

~Approved Minutes~

Newbury Town School District
Newbury Elementary School Board
Tuesday, May 28, 2019

Present

Board Members: Paul Jewett, Emmy Hausman, Danielle Corti
Administrators: Chance Lindsley, principal NES; Bruce Williams, Assistant superintendent OESU
Visitors: Mary Collins

Call to order: P. Jewett called the meeting to order at 12:04 pm

Agenda review: Add discussion of Boltonville schoolhouse under Act 46.

Approve minutes: E. Hausman made a motion to approve the minutes from 4/2/2019, 4/30/2019 and 5/7/2019. D. Corti seconds. There is a typo on page 2 of 5/7 minutes. Motion passed with correction.

Correspondence:

- P. Jewett reads an email from D. Corti, Chair of the OUUSD board. She has sent the email to all of the board chairs for BES, NES and Oxbow asking for them to put together a report on how things are going in their individual boards. She has asked that the board chairs follow a bud, rose, thorn outline to discuss areas where the schools are developing (bud), areas that the schools are proud of (rose), and areas that need work (thorn). She also asked for a facilities manager report from each school so the newly formed board could have succinct information about all the schools. B. Williams states that the Oxbow board and the Bradford board have completed this request enthusiastically. NES board members will think on this and discuss at the 6/4/2019 meeting.
- The board received letters of resignation from Karen Cowles and Lindsay LeBeau, effective 6/30/2019. E. Hausman made a motion to accept the letters of resignation with regret and thanks Karen and Lindsay for all you have done for the school and the children of Newbury. D. Corti seconds. Motion passed
- The board received a letter from Carla Horniak expressing dismay over losing a payment option for a 20/pay plan. She was unaware until the new contracts came out and it will be a struggle for her. C. Horniak has attempted to speak to OESU office and was told that nothing could be done. B. Williams will bring the formal letter to OESU office and speak to Lori Blood about possibility of changing.
- P. Jewett received an email from the director of Watch Them Grow preschool asking that the rental fee be waived as their margins are so tight. B. Williams suggests that this be added to an agenda over the summer for the OUUSD board and invite Marla Ianello to the meeting. P. Jewett will respond.
- C. Lindsley reports that Stephanie Ferland has not signed her contract.

Capitol Improvement update:

- Mary Collins reports that there is a CD at Community bank for \$157,200.00 that she would like to close prematurely to help cash flow issues and to cover payroll. There would be a \$350.00 penalty. E. Hausman made a motion to authorize Mary Collins to close cd and deposit in general fund account. D. Corti seconds. Motion passed. M. Collins also brings up a concern about schools needing to have a passed budget before they can get a tax anticipation note. She will discuss with Lori Blood.

- B. Williams hands out a proposal from Horizons Engineering firm outlining their scope of services for drainage improvements to the parking and driveway area of NES. Discussion re: topographic survey and drainage and water flow issues around the building. D. Corti states that a topographic survey around the whole school would yield information that would be very helpful to all future projects. D. Corti made a motion to spend up to \$4,000.00 and authorize B. Williams to hire Horizons Engineering to do a topographical survey of the entire property. E. Hausman seconds. Motion passed.
- Windows: C. Lindsley gives an update on window fix/replacement. 3 windows were “fixed” for \$500.00 each and the problem of ease of use was not alleviated. Cost to replace each window is \$2,500.00. This is on hold while a “pulley” system is worked on by Art Morris. C. Lindsley will update the board at a future meeting.
- Bathroom project is starting in June. Downstairs hallway flooring from cafeteria to the preschool will cost approximately \$68,000 and would happen next year.
- P. Jewett expresses concerns over the large puddle at the corner of the parking for staff. Needs to be addressed as well.

Financial update: P. Jewett would like a tax sheet for Newbury. B. Williams states that L. Blood has been working on it and has run into some roadblocks of getting information from the state. P. Jewett states that he needs more information to give to voters re: having a separate vote on an NES stand alone budget in case lawsuit is successful. Need to post warning today to have a vote before 6/30/2019. If Supreme court grants a stay then that would unravel the OUUSD budget and separate budgets for the schools would come back and have to be voted on. B. Williams asks if there is an advantage to warn and vote on a NES budget before 6/30? Could wait until court decision and then warn and vote? Budget would operate at 87% of last years until a new budget is voted on. D. Corti states that the most responsible thing to do for the community, the school and the children of Newbury is to put forth a budget and have it voted on. The voters should be well informed and clear about what they are voting on. Hard feelings from Bradford if do this? C. Lindsley states that we have always worked with BES and we are following our communities wishes by voting on a stand alone budget. The community has already voted no to merging. P. Jewett asks what will happen if vote does not pass on 6/17? B. Williams unsure.

E. Hausman made a motion to approve and sign the warning for the Newbury Town School District special meeting on 6/28/2019 to vote on an NES stand alone budget. P. Jewett seconds. Motion passed.

Act 46 update: E. Hausman gives an update on the legal battle happening at the state level. Boltonville update: Has town agreed to purchase? M. Collins has spoken to individual select board members, but not officially at a meeting. B. Williams will send information to Alma Roystan before 5/29/2019 select board meeting, then can discuss at 6/4/NES board meeting. P. Jewett asks if there is a timeline for selling Boltonville and need to be done before 6/30? B. Williams will try to get a definitive answer and get back to P. Jewett. While in this meeting, Labette received a call from Lyman Realty that the property has been vandalized. C. Lindsley will call the state police.

Payables: D. Corti moves to approve and authorize the board chair to sign the following:

- An accounts payable warrant dated 5/20/2019 in the amount of \$63,129.95 (\$21,000 for deposit for bathrooms)
- An accounts payable warrant dated 5/24/2019 in the amount of \$4,506.36
- A payroll warrant dated 5/30/2019 in the amount of \$97,026.07 E. Hausman seconds. Motion passed.

Principal report will be at the 6/4/2019 meeting.

2:15 pm P. Jewett made a motion to go into executive session to discuss personnel that might put the board at a disadvantage if discussed in open session. E. Hausman seconds. Motion passed.

3:00 pm out of executive session. No action taken

Respectfully submitted,
Ann Fredella -minutes clerk