

TIMBERLANE REGIONAL SCHOOL BOARD
Atkinson, Danville, Plaistow, Sandown
New Hampshire

Special Meeting
July 16, 2014
7:30 PM

SAU 55 Office
30 Greenough Road
Plaistow, NH

Call to Order

Madam Chair Steenson called this July 16, 2014 special public meeting of the Timberlane Regional School Board to order at 7:30 PM.

Board Members Present

Mr. Bealo, Mr. Blair, Mr. Collins, Mrs. Delfino, Mrs. Green, Mr. Mascola, Mrs. Sherman, Mrs. Steenson, and Mr. Ward

Administrators Present

Dr. Metzler, Superintendent of Schools
Mr. Stokinger, Business Administrator
Mrs. Danahy, Director of Human Resources and TRSB Recording Secretary

Pledge of Allegiance

Madam Chair Steenson led the assembly in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Madam Chair Steenson called for a moment of silence in remembrance of Chief Savage of the Plaistow Police Department who recently passed away.

Madam Chair Steenson stated the reason for this evening's special meeting of the Timberlane Regional School Board is to clarify information surrounding specific issues for the general public, and to provide school board members an opportunity to ask questions and share concerns on behalf of their constituents.

She went on to announce that members of the public are encouraged to provide their views on the pertinent subjects addressed this evening and will be given an opportunity to express themselves for three minutes each after the board's discussion on each of the agenda items. She asked that speakers complete a comment card located at the back of the room.

POLICY DBJ – TRANSFER OF APPROPRIATIONS (00:02:46)

Madam Chair Steenson read aloud TRSB policy DBJ – Transfer of Appropriation (funds). She provided examples of how the expenditures of school funds by line item or object code are handled. She noted financial reports reflect line items that show the actual deficit or under spending. Each board member expressed their opinion regarding this process. Mrs. Green stated she would like to see the board make a decision to review over expenditures on budget line items.

Motion: Mrs. Green motioned the Timberlane Regional School Board assume its financial responsibility by reviewing over runs of \$5,000 or more for every object code. Mr. Ward seconded. The motion failed by a vote of 1-7-1 (Mrs. Green voted in favor and Mr. Ward abstained).

The discussion continued. The following members of the public voiced their opinions on this matter: Deborah De Simone of Atkinson, Arthur Green of Sandown and Betsy Sanders of Danville.

HEALTHTRUST REFUND (01:03:52)

Madam Chair Steenson read aloud a letter from Attorney Gordon B. Graham of the law firm Soule, Leslie, Kidder, Sayward & Loughman dated June 23, 2014 in reference to Timberlane School District/Unanticipated

Revenue. A discussion ensued whereby each board member expressed his/her opinion regarding this subject matter. Mrs. Green asked for information relating to the Health Trust refunds so she can understand how the money is being deployed.

Motion: Mrs. Green motioned the school board receive information regarding the history of the transaction(s) for the TRSD share of the Health Trust refund by date and disposition. Mr. Ward seconded for discussion purposes. After a discussion of the board, the motion failed by a vote of 1-8-0 (Mrs. Green voted in favor).

The following members of the public voiced their opinions on this matter: Betsy Sanders of Danville, Cathy Gorman and Arthur Green of Sandown.

2013 AUDITOR'S REPORT (01:44:11)

The annual auditor's report by Plodzik & Sanderson, Accountants & Auditors was provided to the board for their review. Madam Chair Steenson reviewed the process of the annual audit. She addressed the reporting timeline, noting the district has not held the audit company accountable for the submission of the annual audit report in the timeline as outlined. Mr. Stokinger confirmed the final report was received on July 1, 2014.

OTHER BUSINESS

Motion: Mr. Bealo motioned to enter into a non-public session under RSA 91-A: 3, II[c] matters which, if discussed in public, would likely affect adversely the reputation of any person; Mr. Collins seconded. The board was polled at 9:30 pm:

- Bealo Yes
- Blair Yes
- Collins Yes
- Delfino Yes
- Green No
- Mascola Yes
- Sherman Yes
- Steenson Yes
- Ward Yes

Mrs. Green objected to the need to go into nonpublic session and exited the meeting.

Motion: Mr. Bealo motioned to exit the non-public session; seconded by Mr. Mascola the board was polled:

- Bealo Yes
- Blair Yes
- Collins Yes
- Delfino Yes
- Mascola Yes
- Sherman Yes
- Steenson Yes
- Ward Yes

The board exited the non-public session at 9:35 pm. No action was taken in non-public session. Mrs. Green re-joined the meeting at 9:36 pm.

Motion: Mrs. Green motioned the school board reconsider a vote taken at the June 19, 2014 meeting to accept federal and state grants without prior board approval. Mrs. Sherman seconded for discussion.

Mrs. Green explained a constituent's concern regarding accepting certain federal and state grants as they may have strings attached. It is her position that the board should monitor this process very closely. She then

clarified that her motion was to see if the board would consider rescinding a previous motion; not to rescind the motion at this time.

With no further discussion, the motion failed by a vote of 1-8-0 (Mrs. Green voted in favor).

Mrs. Green went on to state her concern with expending monies outside of line items, specifically the last meeting's approval to make repairs to the mini-gym. She noted the Budget Committee removed a \$225k line item from the budget for an electric generator. This line item was zeroed out, thus, it is her position no other district monies can be used to further that purpose. Dr. Metzler responded that the district operates on a bottom line budget and that the Budget Committee is not tasked with the budget expenditure process. He stated it is within his authority to make financial decisions for the school district.

Mrs. Green asked about the "at-risk" survey that will not be taken this year as well as her concern that the district accepted money for this survey. Dr. Metzler clarified that the survey will not be conducted and the monies have since been returned to the University of Michigan. He then thanked Mrs. Gorman for bringing this matter to his attention.

Mr. Collins expressed his concerns regarding a large number of Mrs. Green's blog entries that he claims are mistakes or erroneous reporting. Mrs. Green immediately excused herself from the meeting and exited the room. Mr. Collins went on to express that everyone has the right to their opinion but this type of approach is eroding the trust of the public. He would like to see the board make a strong statement about the incorrect information she continues to put on her blog. He stated it is paramount that we protect the integrity of the business that goes on in this board room and he asked the board to censure Mrs. Green.

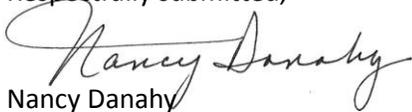
Motion Mr. Collins motioned the board approve a censure of Mrs. Green for eroding the integrity and credibility of the district as well as the trust of the community. Mr. Mascola seconded.

A discussion ensued whereas school board members expressed their opinion on the matter.

Madam Chair Steenson called the vote; the motion passed by a vote of 7-0-1 (Mr. Ward abstained).

Having no further business before the board Madam Chair Steenson adjourned the meeting at 10:06 pm.

Respectfully submitted,



Nancy Danahy
School Board Clerk