

TRANSCRIPT OF RECORDED MINUTES

OF

THE METHUEN SCHOOL COMMITTEE

BUSINESS SESSION

APRIL 8, 2019

SUBMITTED FOR THE APPROVAL OF:

THE METHUEN SCHOOL COMMITTEE

AND

THE SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

“AN OPEN MEETING ADVANTAGE FOR THE COMMUNITY OF METHUEN”

RECORDED BY:
DEIDRE RUNGE, PUBLIC RECORDER

TRANSCRIPT OF RECORDED MINUTES
METHUEN SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING
BUSINESS SESSION
APRIL 8, 2019

This Business Session of the Methuen School Committee was held at Methuen High School, Media Center, and was posted for 6:30 p.m.

1. CALL TO ORDER AND ATTENDANCE:

Mayor Jajuga called the Business Meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. with a quorum of members in attendance, and listed below.

ROLL CALL

Robert F. Vogler (P)
Susan M. Nicholson (P)
Nicholas DiZoglio (NP)
Jana DiNatale (P)
Dennis D.J. Deeb (P)
Jana Zanni Pesce (P)
Mayor James P. Jajuga, Chairperson (P)

MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE:

Robert F. Vogler
Susan M. Nicholson
Dennis D.J. Deeb
Jana DiNatale
Jana Zanni Pesce
Mayor James P. Jajuga

MEMBERS NOT IN ATTENDANCE:

Nicholas DiZoglio

OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE:

Brandi Kwong, Interim Superintendent of Schools
Lisa Golobski – Interim Assistant Superintendent
Ian Gosselin, Business Administrator
Deidre Runge, Public Recorder

MOTION: Member Vogler motioned to approve the agenda as presented
Member Deeb seconded the motion

VOTE: 6-0-0 APPROVED

1a Flag Salute

Keily Gonzales, a fourth grade student at the Timony Grammar School, led the Committee in Opening Exercises of this meeting.

2. PARTICIPATION BY OTHERS

a. SOAR Award (Fine Arts & Performing Arts)

Megan O’Shea was the recipient of the S.O.A.R. Award at this meeting. The P.E. Health, FCS & Wellness Department chose Megan for this Award.

b. Students

The following students were recognized for their accomplishments:

Recognitions

- 1. Cheerleaders: Large School CO-ED State Champions
- 2. Project 351 – Marsh Grammar School, Hannah Angelari

c. Public Participation

Susan Foster of 34 Orchard St. and Dottie Pepe of 22 Mystic St. both talked to the Committee in regards to Eurica Math.

Ann Babagallo, 2 Walkeys Rd, Windham NH (staff) spoke about Funding
Kelly Shaffer, Methuen (staff) spoke about funding

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- a. MOTION:** Member Vogler motioned to approve the minutes of January 28, 2019
Member DiNatale seconded the motion
- DISCUSSION:** None
- VOTE:** 6-0-0 APPROVED
- MOTION:** Member Deeb motioned to approve the minutes of February 11, 2019
Member DiNatale seconded the motion
- DISCUSSION:** None
- VOTE:** 6-0-0 APPROVED

4. STAFF REPORTS

a. Superintendent’s Monthly Report

None

b. School Resource Officers Monthly Update

None

5. OLD BUSINESS AND OTHER PENDING MATTERS

a. MASC Superintendent Search – Discussion and any other action relative thereto

1. Vote to suspend the deliberation/selection of the Superintendent schedule for Friday April 26, 2019 as requested by Member DiNatale

- MOTION:** Member DiNatale explained the way the motion should go: motioned to suspend School Committee Policy requirement that meetings be televised for the deliberation of this committee selection of a Superintendent
Member Zanni Pesce seconded the motion

DISCUSSION: Member Deeb will be voting no, he believes all meetings should be televised.

ROLL CALL

Robert F. Vogler (Y)
Susan M. Nicholson (Y)
Jana DiNatale (Y)
Dennis D.J. Deeb (N)
Jana Zanni Pesce (Y)
Mayor James P. Jajuga, Chairperson (N)

VOTE: 4-2-0 APPROVED (Member Deeb and Mayor Jajuga voted no)

2. Vote to move the School Committee Budget Workshop/Meeting scheduled for Monday April 29, 2019 to Tuesday, April 30, 2019 @ 6:30 p.m. as requested by Member DiNatale

MOTION: Member DiNatale motioned to move the workshop from April 29th to April 30, 2019.
Member Vogler seconded the motion

DISCUSSION: None

VOTE: 6-0-0 Unanimous

3. Vote to move the deliberation/selection of the Superintendent scheduled for Friday April 26, 2019 School Committee Budget Workshop/Meeting to Monday, April 29, 2019 @ 6:00 p.m. as requested by Member DiNatale

MOTION: Member DiNatale motioned to move the deliberations from April 26 to April 29, 2019
Member Vogler seconded the motion

DISCUSSION: None

VOTE: 6-0-0 Unanimous

6. NEW BUSINESS

a. Authority to Transfer Funds – Approval

The Committee agreed they were given assurances last year and there was a deficit. They would like to get the info since Mr. Gosselin is giving it to Mr. Cronin for an opine. They want to see where money is coming from and going too. Mr. Gosselin withdrew his request for authority to transfer funds. The Superintendent approved the withdrawal.

b. 2018/2019 Last Day of School – Approval

MOTION: Member Vogler motioned to approve June 12, 2019 as the last day of school.

Member DiNatale seconded the motion

c. 8th Grade Final Assembly, Tuesday, June 11, 2019

The Superintendent told them Dodie would send out a list of times and they can contact her regarding their ability for that evening.

7. FINANCE AND OPERATIONS

a. Expenditure Report – Monthly

None

b. Revolving Funds Report – Monthly

None

c. Grants Report – Monthly

None

d. Student Activity Accounts – Monthly

None

e. Food Services – Monthly

None

f. Contract – Approval

1. 2019-2020 Northern Essex Dual Enrollment Contract – Approval

MOTION: Member DiNatale motioned to approve the contract for the 2019-2020 school year

Member Vogler seconded the motion

DISCUSSION: None

VOTE: 6-0-0 Unanimous

g. Bid Awards

1. Bid Award MPS – Internet – Approval

MOTION: Member Vogler motioned to approve \$47,400.

Member Nicholson seconded the motion

DISCUSSION: None

VOTE: 6-0-0 Unanimous

2. Bid Award MPS – firewall – Approval

MOTION: Member Vogler motioned to approve \$90,667.85.

Member DiNatale seconded the motion

DISCUSSION: None

VOTE: 6-0-0 Unanimous

3. Bid Award MPS – Content Filter - Approval

MOTION: Member Vogler motioned to approve \$22,314.00

Member Nicholson seconded the motion

DISCUSSION: None

VOTE: 6-0-0 Unanimous

8. NOTIFICATION OF APPOINTMENTS AND OTHER PERSONNEL MATTERS

a. Personnel Transactions

None

b. Notification of Vacancy Postings

None

c. Personnel Matters requiring Committee Action

None

9. BUSINESS FROM THE COMMITTEE

a. Mid-Cycle Review – Interim Superintendent

Superintendent Kwong updated the Committee on her goals.

b. Residency Sub-Committee Update

None

c. Budget (FY'20) Sub-Committee Update

None

d. Joint Meeting Request with City Council

MOTION: Member Vogler motioned to table he was unsure of the date
Member DiNatale seconded the motion

DISCUSSION: None

VOTE: 6-0-0

e. Other business from the Committee

MOTION: Member Deeb motioned that a letter be sent from the Methuen School Committee to DESE, Governor Baker, and our State Delegation expressing disapproval of Common Core Math and that and that the Commonwealth of Massachusetts scrap Common Core in favor of returning to previous Mathematics Curriculum Standards or act in any other way relative thereto

DISCUSSION: Member DiNatale – I think this is premature. I would like teachers and other opinions. I believe they are doing well. I think we should start by offering support.

ROLL CALL

Robert F. Vogler (Y)

Susan M. Nicholson (N)

Jana DiNatale (N)

Dennis D.J. Deeb (Y)

Jana Zanni Pesce (N)

Mayor James P. Jajuga, Chairperson (N)

VOTE: 2-4-0 Motion Failed

ADJOURNMENT:

Mayor Jajuga read the agenda: With no further business to discuss at this Business Session, the Mayor entertained motion to go into Executive Session Pursuant to M.G.L. c. 30A, Section 21(a)(2) to discuss strategy with respect to collective bargaining for all units and the deployment of security personnel or devices. With the business session completed, we will not reconvene from Executive Session.

Mayor Jajuga then called a brief recess at 8:35 p.m.

Back at 8:41 p.m.

Mayor Jajuga – there was a clerical error in the wording to go into executive session.

Mayor Jajuga – With no further business to discuss at this Business Session, the Mayor asked to enter into executive session pursuant to: 21(a)(3) - To discuss strategy with respect to collective bargaining on litigation if an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the bargaining or litigation position of the public body and the chair so declares – Unit A negotiations. AND

21(a)(4)- To discuss the deployment of security personnel or devices, or strategies with respect thereto

With the business session completed, we will not reconvene from Executive Session.

MOTION: Member Vogler motioned to adjourn the meeting and go into Executive Session at 8:45 p.m.

Member DiNatale seconded the motion

ROLL CALL

Robert F. Vogler (Y)

Susan M. Nicholson (Y)

Jana DiNatale (Y)

Dennis D.J. Deeb (Y)

Jana Zanni Pesce (Y)

Mayor James P. Jajuga, Chairperson (Y)

VOTE: 6-0-0 Unanimous

Respectfully submitted,
Deidre Runge, Public Recorder
Methuen Public Schools