

**TOWNSHEND SCHOOL BOARD MINUTES  
@ TOWNSHEND ELEMENTARY SCHOOL  
7:00 pm  
12-14-15-DRAFT**

**Present:** Eric Scott, Al Claussen, Brud Sanderson, Cliff Passino, Members of the Board, Steven John, Superintendent, Deborah Leggott, Principal, Judy Hawkins, Recorder

**Call to Order:** Al called the meeting to order at 7:17 pm.

**Additions and Deletions:** New Business: Town Report and Unfinished Business and General Orders: Adopt Policy F30.

**Members of the Public:** None

**Consent Calendar**

- a. Principal's Report
- b. Superintendent's Report
- c. Minutes for November 9, 2015

**Superintendent's Report:** Steven presented a graph of Vermont Public School Enrollment Declines Not Likely to be Reversed Soon---There are currently 320 students enrolled at L&G, the enrollment has declined sooner than they thought. The board wanted to know what about the state enrollment, the graph Steven presented showed there isn't too much difference with the state stats.

L&G's budget was voted on and passed. Steven also had information re: the warning needed from L&G by the state. Townshend has 70 students enrolled at L&G currently and last year there were 80.

Consent Calendar was approved unanimously. Cliff made a motion to approve consent calendar as written. Seconded by Brud.

**Treasurer and financial reports:** No monthly statement because of heavy budget prep. Steven presented the draft budget and also distributed to the board a memo from Bud regarding the tax impact of the draft budget.

**Bills and Purchase Orders:** Al made a motion to pay the bills and purchase as follows: PO#38 \$17,484.08, Payroll PO#39 \$11,720.86, Payroll PO#40 \$14,734.02, Payroll PO#41 \$7,155.35, Vendor Warrant PO#42 \$30,345.08 and Payroll PO#43 \$16,796.57. No discussion. Motion carried to pay bills and purchase orders as read.

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**Reports of Administration and Committees:** None

**Unfinished Business and General Orders**

- a. Act 46 updates: Steven talked about different options with other schools. Close the school-stay with L&G, Pre-K-12 choice. WCSU board has engaged in a \$5,000 exploratory grant that will give you some help in getting a study committee together.
- b. FY17 Budget: The board had some questions for Steven to ask Bud and return with answers for the board. Special Ed-given current knowledge does it have any impact as to next year? Steven said it is based on your service plan. Service Plan for this year is based on what we have, it is very hard to predict as far as special education costs. Brud asked about the fuel oil and maintenance and should we be considering putting in more money towards these line items. Deborah will meet with Bud to consider some line items with the purpose of reducing the negative fund balance. After Deborah meets with Bud she will e-mail the board with the information.
- c. Policy; F30-Policy of Prevention of Harassment-Bullying-Hazing. Brud made a motion to approve the F30 Policy of Prevention of Harassment-Bullying-Hazing. Motion carried unanimously.
- d. Steven serenaded the board with Rudolph the Red Nose Reindeer.

**New Business:**

- a. Negotiations: The board needs to appoint someone from the board to be on the Negotiations Committee for The Master Agreement with the Teachers Agreement Bargaining Unit. The first meeting will be held on the 3<sup>rd</sup> or 4<sup>th</sup> night in January. Brud made a motion to appoint Eric Scott to be on the Negotiations Committee. Motion carried.
- b. Superintendent's Budget, passed on December 2, 2015. Budget is up 4.78%.
- c. Review of VT Open Meeting Law: Steven distributed a Guide to Open Meeting Law.
  - 1) Getting the agenda out in a more timely fashion, at least a week in advance (Al will do this). It has to be posted in 3 places in Townshend.

There are 2 kinds of special meetings: Special Meeting you hold to vote on a bond, change board from 5 to 3 members etc.; and a special meeting for the school district actually takes action on voting. Minutes have to be posted 5 days from date of meeting.

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d. Policy Review: Steven went over some of the policies coming up for review. The following policies will be reviewed at the January meeting: D&E.

e. January TES Meeting-Focus on Act 46 at this meeting. This will be where Al and Steven will run thru the different scenarios. The public will be invited to attend this meeting. It will be held in the gym at TES. Al will contact Emily Long and David Sharp to see if they could attend this meeting to present on Act 46. The January business meeting will be held at 6:30 pm and then open up to the public at 7:30 pm.

f. If no town report there will be a brief summary on the budget, a report from the Principal and Al will do a brief report from the board.

**Correspondence:** Memo from Heidi re: when school board should be paid. They will be paid next month, \$500 for the chair and \$250 for each board member. Brud made the motion to pay the board members at the annual compensation as voted by the public. Cliff seconded. Motion carried.

Water Flow Report for October and November was normal. Deborah was given the report to file.

**Upcoming Meetings:**

- a. TES School Board Meeting, January 11, 2016 at 6:30 pm
- b. WCSU Full Board/Exec. TBD

**Executive Session:** At 10:01 pm Cliff made a motion to enter into executive session to discuss student matters. Eric, Brud, Al, Cliff, Steven and Deborah were present. Motion carried.

Brud made a motion to exit executive session at 10:10 pm. Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 10:11 p.m.

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Respectfully submitted,

Judy Hawkins  
Recorder

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