

MINUTES – WAYLAND SCHOOL COMMITTEE

Regular Session – January 22, 2013

A Regular Session of the Wayland School Committee was held on Monday, January 22, 2013, at 7:00 P.M. in the School Committee Room of the Wayland Town Building.

Present were:

Barb Fletcher, Chair
Beth Butler, Vice Chair
Malcolm Astley
Ellen Grieco (arrived at 7:20 p.m.)
Shawn Kinney

Also:

Paul Stein
Superintendent of Schools

Brad J. Crozier
Assistant Superintendent

Marlene M. Dodyk
Director of Student Services

Geoffrey S. MacDonald
Business Administrator

Also:

Finance Committee:
Bill Steinberg, Chair
Thomas Greenaway, Vice Chair
Carol Martin
David Gutschenritter
Cherry Karlson
Steven Lesser
Nancy Funkhouser

Chair Barb Fletcher convened the Budget Work Session/Regular Session at 7:10 P.M. and announced that WayCAM was taping the meeting.

1. **Comments and Written Statements from the Public:**

There were no public comments or written statements.

2. **Consent Agenda:**

(a) Approval of Accounts Payables & Payroll Warrants

- Wayland Public Schools Accounts Payables warrant, dated 1/22/2013, in the amount of \$241,023.02 (High School Project)
- Wayland Public Schools Accounts Payables warrant, dated 1/22/2013, in the amount of \$372,277.62
- Wayland Public Schools Accounts Payables warrant, dated 1/22/2013, in the amount of \$50,046.94 (Student Activity Accounts)
- Wayland Public Schools Payroll warrant, dated 1/24/2013, in the amount of \$1,215,171.58

(b) Approval of Minutes

- Regular Session of January 7, 2013

Upon a motion duly made by Shawn Kinney, seconded by Beth Butler, the School Committee voted unanimously (4-0) to approve the Consent Agenda.

3. **Superintendent's Report:**

Paul Stein informed the School Committee that our elementary schools received the USDA's (Dept. of Agriculture) *HealthierUS* School Challenge (HUSSC) Bronze award in the amount of \$500 to each school, which will be given to Claypit Hill and Happy Hollow Schools for creating healthy school environments. This is part of Michele Obama's *Let's*

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Move campaign. Cheryl Judd and her staff deserve the praise and credit for this award.

Paul updated the School Committee on the current enrollment. He commented that the enrollment has remained stable, while slightly up in the elementary schools.

4. **Meet with FinCom to Present FY14 Operating Budget:**

Barb Fletcher presented the School Committee's Recommended FY14 Operating Budget. Barb reviewed the goals and priorities, the FY14 budget process, enrollment and student-to-staff ratio, FTE's at each school level, offsets, cost savings/efficiencies, budget drivers, Central Office expenses, and a peer comparison of per pupil expenditures. She commented that the budget being presented supports the system-wide goals that were developed in the fall. Barb reviewed the proposed reductions at all levels in the three budgets presented by the Superintendent.

Barb took a moment to thank Paul Stein, Geoff MacDonald and the other administrators for all the time and effort that they put into providing more transparency and accountability in the district's fiscal operations, resulting in significant improvements in these areas.

Barb commented that as part of the School Committee's budget deliberations, the Committee met with each department head separately, and after much discussion, the majority of the School Committee supported the Superintendent's recommended budget.

Barb also stated that as compared to actual expenditures over the last 5 years, the budget increased on average 2.38% annually, not including inflation.

Barb noted that while working through budget deliberations, some corrections were found and made. Upon identifying these changes, there was a positive difference of about \$65,000. After some discussion, the majority of the School Committee agreed to use some of this money for the reductions needed to arrive at the Superintendent's Recommended Budget. However, the administrators will decide to which reductions the money will be applied.

A discussion of the School Committee's recommended FY14 Operating Budget ensued among the School Committee, the administrators, and the Finance Committee. Some of the topics discussed were a breakout of academic degrees amongst teachers; FTE's; the SPED prepay and the Circuit Breaker; the budget drivers; the enrollment at Loker; the request for an additional teacher in 4th grade at Claypit Hill; the coaching cuts; facilities; fees; and cost savings/efficiencies.

The FinCom will vote on their budget by January 31. The joint meeting ended at 8:35 p.m.

5. **Review of Superintendent Evaluation Procedures:**

Based on the document passed out at the last meeting, Beth Butler proposed that the School Committee vote on the elements needed for the Superintendent's evaluation, which will help the evaluation to be more focused. She also recommended that there be a discussion between Paul and the School Committee in terms of the evidence to be used in supporting the elements. Beth and Malcolm, Subcommittee members, will work with Paul to formulate a list of proposed evidence, including what would be considered as exemplary, for discussion at a future meeting.

Upon a motion duly made by Beth Butler, seconded by Shawn Kinney, the School Committee voted unanimously (5-0) that the elements that will be used in the Superintendent's evaluation is so noted in the document that was distributed at the last meeting.

6. **Follow-up and Future Agenda Items:**

(a) Update re: Audit/Review of School Accounts:

Shawn Kinney confirmed with Rebecca Chasen and Jim Powers that they attend the January 29th meeting at 8:00 a.m. He sent them a letter inviting them to the meeting on January 29th.

7. **Comments from the Public:**

Louis Jurist commented on the Evaluation System for teachers and the grading system that will be put in place. In his opinion, the majority of Wayland teachers is exemplary, and feels that this grading system would result in a less than desirable grade for those teachers who would not receive the recognition they deserve.

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8. **Executive Session:**

Upon a motion duly made by Ellen Grieco, seconded by Shawn Kinney, the School Committee voted unanimously (5-0) to convene in Executive Session at 8:52 P.M. to discuss strategy with respect to Collective Bargaining for all school unions (WTA, WESA, Custodial and Food Service), as set forth in M.G.L. Chapter 30A, Section 21 (a) (3), as such a discussion in open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the bargaining position of the School Committee and an Executive Session is necessary to protect the bargaining position of the School Committee and to review the Executive Session minutes of December 17, 2012. The Chair announced that the School Committee will reconvene in Open Session following Executive Session for adjournment purposes only. A roll call vote was taken as follows:

<u>Roll Call</u>	<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>
Barb Fletcher, Chair	X	
Beth Butler, Vice Chair	X	
Malcolm Astley	X	
Ellen Grieco	X	
Shawn Kinney	X	

9. **Adjournment:**

Upon a motion duly made by Malcolm Astley, seconded by Ellen Grieco, the School Committee voted unanimously (5-0) to adjourn the Regular Session at 9:21 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Paul Stein, Clerk
Wayland School Committee

Observers:

Susanne Geiger, 21 Hickory Hill Road, Wayland
Betsy Meindl, Wayland
Susan Wagner, Wayland (?)
Annette Lewis, Wayland (?)

Corresponding Documentation:

1. School Committee's Recommended FY14 Operating Budget Presentation
2. Regular Session Minutes of January 7, 2013
3. Accounts Payables & Payroll Warrants