

~Approved Minutes~

Newbury Town School District
Newbury Elementary School Board
Tuesday, March 5, 2019

Present

Board Members: Paul Jewett, Emmy Hausman
Administrators: Bruce Williams, Assistant superintendent
Visitors: Mary Collins

Call to order: P. Jewett called the meeting to order at 1:05 PM

Agenda Review: Mary Collins will move to first on agenda

Approve Minutes: P. Jewett moves to approve the minutes from 2/19 and 2/25. E. Hausman seconds.
Motion passed

Correspondence: None

Contracts: None

Principal Search update: Interviews will be conducted on 3/6/2019 with 3 candidates. 3/14/2019 is the tentative date for public forum/school visit for candidates.

Budget Discussion: M. Collins discusses the decision last year by the voters at the annual meeting to put \$50,000.00 from the anticipated surplus to offset taxes for the upcoming year. Her concern is that with a merged district, the money will be benefitting other towns taxpayers instead of solely Newbury taxpayers. The new fund established in 2018 was created with the intent that those funds would be used for the school building and to offset taxes for the Newbury town taxpayers. Discussion re: how to benefit and offset taxes for the taxpayers of the town of Newbury. One possibility is to "unmerge" the 2018 newly merged fund as there is the possibility that the 2018 merged fund could actually be used to lower other towns tax burden with a newly created district. B. Williams will speak to Brad James about the issue and get back to the board.

1:35 M. Collins exits

Act 46 update: P. Jewett states that the presiding judge in the pending lawsuit did not grant an injunction and the OUUSD meeting will proceed on 3/25. He states his concern about the non- clarity of the transitional board's role and the timeline for the rest of this fiscal year. B. Williams agrees and states that there needs to be clarity from Dan French.

Budget discussion: C. Lindsley, L. Blood, B. Williams and L. Page have been working on the budget. The facilities maintenance and repair line item will need to be increased as last year it was decreased because of the expected use of the new fund. C. Lindsley explains that they came up with the \$25,000.00 figure from looking at the last 5 years. Other questions will be discussed during executive session. P. Jewett states that he would like to hire a consultant to review the NES budget, Janet Mitchell. Discussion re: need for this. P. Jewett states his concern re: issues with the budget in prior years, especially last year. B. Williams states that the technical budget construction looks good (plugging in numbers), but there has to be accuracy in the numbers. P. Jewett states that J. Mitchell has years of experience with the NES budget and he would like

to hire her to review it. B. Williams suggests that L. Blood be in agreement. P. Jewett will contact J. Mitchell and L. Blood.

Discussion re: Next meeting: This meeting is with the select-board and the women's club to discuss the MOU and the potential new playground. B. Williams will be away for that meeting but will be working on it right up until 3/15 and will bring E. Knisley up to speed. Discussion re: what MOU will mean to newly merged district. B. Williams states that the OUUSD will take on all obligations that member schools have before the merger.

Public comment: A. Fredella states that the stairs in the entryway of the school are especially dirty today and she is surprised because the general public are entering the building today, town meeting day. C. Lindsley states that overall he has received very positive feedback about the cleanliness of the school with the new cleaning company. P. Jewett states that the new gym doors look great! He did notice a gap on the side of one of the doors. C. Lindsley will follow up. Discussion of flooding problems out front. B. Williams states that there might be grant money from VISBIT available for this. He will look into it. C. Lindsley states that he has received bids for bathroom projects. B. Williams asks if he has followed the bid process outlined by the SU. C. Lindsley will work with B. Williams to follow this process.

2:49 pm P. Jewett made a motion to go into executive session to discuss personnel and negotiations. E. Hausman seconds. Motion passed.

4:00 pm. Out of executive session. No action taken.

P. Jewett moved to approve and authorize the board chair to sign the following:

- A payroll warrant dated 2/28/2019 in the amount of \$34,292.84
 - An accounts payable warrant dated 2/1/2019 in the amount of \$24,633.83 E. Hausman seconds
- Motion passed

4:10 pm P. Jewett moved to adjourn. E. Hausman seconds. Motion passed

Respectfully submitted,
Ann Fredella -minutes clerk