

TSB Minutes
Special Meeting
@ 6:00 pm
8-28-13- Approved Minutes

Present: April Chase, Kim Liebow, Beth Cutts, Brian Schmidt, Members of the Board, Deborah Leggott, Principal, Craig Hunt, Carole Melish, Members of the Public, Judy Hawkins, Recorder

Call to Order: April called the meeting to order at 6:04 pm.

Members of the Public: None

New Business:

Red Informational Meeting planning and discussion: April wanted to make sure the board were aware of the RED Informational Meeting on September 9th. April said there is a petition going out for any person interested in running for a position on the RED board and the deadline is September 3rd at 5:00 p.m. April said that for Townshend 10 signatures are required, they must be a registered voter and a resident of Townshend. April asked if anyone had received the final articles (Voluntary Regional Education District Study Committee Report) approved by the state of Vermont. This document was approved on August 20th by the State Board of Education. This document was sent to all town clerks and the press and it has been posted at the town office and the post office. According to the articles before a vote takes place on October 8th a couple of things have to happen: 1) a petition for positions on the board (3 positions) and 2) the warning will need to be signed by the 4th and 5th of September. The chair of the the board will need to sign the warning, the full board does not need to sign the warning. Emily will write the warning and the e-mail will go to all the clerks. Steven will put it in the newspaper and it will be one collective warning. There is a draft warning with the proper language but there will be a space for each person signing to make a comment. Every town will vote on the 8th; voting will be open from 7:00 am to 7:00 pm and the cost will be billed to the Townshend School Board for the Townshend portion .Absentee ballots have to be available and it will be Australian ballot. It has to be warned 30 days before the vote. The committee wants 5 meetings and at tomorrow nights RED meeting it will be determined when these will take place. September 9th will be Townshend's informational meeting. Their will be a school board meeting before the informational meeting. The question was asked what happens if someone refuses to sign the warrant? Will it be a fatal defect? At this point no one has an answer to that question April said all board members are encouraged to attend Townshend School Board Informational Meeting, Each member of the committee will be given a

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portion of the document and they will be responsible for that portion. Townshend will have the first informational meeting. A final meeting will be at Leland and Gray a week before the vote takes place.

April asked if anyone had any concerns about the articles. April said that any school that has long-term debt, the WCED will assume this debt. It was mentioned that Newbrook needs a lot of repairs i.e. a new roof, geo-thermal, etc. and the WCED would have to assume that debt. If the vote passes on October 8th, the new government will form; the local school boards will remain intact until June. Only one town has to vote no (except Windham) and the WCED will not form. Craig said if we don't like the looks of this consolidation it might be re-visited at a later time. Carol talked about asking someone to crunch some numbers. April said that had been talked about. Craig said what isn't mentioned in this article is the power of WCSU. Brian asked if Windham is in are they part of the WCED budget. If they vote no they will stand alone. The only input they will have is on LGUHS activity. If this goes thru there will be a school advisory committee. Carol asked what might happen if this vote does go thru what will happen with the Townshend school. Craig feels it will be used in an educational setting of some sort. Carol feels that this document should be put into language that the public can understand. April said the language came from the consultant for the committee. Carol suggests that at the informational meeting answer the question straight forward, be honest with the public and if you don't know, you don't know.

Kim made a motion to adjourn at 7:04 p.m. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Judy Hawkins
Recorder