

Highland Central School District

MINUTES

Board of Education Workshop Meeting

Thursday, August 14, 2014

5:00 pm at the High School Cafeteria

MEETING NOT AVAILABLE VIA LIVESTREAM

ATTENDEES:

Board Members Present: Alan Barone, Sue Gilmore, Tom Miller, Debbie Pagano, Mike Reid, Mike Bakatsias, Mike Reid (absent), Heather Welch (absent)

Administrators/Principals/Directors: Deborah Haab, Superintendent of Schools; Pete Miller, Director of Building and Grounds; Debbie Tompkins, Assistant Director of Transportation; Joel Freer, Elementary School Principal

Also in attendance was Pat Flynn with Ashley McGraw Architect.

CALL TO ORDER AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Board President, Alan Barone, called meeting to order at 5:12 pm. The Pledge of Allegiance was then recited.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

The floor was open for public comments. No comments were made at this time.

PERSONNEL

a) Appointment

BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, approves the appointments for the following individuals with an Emergency Conditional Appointment consistent with SAVE legislation requirements:

Thomas Truscello

Position: Math Teacher – Middle School

Salary: BA Step 2 / \$48,332

Effective Date: September 1, 2014

Probationary Period: September 1, 2014 – August 31, 2017

Purpose: Replacing Lisa Barone, retirement

Appointment was amended to reflect the following change (reflected on the August 26, 2014 agenda): probationary period to September 18, 2014 – September 17, 2017

Samantha Pedro Wacker

Position: Math Teacher – Middle School

Salary: BA Step 1 / \$44,494

Effective Date: September 1, 2014
Probationary Period: September 1, 2014 – August 31, 2017
Purpose: New Position

Kathleen Sickles
Position: Assistant Principal – Elementary School
Salary: HAA / \$95,000
Effective Date: August 26, 2014
Probationary Period: August 26, 2014 – August 25, 2017
Purpose: Replacing Rosann LaManna, retirement

Motion made by Tom Miller; Seconded by Sue Gilmore; Discussion: none; Motion carried with a 4-0 vote.

- **Deborah Haab acknowledged the presence of Kathleen Sickles and her husband. She then introduced them to the Board and welcomed Ms. Sickles to the Highland School District.**
- **In lieu of Thomas Truscello (whom sent regrets of not being in town to attend meeting), his father was in attendance.**
- **The August 26th Board meeting, Samantha Wacker and Thomas Truscello will be introduced to Board.**
- **Alan Barone said a few words to congratulate and welcome the new appointed individuals.**

BUSINESS AND OPERATIONS:

a) **Accept Donation & Budget Increase**

BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, accepts the donation in the amount of \$2,430 from the Highland Education Foundation.

FURTHERMORE BE IT RESOLVED that based upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education approves the budget increase of \$2,430.

<u>Appropriations</u>	Total \$2,430
Maintenance Repairs	A1621-444-08-0000 Total \$2,430

<u>Revenues</u>	Total \$2,430
Gifts & Donations A2705	Total \$2,430

Motion made by Mike Bakatsias; Seconded by Debbie Pagano; Discussion: part of the proceeds come from the 2nd Annual Snowball Fundraiser. Part of these funds will go towards stage equipment at the Middle School. Recognition was given to the committee members for their hard work and support for children. Motion carried with a 4-0 vote.

b) **Adoption of Tax Levy**

BE IT RESOLVED that the receiver of taxes be authorized and directed to collect taxes for the Highland Central School District with the designated walk in collection point to be the M& T Bank, Highland Branch, Highland, NY on all regular business days, except Saturdays, Sundays and Holidays, or by mail during the period of September 1, 2014 to September 30,

2014 without penalty, and during the period of October 1, 2014 to November 3, 2014 with the addition of a two percent (2%) interest penalty and, further, that any taxes not received or US postmarked on the close of business on November 3, 2014, be turned over to the Ulster County Treasurer for collection.

BE IT RESOLVED; to the Collector of Taxes of the Highland Central School District, Towns of Esopus, Lloyd, Marlborough, New Paltz, and Plattekill, of Ulster County, New York State:

You are hereby commanded:

1. To give notice and start collection of taxes on September 1, 2014 in accordance with provisions of Section §1322 of Real Property Tax Law;
2. To give notice that tax collection will end on November 3, 2014;
3. To collect taxes in the amount of \$25,456,738 for the School District Levy (less the amount to be separately provided through the STAR Program for which the tax collector is not responsible) AND \$417,185 for the Library Levy in the same manner that collectors are authorized to collect town and county taxes in accordance with provisions of Section §1318 of the Real Property Tax Law;
4. To make no changes or alterations in the tax warrant or the tax warrant of the tax roll attached, but shall return the same to the Board of Education. The Board may recall its warrant and tax roll for correction of errors or omissions in accordance with provisions of Section §1316 of the Real Property Tax Law;
5. To forward by mail to each owner of real property listed on the tax roll within ten days after the start of collection, a statement due on his property on pre-numbered tax bill forms provided by the school district in accordance with provisions of Section §922 of the Real Property Tax Law, and to forward by mail, without interest penalties, to the office of the County Treasurer, a detailed tax bill of all state land parcels liable for taxes on the school tax roles in accordance with Sections §540 and §544 of the Real Property Tax Law;
6. To receive from each of the taxable corporations and natural persons the sum listed on the attached tax rolls without interest and penalties when such sums are paid before the end of the penalty free period (September 1, 2014), and to add two percent (2%) interest penalty to all taxes collected during the penalty period (October 1, 2014 – November 3, 2014);
7. To issue receipts provided by the school district in acknowledgement of receipt of payments of taxes and to retain and preserve and file exact carbon copies of all such receipts issued as required by Section §986 of the Real Property Tax Law;
8. To promptly return the warrant at its expiration and, if any taxes on the attached tax roll shall be unpaid at this time, deliver the account thereof on forms showing by town, the total assessed valuation tax rate, the total tax levy, the total amount remaining uncollected as required by Section §1330 of the Real Property Tax Law, and subsequently, to turn over to the County Treasurer by November 15, 2014 a listing of all unpaid taxes with penalties included:
9. This warrant is issued pursuant to Section §910, §912, and §914 of the Real Property Tax

Law and is delivered in accordance with sections §1306 and §1398 of this law. It is effective immediately after it is properly signed by a majority of the Board of Education. This warrant shall expire on the date stated above unless a renewal or extension has been endorsed on the face of this warrant in writing in accordance with Section §1318, subdivision 2 of the Real Property Tax Law.

WHEREAS, the Board of Education of the Highland Central School District is authorized to raise funds for the 2014-15 school year not to exceed \$39,961,276;

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board authorize and direct the levy and collection of taxes for the 2014-15 school year in the amount of \$25,456,738 (less the amount to be separately collected provided through the STAR Program for which the tax collector is not responsible) and that the Board fix the equalized tax rates by towns and confirm the extension of the tax roll as they appear on the following described tax roll:

2014-15 Real Property Tax Levy

Town	Apportionment Value	Equalization Rate	Share of School Tax	Tax Rate
Esopus	49,398,560	100%	\$ 1,077,099.77	\$ 21.804275
Lloyd	1,001,413,922	100%	\$ 21,835,104.18	\$ 21.804340
Marlborough	22,262,940	100%	\$ 485,427.26	\$ 21.804275
New Paltz	11,219,736	100%	\$ 244,638.21	\$ 21.804275
Plattekill	83,216,169	100%	\$ 1,814,468.20	\$ 21.804275
Total	1,167,511,327		\$ 25,456,737.61	

2014-15 Library Tax Levy

Town	Apportionment Value	Equalization Rate	Share of School Tax	Tax Rate
Esopus	49,398,560	100%	\$ 17,651.51	\$ 0.357328
Lloyd	1,001,413,922	100%	\$ 357,833.67	\$ 0.357330
Marlborough	22,262,940	100%	\$ 7,955.18	\$ 0.357328
New Paltz	11,219,736	100%	\$ 4,009.13	\$ 0.357328
Plattekill	83,216,169	100%	\$ 29,735.50	\$ 0.357328
Total	1,167,511,327		\$ 417,185.00	

BE IT RESOLVED AND HEREBY DIRECTED THAT; The Tax Warrant of the Board, duly signed, shall be affixed to the above-described tax rolls authorizing collection of said taxes to begin September 1, 2014 and end on November 3, 2014 except Saturdays, Sundays and Holidays, giving the warrant an effective period of 64 days at the expiration of which time the tax collector shall make an accounting in writing to the Board;

IT IS FURTHER DIRECTED THAT; taxes collected without penalty for the period of September 1, 2014 through September 30, 2014 inclusive, and that a penalty of 2 percent (2%) be assessed on taxes collected during the period of October 1, 2014 through November 3, 2014 inclusive, and that any taxes not received by the close of business November 3, 2014 or US postmarked on that day, be turned over to the respective County Treasurer for collection.

Motion made by Tom Miller; Seconded by Debbie Pagano; Discussion: none; Motion carried with a 4-0 vote.

BOARD OF EDUCATION

Old Business

a) **Memorandum of Agreement – HAA**

BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education approves the Memorandum of Agreement dated July 31, 2014 between the representatives of the District and the Highland Administrators' Association to revive and incorporate the provisions of the Collectively Negotiated Agreement between them that expired on June 30, 2011, and the provisions of the Memorandum of Agreement dated December 10, 2012, into a successor one-year agreement effective July 1, 2014 and terminating on June 30, 2015, except as modified by the provisions that are attached.

Motion made by Mike Bakatsias; Seconded by Tom Miller; Discussion: none; Motion carried with a 4-0 vote.

A short recess took place at 5:25 pm so the Board could personally meet and congratulate Ms. Sickles and Mr. Truscello (father). Meeting reconvened at 5:40 pm.

b) **Capital Project**

Discussion took place regarding Capital Project. Pat Flynn, with Ashley McGraw Architects, updated Board with a new updated report. The following topics, but not limited to, were discussed:

- Estimate of project to be approximately \$16.5 million to \$17.5 million;
- Security piece of project to be considered as a separate entity (vote);
- The first, of two meetings, known as the “coffee hour”, took place on August 13th. The feedback from discussion is in support of projected improvements. However, disappointed on the low attendance (approximately 1 %).
- Capital Project items that were noted from the past meeting (July 29, 2014) were discussed, line by line.
- Further discussion continued regarding school security;
- Board President, Alan Barone, stated he would like to have entire Board in presence prior to any decision being made regarding a separate vote for school safety and the construction involved (portals).
- September 2nd would be the final date for a resolution to be adopted from Board for a public vote to take place October 17th;
- Sue Gilmore stated she would like to have the committee's support and not to go over the threshold amount.
- Further discussion continued regarding security portals at the three (3) buildings.
- Wheelchair accessibility ramp at Middle School is included in safety and security.

- In depth discussions took place on the “future discussion” budget items.
- Discussions took place about what the maximum dollar amount of project is. It was agreed that the estimated dollar amount would be approximately \$17.5 million, which reflects the reality of much needed improvements.
- Library skylights at high school were discussed. Item most likely will not be included in this project.
- Pat Flynn strongly suggests having kitchens included in the Capital Project.
- The irrigation of the athletic fields was discussed.
- The Board requested Pat Flynn to recalculate figures that now include “moved” items by next Board meeting.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

The floor was open for public comments. No comments were made at this time.

Motion made at 8:00 pm by Mike Bakatsias to adjourn meeting; Seconded by Sue Gilmore; Motion carried with a 4-0 vote.

ADJOURNMENT (8:00 pm)

Minutes recorded and submitted by Lisa M. Cerniglia, District Clerk