

Timberlane Regional School District
30 Greenough Road
Plaistow, NH 03865

Minutes of Deliberative Session

February 8, 2007
7:00 pm

Timberlane Performing Arts Center
Plaistow, New Hampshire

Moderator Barry Sargent called the meeting to order at 7:15 pm, and led the assembly in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Moderator Sargent directed the panel to introduce themselves. From the TRSB: Mrs. Champey, Mr. Baldwin, Mr. Luongo, Mrs. Aubrey, Mrs. Withee, Mrs. Kosta, Mr. Brown, Mr. Paone, Mr. Mascola and Ms. Weston
Administrators: Superintendent, Dr. McDonald, Assistant Superintendent, Mr. LaSalle, Business Administrator George Stokinger, TRSD Legal Representative Atty. Robert Leslie, District Clerk Helen Phinney and TRSB Clerk Nancy Danahy.

Budget Committee: Mr. Balanoff, Mrs. Hess, Mrs. Lambert, Mrs. Collie, Mrs. O'Neil, Mrs. Quigley, Mrs. Suech, and Mrs. Zerba.

Arlene Champey, Chairperson of TRSB recognized Mr. Brian Stack for his years of service on the TRSB and Mrs. Miller for her year of service on the Board.

Moderator Sargent reviewed parliamentary procedure. Approximately 150 people were present.

A motion was made by Mr. Brown, seconded by Mrs. Quigley

➤ **To approve the following non-voters to speak or make presentations at the Deliberative Session**

Dr. Douglas McDonald, Superintendent of School	Richard LaSalle, Assistant Superintendent
George Stokinger, Business Administrator	Atty. Robert Leslie, TRSD Legal Representation
Margaret Ralph- Director of Elementary Education	Charles Coker- Director of Secondary Education
Don Woodworth, Principal- High School	Anthony DiBartolomeo Director of Performing Arts
Michael Hogan, Principal - Middle School	Nancy Hart, Principal - Danville School
Douglas Rolph, Principal – Sandown Central School	Michelle Auger, Principal – Pollard School
John Holland, Director of Technology	Linda Heuer, Technology Coordinator
Dwight Wilder, Assistant Principal – Evening Division	Heidi Webster – Atkinson Academy
James Hughes – Director of Facilities	

➤ **Approved**

Article 2 – Operating Budget

A motion was made by Mrs. O'Neil, seconded by Mrs. Hess

➤ **To open the floor for 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 \$56,361,067. Should this article be defeated, the operating budget shall be \$55,809,060 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, Budget Committee Chair presented a power point presentation which summarized the budget and major budget factors. He also reviewed components of the default budget, the difference between the default and proposed budget, as well as tax impact to each community.

The Moderator opened the floor to questions. Residents from Atkinson and Danville inquired about the Spanish Teacher schedule, the TRHS Spanish schedule, number of students currently enrolled in the Spanish Language program, etc. All questions were answered by the Dr. McDonald, Superintendent, Mr. Hogan, Principal of the

TRMS, or Mr. Coker, the Director of Secondary Education. No additional questions from the residents were raised.

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

Article 3 – Capital Reserve Fund

A motion was made by Mrs. Champey, seconded by Mr. Baldwin

➤ **To open the floor for 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 previously established, with such amount to be transferred from the June 30, 2007, undesignated fund balance.

(The funds for the article come from the 2006-2007 school budget surplus, not from additional taxes.)

Recommended by the School Board

Recommended by the Budget Committee

The Moderator opened the floor to questions. Residents from Atkinson and Danville questioned the specific wording “up to” \$100,000. The questions were answered by Dr. McDonald. No additional questions from the residents were raised.

The Moderator instructed the Clerk to place Warrant Article #3 as presented on the official ballot.

Article 4 – Kindergarten

A motion was made by Mrs. Winn, seconded by Mrs. Kosta

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

Shall the Timberlane Regional School District vote to operate a public kindergarten program beginning in the 2007-2008 school year and raise and appropriate the sum of \$352,800 for operating costs for said purpose.

(The cost of kindergarten is offset by state revenue and therefore will not increase the tax rate.

The school district is scheduled to receive \$1200 per kindergarten student in State aid each year for the first three years and adequacy/equitable aid (currently over \$1800 per student) thereafter. The following are the projected costs and revenues for the first four years:

	Kindergarten Cost	State Revenue	Tax Impact
Year 1	\$352,800	\$352,800	0 Impact
Year 2	\$372,000	\$372,000	0 Impact
Year 3	\$384,000	\$384,000	0 Impact
Year 4	\$491,514	\$594,000 (Adequacy/Equitable Aid)	-\$102,486

This article allows the district to provide kindergarten. Transportation in the morning and afternoon will be provided but mid-day transportation initially will not be provided. In Year 4 the District will receive \$102,486 more revenue than projected costs of the program and could implement mid-day transportation at that time.)

Recommended by the School Board

Recommended by the Budget Committee

Margaret Ralph, Director of Elementary Education presented a power point presentation highlighting the educational benefits of kindergarten and the method used to calculate zero tax impact.

Residents from Atkinson and Danville expressed their support for Kindergarten. Mrs. Phinney of Plaistow reported how excited kindergarten age children are to come into the schools to meet the teachers and other students.

The Moderator instructed the Clerk to place Warrant Article #4 as presented on the official ballot.

Article 5 - Kindergarten Classrooms

A motion was made by Mrs. Champey, seconded by Mrs. Suech

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

Shall the Timberlane Regional School District vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$720,000 to construct and equip kindergarten classrooms in Atkinson and authorize the District to accept Kindergarten Building Aid (\$540,000) from the State of New Hampshire for said purpose and further to authorize the District to withdraw up to the sum of \$180,000 from the existing School Building Construction, Reconstruction, Capital Improvements and Land Purchase Capital Reserve Fund. This article will be null and void if Article 4 fails.

(The funds for article 5 will come from the 2005-2006 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 #5 as presented on the official ballot.

Article 6 – High School Roof

A motion was made by Mrs. Champey, seconded by Mrs. Hess

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

Shall the Timberlane Regional School District vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$485,028 to replace and repair the roof at Timberlane Regional High School 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 for said purpose.

(The funding for this article comes from existing funds in the Capital Reserve fund and therefore will not increase taxes. It is anticipated that Bay State Gas will rebate to the District approximately \$130,000 of the cost.)

***Recommended by the School Board
Recommended by the Budget Committee***

A motion was made by Mrs. Champey, seconded by Mrs. Quigley

➤ **To amend article 6 to read “Bay State Gas will rebate the District approximately \$50,000 of the cost.”**

Dr. McDonald explained that Bay State Gas' limit on rebates for the program is \$50,000.

A Danville resident inquired about the R-factor to which Mr. Hughes explained the insulation benefits for the high school once the work has been completed. No additional questions were raised by the residents.

A vote was taken and counted: 114 residents in favor of placing article 6 on the ballot as amended, 0 voting against the amendment.

***Recommended by the School Board
Recommended by the Budget Committee***

The Moderator instructed the Clerk to place Warrant Article #6 as amended on the official ballot.

Article 7 – Conveyance of Easement

A motion was made by Mrs. Hess, seconded by Mrs. Champey

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

Shall the Timberlane Regional School District vote to authorize the School Board to convey an easement for utilities across property owned by the District located at 58 Plaistow Road.

(This article allows the District to complete the conveyance of a utilities easement approved by the School Board in June 2004. The property is identified as Plaistow Tax Map 26, Lot 2, is located adjacent to Route 125 at the southeast corner of Staples and is approximately one-tenth of an acre in size.)

***Recommended by the School Board
Recommended by the Budget Committee***

With no discussion raised, the Moderator

instructed the Clerk to place Warrant Article #7 as

presented on the official ballot.

Article 8 – General Acceptance of Reports

A motion was made by Mrs. Winn, seconded by Mrs. Withee

➤ **To place on the floor for discussion the following:**

Shall the Timberlane Regional School District accept reports of agents, auditors, and committees as written in the 2006 Annual Report.

Recommended by the School Board

Recommended by the Budget Committee

With no discussion raised, the Moderator instructed the Clerk to place Warrant Article #8 as presented

on the official ballot.

On a motion by Mrs. Hess, seconded by Mr. Balanoff to adjourn the deliberative session.

There being no further business to come before the meeting, the Moderator declared the Deliberative Session closed at 9:30 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Helen Phinney
School District Clerk

Nancy Danahy
Recording Secretary