting, March 10, 2014
- 4.01.4 Special Meeting, March 17, 2014
- 4.01.5 Special Meeting, March 24, 2014

Unanimously carried by those present.

Dr. McDermott, Superintendent of Schools, reviewed the 2014-2015 Proposed Projected Budget of \$158,885.342 which equates to a budget to budget increase of 1.46%, a projected tax levy increase of 2.15%, noting that the New York State allowable levy limit is 2.18%. The estimated tax rate increase for 2014-2015 is 2.51%, the average prior 5-year tax levy increase is 1.68% with an average prior 5-year tax rate increase of 1.79%. Dr. McDermott reviewed the use of restricted reserves and program enhancements

in the 2014-2015 proposed budget, the capital projects which have been completed, are in-progress, or scheduled to be completed, and the capital projects to consider for 2014-2015. Dr. McDermott reviewed the projected revenue for 2014-2015 and recommendations for the use of the additional state aid.

5. COMMUNICATIONS RECEIVED REGARDING THE 2014-2015 PROPOSED BUDGET AND PUBLIC COMMENT – BOARD MOTION TO CONVENE INTO COMMITTEE-OF-THE-WHOLE TO INFORMALLY DISCUSS PROPOSED BUDGET

5.01 Communications received regarding the proposed 2014-2015 budget:

5.01.1 Letter from Mr. Armand D’Accordo, received March 31, 2014

Mr. D’Accordo stated that he would like the District to provide answer to his questions on how many administrators, teachers, teaching assistants have been cut since over the past decade student enrollment has decreased by almost 1,000 students, why the budget is increasing if the District is cutting 32.55 staff positions. Mr. D’Accordo stated that what really matters is budget to actual expenditures.

5.01.2 Letter from Ms. Pat Gardiner, received April 1, 2014

Ms. Gardiner stated that she is concerned that no funds are being allocated to the high school fields with the exception of a new scoreboard on the football field. It has been over five years since the bond for field improvement was defeated and since that time no action plan has been discussed by the board nor sufficient action taken to repair our current fields. Ms. Gardner stated she would like to see a committee formed chaired by the athletic director to include all booster club presidents, develop a plan of action and design for current fields, research funding opportunities both inside and outside district boundaries, and present plan to the Board of Education by December 2014.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

<u>Name</u>	<u>Comment</u>
Darryl St. George High School Teacher	Stated that next week is Hope Week the purpose of which is to raise awareness of drug and alcohol problems in the community. It is also rap week (recovery awareness and prevention) at the high school and middle schools. The week will culminate on with a presentation by Chris Herren to the students.
Adam Lawrence Student	Stated that Long Island High School for the Arts should not be removed from next year’s budget because the resources are far greater than what could be offered at Northport High School.
Nina Dorata Resident	Dr. Dorata stated that research was done regarding the establishment of a school budget committee and management entrenchment. Dr. Dorata stated that over a six year period when school districts had a budget committee in place the budget over that period of time was statistically significantly lower than with no budget committee in place. Dr. Dorata also stated that her research included management entrenchment measured by the number of tenured years board members have during that particular time which showed more tenure equaled higher budget.

Trustee McCue asked what the control group was and of those who had budget committees what was the average budget increase.

Kelly Clark Parent	Asked what repairs and upgrades are included in the proposed budget for Northport Middle School
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5.02 Motion was made by Trustee Topel, seconded by Trustee Sabia, to convene into Committee-of-the-Whole to informally discuss the proposed 2014-2015 budget and resolutions.

Unanimously carried by those present.

At 8:30 p.m. the Board convened into Committee-of-the-Whole.

6. MOTION TO CONVENE INTO SPECIAL MEETING

Motion was made by Trustee Badanes, seconded by Trustee Topel, to come out of Committee-of-the-Whole and reconvene into Special Meeting.

Unanimously carried by those present.

At 10:25 p.m. the Board came out of Committee-of-the-Whole.

6.01 Motion was made by Trustee Waldenburg, seconded by Trustee Topel, to approve the following SEQRA resolution:

"WHEREAS, the Board of Education of the Northport-East Northport Union Free School District, desires to embark upon the following capital improvement projects: Electrical/technology upgrades to the fire alarm system at each of the School District's elementary schools, and renovation of Northport Middle School H wing male and female lavatories; and

WHEREAS, said capital improvement projects are subject to classification under the State Environmental Review Act (SEQRA); and

WHEREAS, the SEQR Regulations declare Type II actions to be actions that have no significant impact on the environment and require no further review under SEQR; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Education has examined all information related to the capital improvement projects, and has determined that the above-described capital improvement projects are classified as Type II actions pursuant to section 617.5 (c)(1) and (c)(2) of the SEQR Regulations;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education hereby declares itself lead agency in connection with the requirements of the State Environmental Quality Review Act (SEQRA); and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board of Education hereby declares the above-referenced projects to be Type II actions which require no further review under SEQR.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board of Education has forwarded an official copy of this resolution to the New York State Education Department together with a copy of the correspondence from the New York State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation and has received clearance from the Department"

At 10:30 p.m., motion was made by Trustee Thompson, seconded by Trustee Topel, to extend the meeting.

Vote on Trustee Thompson's motion was as follows:

YES: Mr. Badanes, Ms. Binger, Mrs. McCue, Mr. Sabia, Mrs. Thompson, Mr. Waldenburg

NO: Mrs. Topel.

Motion passed.

7. FINALIZATION OF PROPOSITIONS

7.01 Finalization of the Propositions that will be submitted to the Voters on May 20, 2014,

Motion was made by Trustee Thompson, seconded by Trustee Topel, to approve the following resolution:

The Board removed the greeter at the William J. Brosnan School from the budget at \$26,001, reducing the tax levy under 2%, from the additional state aide adding a \$250,000 interfund transfer to project #6, renovation of Northport Middle School H wing lavatories, and applying the remainder to reduce the assigned fund balance by approximately \$175,000. Additionally, the school calendars will be mailed home.

“BE IT RESOLVED, that the following proposition shall be submitted to the voters at the May 20, 2014 Annual Vote as ‘Proposition No. 1’:

RESOLVED, that the Annual School District Budget for the 2014-2015 School year in the amount of \$159,109,341 and the necessary taxes therefore be approved”

Vote on Trustee Thompson’s motion was as follows:

YES: Mr. Badanes, Ms. Binger, Mrs. McCue, Mrs. Thompson, Mrs. Topel, Mr. Waldenburg

NO: Mr. Sabia

Motion passed.

Motion was made by Trustee Thompson, seconded by Trustee Badanes, to approve the following resolution:

“BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education hereby authorizes the following proposition to be submitted to the voters of the Northport-East Northport Union Free School District on May 20, 2014 as ‘Proposition No. 2’:

SHALL the Board of Education be authorized to expend (1) the sum of \$650,000 from the Capital Reserve Fund established on September 19, 2012 for the purpose of completing the following capital improvements: (a) Electrical/technology upgrades to the fire alarm system at each of the School District’s elementary schools, the foregoing to include all labor, materials, equipment, apparatus and incidental costs related thereto.”

Vote on Trustee Thompson’s motion was unanimously carried by those present.

Motion was made by Trustee Thompson, seconded by Trustee Sabia, to approve all items under 8. and 9., including supplemental item 9.30 (Rider to Agreement)

8. SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT, GENERAL – FOR BOARD ACTION

8.01 Personnel Actions Report, dated April 7, 2014, attached and made part of the official minutes.

President Waldenburg announced the retirement of Theresa Cosgrave after twelve years and ten months of service to the District.

8.02 Approving Schedule J – Committee on Special Education

8.03 Adopting the proposed School Calendar for 2014-2015

9. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT, FINANCIAL – FOR BOARD ACTION

9.01 Approving a Supplementary Education Services Agreement between the Northport-East Northport Union Free School District and Hoop Dreams with Chris Herren (SSS)

9.02 Approving a Supplementary Education Services Agreement between the Northport-East Northport Union Free School District and Roger E. Maher (HR)

9.03 Approving a Rider to Agreement between the Board of Education of the Northport-East Northport Union Free School District and the John W. Engeman Theater (OAS)

9.04 Approving a Rider to Agreement between the Board of Education of the Northport-East Northport Union Free School District and Medieval Times Dinner & Tournament, Inc. (NMS)

9.05 Authorizing the Board President to sign contracts with the following school districts to provide health services for Northport-East Northport students attending schools in that district during the 2013-2014 school year:

9.05.1 Huntington Union Free School District, seventeen (17) students attending St. Patrick @ \$585.00, totaling \$9,945.00

9.05.2 South Huntington Union Free School District eighty-six (86) students attending St. Anthony's High School and eleven (11) students attending Long Island School for the Gifted @ \$807.41, totaling \$78,318.77

9.05.3 Smithtown Central School District, three (3) students attending Harbor Country Day School and 13.31 students attending Smithtown Christian School @ \$861.11, totaling \$14,044.70

9.05.4 Bellmore Union Free School District, two (2) students attending St. Elizabeth Ann Seton @ \$943.31, totaling \$1,886.62

9.06 Approving Treasurer's Report and Monthly Summary of Receipts and Disbursements:

9.06.1 Treasurer's Report for the period January 1, 2014 through January 31, 2014

9.06.2 Monthly Summary of Receipts and Disbursements for January 2014

9.07 Approving Schedule of Investments as of January 31, 2014

9.08 Approving Collateral Schedule as of January 31, 2014

9.09 Approving Bank Reconciliation Report for the Month Ended January 31, 2014

9.10 Approving the General Fund Projected Cash Flow Statement for the year ending 2013-2014, Actual Data July 1, 2013 – January 31, 2014, Estimated Data February 1, 2014 – June 30, 2014

9.11 Approving transfer of general fund appropriations in the 2013-2014 budget

9.12 Approving Monthly Revenue and Budget Status Report – School Lunch Fund for the month ending January 31, 2014

9.13 Approving Monthly Revenue and Budget Status Report – Special Aid Fund for the month ending January 31, 2014

9.14 Approving Monthly Revenue and Budget Status Report – General Fund for the month ending January 31, 2014

9.15 Approving Monthly Revenue and Budget Status Report – Capital Fund for the month ending January 31, 2014

9.16 Approving School Lunch Profit and Loss Statement for the month ending January 31, 2014

9.17 Approving Claims Auditor’s Report for Warrants and Schedule of Claims for payments dated:

January 3, 2014 (Payroll Trust & Agency Warrant), January 15, 2014 (Accounts Payable Warrant), January 17, 2014 (Payroll Trust & Agency Warrant), January 31, 2014 (Payroll Trust & Agency Warrant), January 31, 2014 (Accounts Payable Warrant), January 2014 (Claims Audit Report)

9.18 Approving Claims Auditor’s Report – Payroll Audit for the Payroll Distribution/Audit dated January 17, 2014 (Ocean Avenue School)

9.19 Establishing the 2013-2014 health service charge for out-of-district students attending District non public schools at \$828.69 per pupil and authorizing the Superintendent of Schools to execute contracts with school districts indicated in the attached memorandum in the amounts specified

9.20 Approving 2014-2015 Universal Pre-K Program Contracts between the Northport-East Northport Union Free School District and Island Kids Early Childhood Center, Northport Nursery School, Pumpkin Patch Day Nursery and Tutor Time Child Care Learning Center

9.21 Approving a Supplementary Education Services Agreement between the Northport-East Northport Union Free School District and Homecare Therapies dba Horizon Healthcare Staffing (SSS)

9.22 Approving a Supplementary Education Services Agreement between the Northport-East Northport Union Free School District and Silver Hill Hospital

9.23 Approving a Rider to Agreement between the Board of Education of the Northport-East Northport Union Free School District and the John W. Engeman Theater (NAS)

9.24 Approving an Agreement between the Northport-East Northport Union Free School District and Suffolk County Vanderbilt Mansion, Museum and Planetarium (DAS)

9.25 Approving an Educational Theater Agreement between the Northport-East Northport Union Free School District and the John W. Engeman Theater (DAS)

9.26 Approving the following resolution:

“WHEREAS, the Bellerose Avenue Elementary School 5th Grade Committee has generously offered to donate a brick walkway at Bellerose Avenue Elementary School to the School District; and

WHEREAS, the School District desires to accept the Bellerose Avenue Elementary School 5th Grade Committee’s donation;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the School District, without consideration, accepts the gift of a brick walkway from the Bellerose Avenue Elementary School 5th Grade Committee”

9.27 Approving the following resolution:

“BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education hereby gratefully accepts a donation of \$34,785 from the Northport Middle School Student Activity Account, for the purpose of students attending the trip to Greenkill Outdoor Education Center February 26, 2014 and increase the 2013-2014 budget code A2110.4161.23.2902 by \$34,785 for this purpose.

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education hereby approves an increase in the revenue code A2705 of the 2013-2014 budget by \$34,785 with the understanding that this increase in revenue is the result of donations from the Northport Middle School Student Activity Account”

9.28 Receiving the following donations to the District:

- 9.28.1 \$25.00 from Irene and Richard Taylor to the David Trachtenberg Memorial Scholarship
- 9.28.2 \$25.00 from Betty L. Torre and Family to the Jesse Warren Memorial Scholarship
- 9.28.3 \$35.00 from Kathryn and James Deegan to the Jesse Warren Memorial Scholarship (JTG Scholarship)
- 9.28.4 \$100.00 from Meg Cleary to the Michael Kauffman Memorial Scholarship

9.29 Approving the following resolution:

“BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education hereby gratefully accepts a donation of \$500 from the East Northport Parents Charitable Foundation, for the purpose of the Dickinson Avenue Elementary School trip to Washington D.C. and increase the 2013-2014 budget code A2110.4010.00.2901 by \$500 for this purpose.

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education hereby approves an increase in the revenue code A2705 of the 2013-2014 budget by \$500 with the understanding that this increase in revenue is the result of donations from the East Northport Parents Charitable Foundation”

9.30 Approving a Rider to Agreement between the Board of Education of the Northport-East Northport Union Free School District and Brightspark Travel, Inc. (NHS)

Vote on Trustee Thompson’s motion to approve all items under 8. and 9., including Supplemental 9.30, was unanimously carried by those present.

10. SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT – FOR INFORMATION ONLY

10.01 Schedule H – Use of Facilities

11. ADJOURNMENT

President Waldenburg reviewed the upcoming meetings of April 24th, May 12th and May 20th.

There being no further business to discuss, motion was made by Trustee Badanes, seconded by Trustee Topel, to adjourn the meeting.

Unanimously carried by those present.

At 11:00 p.m. the Chair declared the meeting adjourned.

Beth M. Nystrom
District Clerk

bmh