

2-25-09  
approved

SOUTHAMPTON SCHOOL COMMITTEE  
Minutes of the Monthly Meeting  
Library-William E. Norris School

February 5, 2009  
6:30 PM

Call to Order: Kim Schott, Chair called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

Present: Kimberly Schott, Don Abel, Lauren Carmichael, John Fitzpatrick, Tony Ryan, Bill Collins, Barbara Barlow and Cindy Landers.

Visitor: Ann Roy, Selectboard Liaison

Routine Matters: On a motion (Fitzpatrick, Carmichael) the minutes of the December 16, 2009 meeting and the December 16, 2009 Executive Session were unanimously approved.

Warrants were circulated for review and signature.

The monthly budget update was presented. No budget cuts will be required for the balance of the current fiscal year.

Principal's Report: Carpet installation will proceed over the February vacation.

Safe Routes has conducted a survey of the Norris community, and have indicated that we are in line for an engineering study concerning safe walking routes to school. Mr. Collins is coordination a Walk to School Day in spring.

Old Business: The status of the Bus Routing Software implementation was reviewed. Ms. Landers will be receiving additional training through March.

The Bus Bids are being put together. The district has been approached by Easthampton for a joint bid. This may give rise to a requirement to pay prevailing wage, which will be reviewed. A study of actual bus use is being conducted, which may result in one less bus, at a savings of approximately \$17,000.00. The contract rate is based per bus, and depending on rider levels and consolidation, a bus may be cut mid contract, with sufficient notice.

The Building Use Policy, KF-1 and Use Form, KF-A, and Policy DBJ, Budget Transfers will be reviewed next meeting.

New Business: The Selectboard has requested that each town department present a budget reduced by 5% from the prior year due to reduced state funding. Mr. Collins presented various revenue increase and spending decrease options to meet a budget decrease of \$206,761.00.

The issue of the Governor's support of education by leaving Chapter 70 funding level was raised. Mr. Collins and Ms. Landers had asked the Town Administrator whether the cut should be a percentage of local support or of the total budget, and no response had been forthcoming. The Chair will follow with the Town Administrator, and Ann Roy of the Select board will present the issue to the Board at its next meeting, with an eye toward the Committee attending the next Select board meeting to discuss the issue further.

Mr. Ryan presented an update of Power Lunch issues. Mr. Ryan will follow to provide an update regarding the ability to provide access to accounts on line.

Ms. Landers provided a review of the infrastructure projects requested by the Governor's office. No action has been taken. There was discussion of incorporating some of these ideas in the Capital Improvement Plan.

A Negotiating committee was established for negotiations with the Southampton Teachers Association, comprised of Kim Schott, Lauren Carmichael and John Fitzpatrick.

#### Future Business

The Chair will follow with the Committee regarding communication and meeting dates with the Select Board.

The next meeting is scheduled for February 25, 2009 at 6:30 p.m.

#### Executive Session

On a motion (Abel/Fitzpatrick) and a roll call vote, it was unanimously voted to move into Executive Session to conduct a strategy session in preparation for negotiations with non-union personnel, at 8:58 p.m.

At 9:00 p.m. the Committee exited Executive Session.

Adjourn: On a motion (Abel/Fitzpatrick/) the meeting was adjourned at 9:00 p.m..

