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MILFORD SCHOOL BOARD MINUTES
Monday, November 2, 2015

Call to Order:

Chairman Paul Dargie called the Milford School Board meeting to order at 7:00 PM in the Milford High School lecture hall room # 182. Board members present were Mr. Kevin Drew, Mr. Len Mannino, Mr. Robert Willette and Mr. Ron Carvell. Also present were Superintendent Robert Marquis and Business Administrator Jennifer Burk.

Board Member Comments:

Chairman Dargie stated that the board met with the NEASC Committee last weekend.

Public Comments:

Mr. Rick Wood, chairman of the School District Budget Advisory Committee, stated he was looking forward to working with the board during this budget season.

Reports and Presentations:

a. Superintendent's Report:

1. The superintendent reminded the parents of Heron Pond School students that parent-teacher conferences will be held from November 16th to November 23rd. He encouraged those parents who have not yet scheduled a meeting time to contact their child's teacher to set up a meeting time.

2. The high school administration concluded the NEASC accreditation visit last Wednesday. The superintendent informed the board that from all indications things went very well. The superintendent will present the findings to the board as soon as he receives them. It is anticipated that preliminary findings will be available in the next month or two, while the final report will be sent to the district sometime after January. The superintendent commended the high school faculty and student body on the extensive amount of preparation work over the past four years that led to the visit. He also commended the students who were part of the panel presentation.

New Business:

a. 2016-2017 Budget Presentation:

Superintendent Marquis presented the proposed 2016-2017 budget to the board. He stated development of the budget was collaborative and cooperative, that tough decisions were made that resulted in a fair and balanced budget which would maintain organizational health and instructional strategies.

The budget represents new expenses of \$1,921,696, or a 5.0% increase over the current year budget, and a loss of revenue of \$801,089, or a decrease of 6.4% over the current year. The net effect of these two changes is a net assessment increase of \$2,722,785, or an increase of 10.6% over the current year. This results in an estimated tax increase of \$2.54 per thousand dollars of assessed valuation, or an increase in taxes of 13.0%.

Chairman Dargie reminded the board and the budget committee that questions on the budget should be sent to Janice French by next Monday at noon in order to have them processed by the administration for the Saturday, November 14th joint budget meeting.

b. Limited Full-Day Kindergarten Proposal:

52 Superintendent Marquis referred to the memo in the board packet. Discussion ensued
53 regarding the advantages/challenges of full-day kindergarten. The administration will do more
54 research and bring the topic back to the board at a later date. They will try to find out if there
55 are any other districts that have implemented a fee-based approach for the second half of a
56 full-day kindergarten program, and to see what their experiences were. They will also contact
57 district counsel to see if there are any legal issues with adding a single full-day kindergarten
58 class for a small portion of the kindergarten class, especially with regards to the issue of
59 providing an unequal learning opportunity to children.

60
61 Old Business:

62 a. Information on Co-Curricular Activities:

63 The board discussed the current co-curricular structure in Milford. The board requested that the
64 administration inquire with other nearby and comparable districts on their policies regarding co-
65 curricular stipends. The board requested that the spreadsheet of co-curricular activities be
66 updated. The board requested that the superintendent bring the topic back at a future meeting
67 with a new policy and procedure that reflects fairness to all.

68
69 Housekeeping Items:

70 a. Approval of Minutes 10/19/15:

71 Mr. Mannino moved to approve the minutes of 10/19/15. Mr. Carvell seconded. Motion passed
72 4-0-1, with Mr. Drew abstaining because he was not present at the meeting.

73
74 b. Approval of Manifests:

75 Mr. Willette moved to approve the listed manifests. Mr. Dargie seconded. Motion passed 5-0.

76
77 c. List of Email Correspondence (information only):

78 No comments.

79
80 d. List of Co-Curricular Appointments (information only):

81 No comments.

82
83 e. List of Employees Leaving Service (information only):

84 No comments.

85
86 Public Comment:

87 There were no public comments.

88
89 Non-Public Session:

90 Mr. Mannino moved and Mr. Carvell seconded to enter non-public session under RSA 91-A:2 I
91 (a) Strategy or negotiations with respect to collective bargaining, and RSA 91-A:3 II (a),
92 personnel. Motion passed 5-0. The board entered non-public session at 8:32 PM.

93
94 The board discussed collective bargaining and a personnel matter.

95
96 Mr. Mannino moved to exit non-public at 8:45 PM. Mr. Willette seconded. Motion passed 5-0.

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98 Adjournment:

99 Mr. Mannino moved to adjourn at 8:46 PM. Mr. Willette seconded. Motion passed 5-0.

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Chairman of the School Board

_____ Date of signing