

New Hartford Public Schools
Special Board of Education Meeting

June 20, 2017

6:30 pm/Multi-Purpose Room

Antolini School

Present: Penny Miller, Jen Zenuh, Karl Hermonat, Pat Spaziani, Mary Misiorski, Josh Adams, Stacie Cull, and Superintendent Brian Murphy

Absent: Jenn Benaitis and Cindy Duval

- A. Chair to Open Meeting- Acting Chairman Josh Adams to open meeting at 6:30
- B. Chair Select Order of Business
- C. New Business
 - a. Interviews and Appointment of Director of Special Education (Executive Session Anticipated)- **Motion** by Penny Miller to enter into executive session for the purpose of Director of Special Education Interviews and Appointment, second by Mary Misiorski. All in favor, none opposed. **Motion passes.**

Board enters executive session.

Stacie Cull in at 6:55

Board exits executive session at 8:07.

Motion by Jen Zenuh to offer the position of Director of Student Services to Mrs. Barbara McLean, at a salary of \$95,000, second by Penny Miller. All in Favor: Penny Miller, Jen Zenuh, Karl Hermonat, Mary Misiorski, Josh Adams, Stacie Cull. Abstained: Pat Spaziani. **Motion passes.**

- D. Superintendent's Report
 - a. Budget Transfers- Brian Murphy went over the 7 line items in the Budget Transfers packet. **Motion** by Josh Adams to make the line item transfers as presented, second Stacie Cull. All in favor, none opposed. **Motion passes**
- E. Communication to the Board
 - a. Communication from Board of Finance on June 14,2017- (see below) restated the previous budget cuts passed on from the Board of Finance to the Board of Education and addressed the cuts that are to be implemented as directed by the BOF.
- F. Old Business
 - a. Budget 2017/2018- Pat expressed concern about the BOE being stuck if the BOF follows through with the previously present budget cuts and the BOE has not made changes to their budget to reflect those cuts. Karl recommended the BOE send a letter stating that

the they have approved a recommended budget that they feel is in the best interest of the school and the town financially.

Motion by Josh Adams to direct Superintendent Murphy to develop a budget that implements the cuts recommended by the board of finance second by Penny Miller. Those in favor: Pat Spaziani. Opposed: Stacie Cull, Mary Misiorski, Jen Zenuh, Josh Adams, Penny Miller, Karl Hermonat. **Motion fails.**

Motion by Jen Zenuh to direct Superintendent Murphy, with Karl Hermonat's support, to write a letter to the Board of Finance in response to their email, second by Penny Miller. Those in favor: Jen Zenuh, Josh Adams, Karl Hermonat, Penny Miller, Mary Misiorski, Stacie Cull. Opposed: Pat Spaziani. **Motion Passes.**

G. Public Comment

Aulay Carlson- 455 West Hill Rd- read a letter about the BOE obligation to educate and do so in a cost-effective way. He expressed his opinion on the town's need for the Board of Education to make needed cuts regarding education. He summarized the difference in population throughout the years and his opinion on only needing one school.

Paul LeClair (43 Burwell Rd)- talked about the increasing enrollment in kindergarten for the upcoming year and how the BOE budget should be looked at separately from the total town budget in relation to its impact on tax increases.

Tom Buzzy (Niles Rd)- applauded the BOE for taking the pro education side.

H. Reports

a. Policy Review

- i. School Wellness Policy (6142.101)- Second read by Penny Miller. **Motion** by Jen Zenuh to approve the School Wellness Policy (6142.101), second by Karl Hermonat. All In favor, none opposed. **Motion Passes.**

I. New Business

- a. Board of Education Self-Evaluation (Executive Session Anticipated)
- b. Superintendent's Evaluation (Executive Session Anticipated)

Motion by Penny Miller to enter executive session, second by Mary Misiorski. All in Favor, none opposed. **Motion passes.**

Board of Education enters executive session at 8:37

Board of Education exits executive session at 10:40

Motion by Josh Adams to increase Superintendent Murphy's salary by 2.5%, second by Karl Hermonat. Those in favor: Josh Adams, Jen Zenuh. Those opposed: Pat Spaziani, Mary Misiorski, Penny Miller, Karl Hermonat. **Motion fails.**

Motion by Pat Spaziani to increase Superintendent Murphy's salary by 2.0%, second by Karl Hermonat. Those in favor: Josh Adams, Jen Zenuh, Pat Spaziani, Mary Misiorski, Penny Miller, Karl Hermonat. **Motion passes.**

Motion by Josh Adams to extend Superintendent Murphy's contract through 2019-2020, second by Karl Hermonat. Those in favor: Josh Adams, Jen Zenuh, Pat Spaziani, Mary Misiorski, Penny Miller, Karl Hermonat. Those opposed: Pat Spaziani. **Motion passes.**

J. Adjournment:

Motion by Penny Miller to adjourn at 11:00pm, second by Jen Zenuh
All in favor. **Motion Passes.**

Respectfully Submitted,
Alexis Calder
6/22/2017

Email from BOF Jim Fitzgerald-

**Superintendent Brian Murphy, Chairperson Jennifer Benaitis,
BOE Members,**

Brian & Jennifer,

**On May 9, 2017, the Board of Finance by majority vote,
passed a motion that resulted in budget cuts to the Fiscal
Year Budgets for 2017-2018 (July 1, 2017 to June 30, 2018).
The cuts were as follows;**

**New Hartford Board of Education Operating Budget: Cut -
\$295,497 (not yet implemented)**

**BOE Capital Budget: Cut -\$ 45,000 (-\$25,000 Technology
Wireless Infrastructure, -\$10,000 Mower and -\$10,000 Genie
Light Changer), (not yet implemented)**

**New Hartford General Operating Budget: Cut of -\$145,937
(cuts implemented)**

Town Capital Budget: Cut of -\$232,000 (cuts implemented)

Last night at the Board of Finance meeting, member Witte questioned if the BOE implemented the cuts as directed. Acknowledgement from Superintendent Murphy that the Board of Education has not implemented the cuts / reductions to its' 2017-2018 budget is very troubling. As mentioned last night, with the action the BOE took at its May 16, 2017 Special Meeting, the BOE is misleading the public. You must not give the impression to the public that you have only cut -\$96,000 from the operating budget and only -\$20,000 from the BOE Capital. Your cuts are, -\$295,497 operating and -\$45,000 capital. Brian & Jennifer, please take immediate action, the BOE is to implement the cuts as directed by the Board of Finance.

Thank you,

Jim Fitzgerald, Chairman

Board of Finance