

WACHUSETT REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

HOLDEN ♦ PAXTON ♦ PRINCETON ♦ RUTLAND ♦ STERLING

Minutes

Regular Meeting #1275 Thursday, September 17, 2015
7:00 PM

Media Center
Wachusett Regional High School
1401 Main Street, Holden

Committee Members Present:

| | |
|--------------------------|---------------------------|
| Lance Harris, Chair | Lauren Maldonado |
| Robert Imber, vice-chair | Robert McCarthy (7:32 PM) |
| Scott Brown | Kenneth Mills |
| Thomas Curran | Jon Edward Novak |
| Michael Dennis | Steve Porter |
| Matthew Ehrenworth | Barbara Renzoni |
| Harriet Fradellos | Asima Silva |
| Susan Hitchcock | Christina Smith |
| Stacey Jackson | Megan Weeks |
| Sarah LaMountain | Charles Witkes |
| Linda Long-Bellil | |

Committee Members Absent:

Adam Young

Committee Members Participating Remotely:

None

Administration Present:

Darryll McCall, Superintendent of Schools
Joseph Scanlon, Director of Business and Finance
Jeff Carlson, Director of Human Resources
Rebecca Petersen, Executive Secretary to the Superintendent

Student Representatives Present:

Linnea Budd Liam Fritsche

Others present, who desired to be recorded as present (see attached Attendance Sheet – attachment 1).

Chair Harris called the regular meeting of the School Committee to order at 7:04 PM.

I. Public Hearing

Matthew Lavoie, Rutland resident, read a prepared statement (attachment 2)

Sheila Dibb, Rutland resident, addressed the School Committee.

II. Chair's Opening Remarks

Chair Harris publicly thanked School Committee members and Rutland residents for work put into attempts to help pass the September 16, 2015 override vote in Rutland.

Chair Harris explained School Committee action to be taken at this meeting with regard to the FY16 budget. He explained that the Committee must take some action on the FY16 budget at this meeting.

III. Student Representatives' Reports (Linnea Budd, Liam Fritsche)

Student Representative Fritsche noted that one of the "duties" of a Student Representatives is to report on what is going on at the high school. Student Representative Fritsche reported that having thirty to thirty-one students in a high school class is "horrible." Student Representative Budd reported that enrollment in some of her classes range from twenty-six to thirty-one. They both spoke about the lack of flexibility in switching classes/levels, due to enrollment numbers.

IV. Superintendent's Report

Chair Harris asked if any members would object to the Committee considering the FY16 budget before discussing the Superintendent's Report. No members objected. Members were provided with a September 17, 2015 memorandum from Superintendent McCall, giving an overview of three FY16 budget options prepared by District administration for School Committee consideration (attachment 3).

Motion: To adopt amended FY16 Appropriation in the amount of \$81,653,663 and assessments, including debt service, to the Member Towns of:

| | |
|------------|----------------------|
| Holden: | \$22,330,567. |
| Paxton: | \$ 5,663,081. |
| Princeton: | \$ 4,251,362. |
| Rutland: | \$ 9,469,335. |
| Sterling: | <u>\$ 9,969,365.</u> |
| | \$51,683,710. |

(R. Imber)
(M. Dennis)

Vice-chair Imber spoke to the motion, explaining that while he will be voting against the motion, he made the motion for the purpose of discussion and School Committee consideration of a FY16 budget reduction of \$1,696,062. Vice-chair Imber continued, voicing his opinion that the District cannot continue to operate under insufficient funding. Towns in the District have an "obligation" to fund schools and support education. At Chair Harris' invitation, Director of Business and Finance Scanlon approached the podium. Superintendent McCall called members' attention to Version A Reduce by (\$1,696,062.) Rev. (purple sheet) (attachment 4). Superintendent McCall reviewed Version A line by line. Director Scanlon contributed to the review and explanation. Chair Harris explained he would call on members, in random order, to give all the opportunity to ask questions and to discuss the motion on the floor.

7:32 PM Member McCarthy joined the meeting.

Member Maldonado – deferred
Member Hitchcock
Member Curran – deferred
Member Smith
Member Ehrenworth
Member Renzoni
Member Silva
Superintendent McCall
Member Dennis
Member Long-Bellil
Member Porter
Members Hitchcock, Witkes, and Silva added comments.
Member Novak
Member Fradellos
Member Jackson spoke about the funding formula.
Member Brown
Member Mills
Members Ehrenworth and Hitchcock added comments.
Member Weeks
Member LaMountain
Member Witkes
Member McCarthy
Member Maldonado

8:30 PM Member Smith left the table

Member Curran

8:31 PM Member Smith returned to the table.

Additional brief discussion took place. Chair Harris explained that the School Committee must affirmatively vote a FY16 budget at this School Committee meeting. Chair Harris re-read the motion.

Roll call vote:

In favor:

Jon Edward Novak

Opposed:

Lance Harris
Robert Imber
Scott Brown
Thomas Curran
Michael Dennis
Matthew Ehrenworth

Harriet Fradellos
Susan Hitchcock
Stacey Jackson
Sarah LaMountain
Linda Long-Bellil
Lauren Maldonado
Robert McCarthy
Kenneth Mills
Steve Porter
Barbara Renzoni
Asima Silva
Christina Smith
Megan Weeks
Charles Witkes

The motion failed 1-20.

Motion: To adopt amended FY16 Appropriation in the amount of \$82,924,245 and assessments, including debt service, to the Member Towns of:

| | |
|------------|----------------------|
| Holden: | \$22,892,165. |
| Paxton: | \$ 5,791,410. |
| Princeton: | \$ 4,328,867. |
| Rutland: | \$ 9,762,840. |
| Sterling: | <u>\$10,179,012.</u> |
| | \$52,954,294. |

(K. Mills)
(R. McCarthy)

Superintendent McCall called members' attention to Version C Reduce by (\$425,480.) (green sheet) (attachment 5). Superintendent McCall gave a quick review of the FY16 budget reduction proposal. There was discussion about the Deputy Superintendent position.

Motion: To amend the motion on the floor by reducing the FY16 Appropriation by an additional \$66,583 by eliminating the Deputy Superintendent position from the proposed FY16 Appropriation, for a total FY16 Appropriation of \$82,857,662.

(C. Witkes)
(M. Ehrenworth)

Discussion ensued, with most members of the Committee contributing to the discussion.

9:01 PM Student Representative Budd left the meeting.

Discussion continued.

9:05 PM Student Representative Fritsche left the meeting.

Roll call vote on amended motion:
In favor:

Michael Dennis
Matthew Ehrenworth
Lauren Maldonado
Kenneth Mills
Robert McCarthy
Jon Edward Novak
Steve Porter
Barbara Renzoni
Charles Witkes

Opposed:

Lance Harris
Robert Imber
Scott Brown
Thomas Curran
Harriet Fradellos
Susan Hitchcock
Stacey Jackson
Sarah LaMountain
Linda Long-Bellil
Asima Silva
Christina Smith
Megan Weeks

The motion failed 9-12.

Discussion of the motion on the floor continued.

Motion: To amend the motion on the floor to make no changes to the previously approved School Committee recommended FY16 Appropriation in the amount of \$83,349,726.

(S. Jackson)

(L. Long-Bellil)

Member Jackson spoke to the motion, with several members contributing to the discussion.

Roll call vote on amended motion:

In favor:

Stacey Jackson
Sarah LaMountain
Linda Long-Bellil
Asima Silva

Opposed:

Robert Imber
Scott Brown
Thomas Curran
Michael Dennis
Matthew Ehrenworth

Harriet Fradellos
Susan Hitchcock
Lauren Maldonado
Robert McCarthy
Kenneth Mills
Jon Edward Novak
Steve Porter
Barbara Renzoni
Christina Smith
Megan Weeks
Charles Witkes

Abstained:

Lance Harris

The motion failed 4-16-1.

Members and Superintendent McCall continued to discuss the FY16 Appropriation.

9:41 PM Member Witkes left the table.

9:42 PM Member Witkes returned to the table.

Motion: To amend the motion on the floor by reducing the FY16 Appropriation by an additional \$50,000, for a total FY16 Appropriation of \$82,874,246.

(K. Mills)

(M. Dennis)

9:45 PM Member Brown left the table.

Member Smith spoke to the motion.

9:46 PM Member Ehrenworth left the meeting.

9:47 PM Member LaMountain left the table.

Discussion ensued.

9:48 PM Member Brown returned to the table.

Discussion continued.

9:50 PM Member LaMountain returned to the table.

Motion: To move the motion.

(R. McCarthy)

(M. Dennis)

Chair Harris explained a two-thirds vote in favor is required to pass the motion.

Roll call vote:

In favor:

Lance Harris
Robert Imber
Scott Brown
Thomas Curran
Michael Dennis
Harriet Fradellos
Susan Hitchcock
Stacey Jackson
Sarah LaMountain
Linda Long-Bellil
Lauren Maldonado
Robert McCarthy
Kenneth Mills
Jon Edward Novak
Steve Porter
Barbara Renzoni
Asima Silva
Christina Smith
Megan Weeks
Charles Witkes

Opposed:

None

The motion passed unanimously.

Roll call vote on amended motion:

In favor:

Michael Dennis
Lauren Maldonado
Kenneth Mills
Jon Edward Novak
Barbara Renzoni
Charles Witkes

Opposed:

Robert Imber
Scott Brown
Thomas Curran
Harriet Fradellos
Susan Hitchcock
Stacey Jackson
Sarah LaMountain
Linda Long-Bellil

Robert McCarthy
Steve Porter
Asima Silva
Christina Smith
Megan Weeks

Abstained:

Lance Harris

The motion failed 6-13-1.

Motion: To move the main motion.

(M. Dennis)

(T. Curran)

Roll call vote:

In favor:

Scott Brown
Thomas Curran
Michael Dennis
Harriet Fradellos
Susan Hitchcock
Stacey Jackson
Sarah LaMountain
Linda Long-Bellil
Lauren Maldonado
Robert McCarthy
Kenneth Mills
Jon Edward Novak
Steve Porter
Barbara Renzoni
Asima Silva
Christina Smith
Megan Weeks
Charles Witkes

Opposed:

Robert Imber

Abstained:

Lance Harris

The motion passed 18-1-1.

Chair Harris re-read the motion:

Motion: To adopt the amended FY16 Appropriation in the amount of \$82,924,245 and assessments, including debt service, to the Member Towns of:

| | |
|------------|----------------------|
| Holden: | \$22,892,165. |
| Paxton: | \$ 5,791,410. |
| Princeton: | \$ 4,328,867. |
| Rutland: | \$ 9,762,840. |
| Sterling: | <u>\$10,179,012.</u> |
| | \$52,954,294. |

(K. Mills)
(R. McCarthy)

Chair Harris explained that a two-thirds vote in favor (15 votes in favor) is needed to pass the motion.

Roll call vote:

In favor:

Lance Harris
Robert Imber
Scott Brown
Thomas Curran
Michael Dennis
Susan Hitchcock
Lauren Maldonado
Robert McCarthy
Kenneth Mills
Steve Porter
Barbara Renzoni
Asima Silva
Christina Smith
Megan Weeks
Charles Witkes

Opposed:

Harriet Fradellos
Stacey Jackson
Sarah LaMountain
Linda Long-Bellil
Jon Edward Novak

The motion passed 15-5.

Motion: To extend the meeting for thirty minutes.

(K. Mills)
(A. Silva)

Roll call vote:

In favor:

Lance Harris
Robert Imber
Scott Brown

Thomas Curran
Michael Dennis
Susan Hitchcock
Linda Long-Bellil
Lauren Maldonado
Robert McCarthy
Kenneth Mills
Jon Edward Novak
Steve Porter
Barbara Renzoni
Asima Silva
Christina Smith
Megan Weeks

Opposed:

Harriet Fradellos
Stacey Jackson
Sarah LaMountain
Charles Witkes

The motion passed 16-4.

- A. Discussion of Report
- B. Recommendations Requiring Action by the School Committee

10:01 PM Member Jackson left the meeting.

1. Motion: To affirm accuracy of Policy 6613.2 **Policy Relating to Pupil Services Athletic Concussion Policy**

(R. McCarthy)
(K. Mills)

Vote:

In favor:

Lance Harris
Robert Imber
Scott Brown
Thomas Curran
Michael Dennis
Harriet Fradellos
Susan Hitchcock
Sarah LaMountain
Linda Long-Bellil
Lauren Maldonado
Robert McCarthy
Kenneth Mills
Jon Edward Novak

Steve Porter
Barbara Renzoni
Asima Silva
Christina Smith
Megan Weeks
Charles Witkes

In favor:

None

The motion passed unanimously.

10:04 PM Member LaMountain left the meeting.

2. WHEREAS, Ironhorse Solar 1, LLC, a company formed by Urban Green Technology, (“Seller”) is in the business of financing, developing, owning, operating and maintaining solar (PV) electric generation facilities; and

WHEREAS, Seller has the exclusive rights to sell and deliver net metering credits, associated with the energy generated at the 3.7 MW DC Billerica Dow Solar Project (“Facility”) for an aggregated capacity of 850,000 kWh’s for the period of 20-years (2015 through 2035) subject to the terms set forth in the Net Metering Sales Agreement; and

WHEREAS, Wachusett Regional School District (“Buyer”), desires to purchase and receive from Seller, net metering credits, associated with the energy generated at the 3.7 MW DC Billerica Dow Solar Project (“Facility”) for an aggregated capacity of 850,000 kWh’s for the period of 20-years (2015 through 2035) subject to the terms set forth in the Net Metering Sales Agreement (“Agreement”); and

WHEREAS, Buyer is aware that the Seller will transfer the rights to the Facility to Soltage LLC of Jersey City, NJ who will develop the Facility and manage the Agreement;

Motion: The Wachusett Regional School Committee authorizes the Superintendent of Schools to take all necessary actions to enter into a 20-year Net Metering Credit Sales Agreement with Ironhorse Solar 1, LLC.

(T. Curran)

(S. Porter)

Director Scanlon spoke to the motion. Some discussion ensued.

Vote:

In favor:

Lance Harris

Scott Brown

Thomas Curran
Michael Dennis
Matthew Ehrenworth
Harriet Fradellos
Susan Hitchcock
Linda Long-Bellil
Lauren Maldonado
Robert McCarthy
Kenneth Mills
Jon Edward Novak
Steve Porter
Barbara Renzoni
Asima Silva
Christina Smith
Megan Weeks
Charles Witkes

Opposed:
None

The motion passed unanimously.

V. Unfinished Business

There was no unfinished business brought before the School Committee.

VI. Secretary's Report

A. Approval of 311th Special Meeting Minutes of the Wachusett Regional School District Committee held on August 10, 2015

Motion: To approve minutes of the special meeting of the WRSDC held on August 10, 2015.

(R. Imber)
(K. Mills)

Vote:

In favor:

Lance Harris
Robert Imber
Scott Brown
Thomas Curran
Michael Dennis
Harriet Fradellos
Susan Hitchcock
Linda Long-Bellil
Lauren Maldonado
Robert McCarthy

Kenneth Mills
Jon Edward Novak
Steve Porter
Barbara Renzoni
Asima Silva
Christina Smith
Megan Weeks
Charles Witkes

Opposed:
None

The minutes were approved unanimously.

- B. Approval of 1274th Regular Meeting Minutes of the Wachusett Regional School District Committee held on August 10, 2015

Motion: To approve minutes of the regular meeting of the WRSDC held on August 10, 2015.

(T. Curran)
(L.Long-Bellil)

Vote:

In favor:

Lance Harris
Robert Imber
Scott Brown
Thomas Curran
Michael Dennis
Harriet Fradellos
Susan Hitchcock
Linda Long-Bellil
Lauren Maldonado
Robert McCarthy
Kenneth Mills
Jon Edward Novak
Steve Porter
Barbara Renzoni
Asima Silva
Christina Smith
Megan Weeks
Charles Witkes

Opposed:
None

The minutes were approved unanimously.

C. Approval of Executive Session Minutes of the Wachusett Regional School District Committee held on August 10, 2015

Motion: To approve minutes of the executive session of the WRSDC held on June 23, 2015, to be released.

(T. Curran)

(L. Long-Bellil)

Roll call vote:

In favor:

Lance Harris
Scott Brown
Thomas Curran
Michael Dennis
Harriet Fradellos
Susan Hitchcock
Linda Long-Bellil
Lauren Maldonado
Robert McCarthy
Kenneth Mills
Jon Edward Novak
Steve Porter
Barbara Renzoni
Asima Silva
Christina Smith
Megan Weeks
Charles Witkes

Opposed:

None

Abstained:

Robert Imber

The minutes were approved 17-0-1.

VII. Treasurer's Report/Financial Statements

Chair Harris reminded the Committee that if there were questions regarding the Director of Business and Finance's report that Members should contact the Superintendent; if there were questions regarding the Treasurer's Report, Members should contact the Business/Finance Subcommittee Chair.

VIII. Committee Reports

A. Management Subcommittee (L. Harris, Chair, R. Imber, Vice-chair, S. Jackson, K. Mills)

Chair Harris reported on the September 9, 2015 meeting of the Management Subcommittee.

Motion: To recommend approval of the Wachusett Regional School District Goals 2015-2016.

(R. McCarthy)

(R. Imber)

Some discussion ensued.

Roll call vote:

In favor:

Lance Harris
Robert Imber
Scott Brown
Thomas Curran
Michael Dennis
Harriet Fradellos
Susan Hitchcock
Linda Long-Bellil
Lauren Maldonado
Robert McCarthy
Kenneth Mills
Jon Edward Novak
Steve Porter
Barbara Renzoni
Asima Silva
Christina Smith
Megan Weeks
Charles Witkes

Opposed:

None

The motion was unanimously approved.

B. Education Subcommittee (R. Imber, Chair, C. Smith, Vice-chair, S. LaMountain, L. Long-Bellil, L. Maldonado, S. Porter, A. Silva)

Deferred

C. Business/Finance Subcommittee (S. Jackson, Chair, M. Dennis, Vice-chair, H. Fradellos, R. McCarthy, E. Novak, B. Renzoni, C. Witkes, A Young)

Deferred

1. Amended Policy – 4620 **Policy Relating to Budget/Finance Investing**
– second reading

Deferred

2. Amended Policy – 7156 *Policy Relating to Support Operations
Emergency Response Plan* – second reading

Deferred

- D. Legal Affairs Subcommittee (K. Mills, Chair, S. Brown, Vice-chair, T. Curran, M. Ehrenworth, S. Hitchcock)

Deferred

- E. Audit Advisory Board

Deferred

- F. Ad-Hoc Subcommittees

1. Ad Hoc Subcommittee to Review Evaluation and Hiring Policy (K. Mills, Chair, S. Brown, M. Ehrenworth, C. Smith)

Deferred

2. Ad Hoc Subcommittee to Review the Regional Agreement (S. Hitchcock, Chair, R. Imber, K. Mills, B. Renzoni, C. Witkes)

Deferred

- G. Building Committees

1. Mountview Building Committee

Deferred

- H. School Council Reports:

Central Tree Middle School Chocksett Middle School, Davis Hill Elementary School, Dawson Elementary School, Glenwood Elementary School, Houghton Elementary School, Mayo Elementary School, Mountview Middle School, Naquag Elementary School, Paxton Center School, Thomas Prince School, Wachusett Regional High School, Special Education Parent Advisory Council, Early Childhood Center

Deferred

- IX. Public Hearing

No members of the public wished to address the School Committee.

X. New Business

Education Subcommittee Chair Imber reported WRHS Principal Beando and Guidance Department staff will be making a presentation to the full School Committee at the October meeting.

Chair Harris publicly announced the ratification of three bargaining unit contracts: the Agreement Between Wachusett Regional School District and Wachusett Regional Nurses Association July 1, 2015 – June 30, 2017; Memorandum of Agreement Between Wachusett Regional School District and AFSCME Council 93, Local 2885 (clerical) July 1, 2015 – June 30, 2017; Memorandum of Agreement Between Wachusett Regional School District and AFSCME Council 93, Local 2885 (custodial) July 1, 2015 – June 30, 2017.

XI. Adjournment

Motion: To adjourn.

(S. Porter)
(T. Curran)

Roll call vote:

In favor:

Lance Harris
Robert Imber
Scott Brown
Thomas Curran
Michael Dennis
Harriet Fradellos
Susan Hitchcock
Linda Long-Bellil
Lauren Maldonado
Robert McCarthy
Kenneth Mills
Jon Edward Novak
Steve Porter
Barbara Renzoni
Asima Silva
Christina Smith
Megan Weeks
Charles Witkes

Opposed:

None

The motion passed unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 10:20 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Darryll McCall, Ed.D.
Superintendent of Schools

DM:rlp