

Draft

North Hero School Board Meeting
Wednesday, January 06, 2010
at North Hero School 7:00 P.M.

In Attendance: School Board Shelly St. Hilaire, Seth Chastenay and Jennifer
Gariety a. 7:10 P.M.

Superintendent: Richard Taylor

Board Clerk: Jo-Ann Tier

Auditor: Bart Wilcox

Parents: Andrew Julow and Adam Trevits

CALL MEETING TO ORDER

Meeting was called to order by Chair Shelly St. Hilaire at 7:05 P.M.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Chair Shelly St. Hilaire

ADJUSTMENT OF AGENDA

Under Board Discussion = e.mail from parent re:bus concerns.. S. St.Hilaire
Executive Session = personnel matter... Seth Chastenay

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF DECEMBER 17, 2009

Approval of minutes of December 17, 2009 - tabled until the next meeting – as
Seth Chastenay had not completely read the minutes for the
December 17, 2009.

COMMENTS AND QUESTIONS FROM THE PUBLIC REGARDING ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA....

No comments at this time of the meeting.

BOARD DISCUSSION

E.mail from parent re: North Hero School Bus Activity

Chair Shelly St. Hilaire shared with the Board the e.mail that she received
mid-afternoon which referenced the current bus climate.

Discussion....

Superintendent shared areas of concern that were addressed on

Monday, January 04, 2010...

- Communication received from a parent expressing that her children continue to have anxiety about riding the bus in the afternoon
- 2 children were not picked-up... children on the bus told driver that they were out in the yard playing in the snow.
- Child (K) being let off the bus in the custody of another adult without parental permission and/or school permission

Discussion...

- Review of parent notification
- Preparing of figures as to how many children ride the bus, and how many are being transported.

Board agreed that this will continue as a future agenda item when Mrs. Bennink is at the Board Meeting.

FY2011 Budget

Distributed by Karen Groseclose....

- Summary Budget by Category
Discussion:
 - noted under Secondary was the increase of students
 - kindergarten students for next year could be 6
 - upcoming decisions by the legislative body..
 - decrease in Title I category
 - continuance of the food service appropriation in the amount of \$3,500.00.
 - % change of 4.44%
- 01.06.10 tax calculation North Hero .. this being a “global update”.
Discussion:
 - version 1 and version 2
 - education cost/equalized pupil information

Discussion –

- cuts being made in the following areas:
 - furniture/fixtures, supplies (10%) and books (\$30.00 per student)
- areas to look into that perhaps could be changed/eliminated/etc.
 - bus going to Grand Isle School with students, designation of a high school, split cost of Essex bus with another community, GISU Office taking over the Essex bus.
- at the “High School Fair” have information available on the availability of riding the North Hero Essex bus for county parents.
- by January 15th.. high schools have to have information available on tuition rates.

Designation of a high school....

- have representatives from Colchester School District visit North Hero – sharing merits of their high school
- at Informational Meeting share information about high school designation.

- March ballot.. asking the community if they would like the North Hero Board to investigate designation to a high school.. this being a non-biding article.

Dick reported, at this time, no other high school has expressed a designation interest.

Bart Wilcox shared that as part of the Auditors' Report in the Town Report reference will be made to cost savings in a designation of a high school.

Note: information distributed attached to original copy – sent to Town Clerk's Office.

January 21st Board will sign the warrant.....

BOARD ACTION

Approval of Bills for Payment

Jennifer Gariety made a motion to approve the bills for payment in the amount of \$51,432.34. This motion was seconded by Seth Chastenay.. hearing no further discussion.. this motion was carried 3-0.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Jennifer Gariety made a motion to recess this meeting and to go into Executive Session for personnel matters. This motion was seconded by Steth Chastenay.. hearing no further discussion... this motion was carried 3-0.

Seth Chastenay made a motion to come out of Executive Session and to reconvene the Board Meeting with no action to be taken following the Executive Session. This motion was seconded by Jennifer Gariety.. hearing no further discussion.. this motion was carried.

ADJOURNMENT

Jennifer Gariety made a motion to adjourn the meeting.. this motion seconded by Seth Chastenay.. hearing no further discussion.. this motion was carried.. 3-0.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jo-Ann Tier

C: Board Shelly, Jennifer, Seth
Superintendent Taylor
Principal Bennink
Town Clerk
Web Page
File