

WEST MILFORD TOWNSHIP BOARD OF EDUCATION
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BOARD OF EDUCATION
MINUTES
SPECIAL MEETING
TUESDAY, APRIL 4, 2017

Mr. James Foody, Board President, called to order the Special Meeting of the Board of Education on April 4, 2017, at 7:06 p.m. in the Westbrook School Media Center. He led the flag salute, read the Open Public Meetings Act Statement, and asked for a moment of silence for the people of Syria and staff members who lost loved ones. Mr. Foody reminded everyone in attendance to silence or turn off their cell phones and note the locations of the emergency exits.

OPEN PUBLIC MEETINGS ACT STATEMENT

In accordance with the provisions of the Open Public Meetings Act, a public notice of this meeting has been sent to Board Members, all district Schools, the Herald News, the Trends, the Record, the Messenger, West Milford Town Hall, the County Superintendent's Office, the Board Attorney, and Cablevision of Warwick; and posted in the Administration Building. Copies of the Board Meeting Calendar Resolution were provided to all local media, Town Hall, Township Library, and all district schools.

MS. BARBARA FRANCISCO, BOARD SECRETARY, CALLED THE ROLL:

TRUSTEE	ATTENDANCE	TRUSTEE	ATTENDANCE	TRUSTEE	ATTENDANCE
Mr. Bailey	Absent	Mrs. Dwyer	Present	Mr. Huber	Present
Mr. Cytowicz	Present	Mr. Foody	Present	Mrs. O'Brien	Absent
Mr. Drew	Present	Mrs. Fritz	Present	Mr. Robbins	Present

ADMINISTRATION	POSITION	ATTENDANCE
Dr. Alex Anemone	Superintendent of Schools	Present
Ms. Barbara Francisco	Board Secretary/Business Administrator	Present
Mr. Daniel Novak	Director of Education	Present
Dr. Elizabeth McQuaid	Director of Special Services	Present
Joanne Butler, Esq.	Board of Education Attorney	Present

There were approximately 25 members of the public in attendance.

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VI. PURPOSE OF MEETING

The purpose of the meeting was to review the 2017-2018 District Budget and to take action on HIB's.

VII. EXECUTIVE SESSION RESOLUTION

Motion by Mr. Huber, seconded by Mrs. Dwyer, to approve the following Resolution:

RESOLVED, that the Board go into Executive Session at 8:30 p.m. for approximately 60 minutes for the purpose of discussing HIB's and matters of attorney/client privilege.

The matters discussed in executive session shall be made public as soon as the need for confidentiality no longer exists.

VOICE VOTE: All in Favor. MOTION PASSED.

VIII. PETITIONS & REQUESTS

Petitioners who have requested to speak prior to the meeting will be first with five (5) minutes for each petitioner, for a period of thirty (30) minutes; and then time permitting, other petitions and requests limited to five (5) minutes per petitioner will be allowed, until the thirty (30) minute period transpires. Petitioners speaking during Petitions & Requests are asked to address topics listed in the agenda. All speakers are asked to give their full name, spell their last name, and provide their address. Speakers may not use the names of students during Petitions and Requests.

Jamie Devor spoke about the budget, discussion and compromise. People are willing to pay if they get more. The budget should be cognizant of the taxpayer.

Jennifer Iwaszczuk spoke about the class size at Upper Greenwood Lake School. Her concern focused on the grade 3 classes for the 2017-2018 school year.

Jamie Devor clarified that cutting the budget does not mean cutting staff.

Motion by Mr. Cytowicz, seconded by Mrs. Fritz, to close Petitions and Requests.

VOICE VOTE: All in Favor. MOTION PASSED.

IX. Motion by Mr. Drew, seconded by Mr. Huber, to adopt the agenda, as amended.

VOICE VOTE: All in Favor. MOTION PASSED.

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X. BUDGET & FINANCE - COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

The Board reviewed and discussed the 2017-2018 District Budget.

Mr. Foody stated that last year there was no increase in the tax levy and education was not affected.

Mrs. Dwyer asked how the \$2.9 million fund balance is used for tax payer relief.

Mr. Drew stated small class sizes have a place at the elementary level. A good teacher is more important than class size at the middle and high school.

Mr. Drew asked how this budget would affect education. He would like the district to maintain current programs. Dr. Anemone responded about AP Capstone Professional Development. The greenhouse renovation will affect 6 grades, (7-12) and the STEM program. Mr. Drew expressed his disappointed that the budget is going up despite the declining enrollment. He prefers a new math program. We should contact other districts.

Mr. Novak spoke about the STEM classroom renovation.

Mr. Huber stated that climate and culture has a direct effect on learning.

Dr. Anemone spoke about the climate survey that collected base plan data in November 2016.

Mr. Foody talked about removing the windows and roof project from the budget. We should remove the things that don't affect the educational program.

Mr. Drew spoke about the increase in Special Education costs. He feels that capital improvements should be paid over a long term.

The Board discussed a human resources position, the light fixtures at Maple Road, bonding, lease purchases and funding projects through energy savings.

At 8:37 p.m., Mr. Foody offered a motion, seconded by Mrs. Fritz, to delay Executive Session for 15 minutes.

VOICE VOTE: All in Favor. MOTION PASSED.

The Board decided they want a zero percent increase in the tax levy.

Mr. Drew wants to know the cost of the math program for next year.

At 8:55 p.m., the Board went into Executive Session and Mr. Robbins left the meeting.

At 9:16 p.m., the Board returned to the public meeting.

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XI. EDUCATION - Mrs. Teresa Dwyer, Chairperson

Motion by Mrs. Dwyer, seconded by Mr. Cytowicz, to approve the following agenda item:

- 1. The recommendation of the Superintendent to approve the following Resolution:

WHEREAS, in accordance with the requirements set forth in P.L. 2010, Chapter 122, the West Milford Board of Education has received results of HIB investigative reports on **April 4, 2017**; therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED, that the West Milford Board of Education approves issuance of written decisions affirming the Superintendent's determination in the following HIB investigations:

<u>Incident Report Number</u>	<u>Board Determination</u>
2017/E-16	Unsubstantiated
2017/E-18	Unsubstantiated

ROLL CALL:

TRUSTEE	VOTE	TRUSTEE	VOTE	TRUSTEE	VOTE
Mrs. Dwyer	Yes	Mr. Huber	Yes	Mr. Bailey	Absent
Mrs. O'Brien	Absent	Mrs. Fritz	Yes	Mr. Drew	Yes
Mr. Robbins	Absent	Mr. Cytowicz	Yes	Mr. Foody	Yes

The **MOTION PASSED** unanimously.

XI. ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Mr. Drew, seconded by Mr. Cytowicz, to adjourn the meeting at 9:18 p.m.

VOICE VOTE: All in Favor. MOTION PASSED.

Respectfully yours,

Barbara Francisco
Board Secretary/Business Administrator

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