

Timberlane Regional School District

30 Greenough Road
Plaistow, NH 03865

Minutes of Deliberative Session February 7, 2008

At the Timberlane Performing Arts Center, Moderator Barry Sargent called the February 7, 2008 Deliberative Session to order at 7:00 pm, then led the assembly in the pledge of allegiance.

School Board members present: William Baldwin-Chair, John Paone-Vice Chair, Lori Aubrey, Stephen Brown, Arlene Champey, Elizabeth Kosta, Michael Mascola, Lisa Withee and Emily Weston.

Budget committee members present: Charles Balanoff-Chair, Michelle O'Neil-Vice Chair, Jennifer Suech, Elizabeth Quigley, Lisa Lambert Darcie Collie and Margaret Winn.

Others present: Richard La Salle- Superintendent, Robert Leslie-TRSD Legal representation, George Stokinger-Business Administrator, Helen Phinney-District Clerk and Nancy Danahy-School Board Clerk.

Moderator Sargent read the following list of non-voters that may speak or make presentations at this Deliberative Session.

Richard La Salle	Superintendent of Schools
George Stokinger	Business Administrator
Bob Leslie	District Legal Counsel
Margaret Ralph	Director of Elementary Education
Charles Coker	Director of Secondary Education
Edwina Lovett	Director of Pupil Personnel
Beth Rincon	Assistant Director of Pupil Personnel
Heidi Webster	Principal – Atkinson Academy
Michelle Auger	Principal - Pollard
Douglas Rolph	Principal - Sandown Central
Michael Hogan	Principal - Timberlane Regional Middle School
John Holland	Director of Technology
Tony DiBartolomeo	Director of Music
Jim Hughes	Director of Facilities
Linda Heuer	Technology Coordinator
Dwight Wilder	Assistant Principal - Evening Division

After polling by voice vote with no negative votes the list of non-voters present was accepted.

All documents that were made available to each resident were reviewed along with parliamentary procedures, voting process and the default budget.

Moderator Sargent read aloud the 2008 Timberlane Regional School District warrant as follows;

To the inhabitants of the School District of the Towns of Atkinson, Danville, Plaistow, and Sandown, New Hampshire, qualified to vote in District affairs:

First Session of Annual Meeting (Deliberative)

You are hereby notified to meet at the Timberlane Performing Arts Center, Greenough Road, Plaistow, New Hampshire, on Thursday, the 7th day of February 2008, at 7:00 p.m. This session shall consist of explanation, discussion, and debate of warrant articles number 2 through number 5. Warrant articles may be amended subject to the following limitations: (a) warrant articles whose wording is prescribed by law shall not be amended and (b) warrant articles that are amended shall be placed on the official ballot for a final vote on the main motion, as amended.

Second Session of Annual Meeting (Voting)

Voting on warrant articles number 1 through number 5 will be conducted by official ballot to be held in conjunction with town meeting voting to be held on Tuesday, the 11th day of March, 2008, at the Town election polls in Atkinson, Danville, Plaistow, and Sandown, New

Hampshire. Polls in Danville, Plaistow and Sandown will be open from 8:00 a.m. and remain open until 8:00 p.m.; the polls in Atkinson will be open from 7:30 a.m. and remain open to 7:30 p.m.

Atkinson Voters	Voting will be conducted at the Atkinson Community Center
Danville Voters	Voting will be conducted at the Danville Fire Association Hall
Plaistow Voters	Voting will be conducted at Pollard School
Sandown Voters	Voting will be conducted at the Sandown Town Hall

Article 2 – Operating Budget

➤ **A motion was made by Mr. Baldwin, seconded by Mrs. Kosta**

➤ **To open the floor for the discussion on the following.**

Shall the Timberlane Regional School District raise and appropriate as an operating budget, not including appropriations by special warrant articles and other appropriations voted separately, the amounts set forth on the budget posted with the warrant or as amended by vote of the first session, for the purposes set forth therein, totaling \$59,464,070. Should this article be defeated, the operating budget shall be \$58,684,720 which is the same as last year, with certain adjustments required by previous action of the Timberlane Regional School District or by law; or the governing body may hold one special meeting, in accordance with RSA 40:13, X and XVI, to take up the issue of a revised operating budget only. Note: Warrant Article 2 (the operating budget) does not include appropriations proposed under any other warrant articles.

Recommended by the School Board

Recommended by the Budget Committee

Mr. Balanoff, Chair of the Budget committee presented the proposed 2008 operating budget for the Timberlane Regional School District. Presenting the information in a PowerPoint presentation he noted the duties of the budget committee members and the towns they represent. He continued to highlight the historic trends of the district budget and current major budget factors. These factors included salaried and benefits as well as instruction related expenses. He continued to highlight the budget increases and decreases for the facilities budgets noting the final result of an increase to the facilities budget of \$238,431. Other increases were noted and he explained the reasons for the difference between the recommended budget and the default budget. He completed his presentation explaining the tax impact for residents of each town for the recommended and default budgets.

Mr. Woodworth, Principal of TRHS and resident of Plaistow offered an informational presentation on the proposed renovations to the high school. He began by informing the public of his vision for the future goals of the high school. The method to achieve these goals would be to focus on long-term and lasting improvements that are fiscally responsible. He highlighted the current problems of un-insulated walls, broken doors and large spaces that are not being utilized efficiently. We are asking students to learn modern technology with 40 year old technology that does not support our current needs. He presented an artist rendering of the renovated spaces and how they would be utilized.

Norman Major, Plaistow resident asked if with the reduction in the security budget if that meant we are reducing the security in the schools. Mr. Stokinger clarified that our current budget included monies for the security costs to install enhanced security measures at all schools. Now that they have been installed the extra installation cost is removed from the proposed budget. Security is in place and effective at all the schools.

Mr. Major also inquired if the district still retained a Safety Resource Officer since a SRO for the middle school was not on the current proposed warrant. Mr. Stokinger explained the Plaistow voters did not approve the middle school SRO last year and we currently have an SRO at the high school.

The Moderator instructed the Clerk to place Warrant Article #2 as presented on the official ballot.

Article 3 – Capital Reserve Fund

➤ **On a motion by Mrs. O’Neil, seconded by Mrs. Quigley**

➤ **To open the floor for the discussion on the following**

Shall the Timberlane Regional School District raise and appropriate up to \$100,000 to be placed in the School Building Construction, Reconstruction, Capital Improvement and Land Purchase Capital Reserve Fund established in 1996, with such amount to be transferred from the June 30, 2008 undesignated fund balance (surplus) available for transfer on July 1 of this year.

(The funds for this article come from the 2007-2008 school budget surplus, not from additional taxes.)

Recommended by the School Board

Recommended by the Budget Committee

With no discussion raised the Moderator instructed the Clerk to place Warrant Article #3 as presented on the official ballot.

Article 4 – Special Education Space Upgrade for Specialized Middle School Program (Autism)

➤ On a motion by Mrs. Kosta, seconded by Mrs. Suech

➤ To open the floor for the discussion on the following

Shall the Timberlane Regional School District raise and appropriate up to \$144,000 to renovate and upgrade instructional space providing for the specialized needs of an "Intensive Needs Program" at the Middle School for highly disabled students and to authorize the District to withdraw up to said sum from the existing School Building Construction, Reconstruction, Capital Improvements and Land Purchase Capital Reserve Fund. This renovation will provide security, safety, and the ability to work intensively and individually with students while providing them with essential "life skills". Currently this program occupies space that was not specifically designed for this unique purpose.

(The funds for this article come from the capital reserve fund, not from additional taxes.)

Recommended by the School Board

Recommended by the Budget Committee

With no discussion raised the Moderator instructed the Clerk to place Warrant Article #4 as presented on the official ballot.

Article 5 – General Acceptance of Reports

➤ On a motion by Mr. Mascola, seconded by Mrs. Winn

➤ To open the floor for the discussion on the following

Shall the Timberlane Regional School District accept reports of agents, auditors, and committees as written in the 2007 Annual Report.

With no discussion raised, the Moderator instructed the Clerk to place Warrant Article #5 as presented on the official ballot.

There being no further business to come before the meeting, the Moderator declared the Deliberative Session closed at 7:50 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Helen Phinney
School District Clerk

Nancy Danahy
School Board Clerk