

Timberlane Regional School District Budget Committee
Atkinson, Danville, Plaistow, and Sandown

Regular Meeting
March 26, 2009
7:25 p.m.

SAU 55
Plaistow, New Hampshire

Call to Order:

Vice Chair Mullen called the meeting to order at 7:25 p.m.; attendance was taken.

Roll Call: Ms. Rochford, Mr. Murray, Mr. Mullen, Mrs. Lambert, Mrs. Collie, Mr. D'Amore and Mr. Mascola.

Present: Absent: Mrs. O'Neil and Mr. Balanoff.

Mr. Hardave Dhaliwal was present in audience.

Approval of Minutes:

Mr. Mascola made a motion and was seconded by Mrs. Lambert to approve the minutes of February 5, 2009 with one correction. Vote: four – yes, three-abstain Ms. Rochford, Mr. Murray, and Mr. D'Amore. The motion passed.

Mrs. Lambert stated she had attended the Curriculum meeting and found it to be interesting and informative and is looking forward to keeping the Budget Committee up to date on Curriculum happenings in 2009-2010.

Mr. Mascola reported that the School Board, per recommendation of the Budget Committee, placed a warrant article on the warrant regarding saving the postage and printing costs of the annual report by making it available in electronic format. The School Board was skeptical but was proven wrong by a public vote of 4 to 1 in favor of the recommendation. Kudos was given to the Budget Committee for making the suggestion.

Mr. Stokinger passed out the election results to discuss. One person received ten write in votes for the vacant Plaistow Budget Committee seat and that person did not accept the position. According to State statute, the Budget Committee then appoints someone to fill the vacancy.

Mr. Dhaliwal was present to discuss his interest in filling the vacancy. He had also sent an email detailing his experience and qualifications for this position which was given out to the Committee Members as well as an email from Mr. Norm Major recommending him for the position. Discussion ensued about the time commitment involved in the position so Mr. Dhaliwal could make an informed decision.

Mr. Murray made a motion to nominate Mr. Dhaliwal to the vacant Plaistow Budget Committee position. Mr. D'Amore seconded the motion.

Vote: Unanimous.

Arrangements would be made to have Mr. Dhaliwal sworn in asap by the School District Clerk Mrs. Phinney.

Committee Assignments were discussed for 2009-2010 school year. Mrs. Lambert stated she would like to remain on the Curriculum Committee. Mrs. Collie stated she would like to remain on the Safety Committee with Ms. Rochford as the alternate. Mr. Mascola suggested that instead of everyone deciding now what they want for a Committee Assignment, perhaps everyone could be notified of the openings and get back to the Chair with their choice of assignments. The committee members were in agreement with that suggestion.

Mr. Stokinger gave a power point presentation to the Budget Committee regarding the organization of the SAU #55 in relation to the Timberlane and Hampstead School Districts per RSA 194-C.

Mr. Stokinger then gave a power point presentation to the Budget Committee regarding the task of developing the 2010-2011 Budget by the Budget Committee this fall. Also included in the presentation was a detailed review of how the Timberlane School District fund accounting system works and the pertinent state laws that govern the financials submitted to the State of NH. The State of NH Accounting Handbook for local Education Agencies was referenced as a valuable resource for more detailed information which is available at the NH DOE website.

Mr. Mullen requested for the next meeting on April 9, 2009, to discuss reviewing the Budget Committee By-Laws and also to consider a motion he will make, to have the Budget Committee meetings televised. The meetings being televised would limit the information that is lost from the minutes. For example he handed out a copy of a transcript of a lengthy and passionate statement made by Mr. Paone at a recent School Board Meeting, where his comments were reduced in the minutes to "a discussion ensued". Mr. Mullen reported that Mr. Paone took objection to his statements being reported as "a discussion ensued".

The next meeting will convene on April 9, 2009 at 7pm here at the SAU office. Items to be listed on the agenda will be the two items listed above by Mr. Mullen, as well as Committee assignments and a request by Mr. Mullen for the account information sheet that is usually given out in the fall.

The Meeting adjourned at 9:20 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,
Kathy Smith
Recording Secretary
Approved 4/9/2009