

MEMBERS PRESENT:

**DEIRDRE BURNS
DEIRDRE d'ALBERTIS
MARK FLEISCHHAUER
DIANE LYONS
LISA ROSENTHAL
LAURA SCHULKIND
RICHARD WALKER**

OTHERS PRESENT:

**JOSEPH PHELAN, THOMAS BURNELL,
MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC, MEMBER OF THE
PRESS**

REGULAR MEETING

1.0 Call to Order

President Fleischhauer called the meeting to order at 7:35 pm.

2.0 Approval of Minutes

2.1 Motion by Burns, seconded by Rosenthal, the Board voted to approve the minutes of the April 5, 2016 Special Meeting*

**VOTE: 6 AYE (d'Albertis, Fleischhauer, Lyons, Rosenthal, Schulkind, Walker); 0 NAY; 0 ABSTAIN; 1 ABSENT (Burns)
MOTION CARRIED**

3.0 Public Comment

None

4.0 Reports and Discussion

4.1 Review of the Proposed 2016-17 Budget Under Development*

Mr. Burnell went over the deletions to the sixth draft budget. The District was able to reduce the budget gap by \$237,000 due mainly to the reduction of special education services. The currently proposed tax levy increase is 2.08% and the gap is \$216,875.00. Board members received a revised list of Options for Budget Reductions – Sorted by Priority and were reminded that the items within each priority can be re-ordered. Additionally, Superintendent Phelan stated that the budget adoption is a spending plan and based on a dollar amount. He added that the District has not received any news on the possibility of receiving additional funds through local legislators.

The Board discussed possible recommendations from the administration. Superintendent Phelan stated that the question is how deep the Board wishes to go into the options for budget reductions and at what cost to student programs. The District was able to cut the gap almost in half since last week. The District can make it work either way, but will need to have a sense from Board members as to how the community might feel about an override. To reach a 2% tax cap override, the proposed reductions will not cripple any programs. However, the more we pare

back each year from the budget, the more difficult it will be to recoup the programs in the future. The Board does not wish to completely drain budgets as it will be more difficult each year to support programs. Superintendent Phelan added that he can massage the options for reductions a bit more until next week before the budget adoption.

Various Board members expressed support for piercing the tax cap at either 2.0% or 2.08% as staying within the tax cap of 1.26% would deeply affect/reduce programs.

Board members advocated for the Board of Education budgets to be reduced in order to avoid reductions in other areas and supported not reducing budgets that affect the equity of access for all students such as before and after school help.

4.2 Board Committee Reports (Finance, Communication)* Facilities Committee

Diane Lyons reported that the Facilities Committee reviewed the updated potential capital project list which is broken down into five priorities in order of urgency. The estimated cost for the various priorities range from \$5M to \$23M. Mr. Burnell is putting together an RFP as the District looks to hire an architect for pre-referendum work. The District is on track to put a bond referendum before the community for a vote in the late fall. Should the project be approved by the voters, work would likely start during the summer of 2018.

5.0 Comments

5.1 Good News

Superintendent Phelan accepted an award on behalf of Sandy Kane and the Rhinebeck Central School District staff from the United Way at their awards dinner last week. The award reflects the greatest amount of money contributed to the United Way by a school's staff in this year's campaign of all of the K-12 schools in the region.

Lisa Rosenthal gave a big shout out to the high school musical, which was fantastic and for which everyone did a wonderful job. The students did great and the staff members who assisted did wonderfully. This is what public education looks like.

Several Board members visited the Principle of Engineering class and were impressed with the critical thinking skills being displayed in the class.

Superintendent Phelan and Deirdre Burns attended the screening of "Most Likely to Succeed" sponsored by the Hyde Park CSD.

5.2 Old Business

None

5.3 Public Comment
None

5.4 Other
Superintendent Phelan and President Fleischhauer met to discuss the calendar for the superintendent evaluation.

6.0 Action Item

6.1 Motion by Burns, seconded by Rosenthal, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board voted to approve the following consent agenda items:

6.1.1 Motion upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools to approve the CSE and CPSE recommendations.*

**VOTE: 7 AYE (Burns, d’Albertis, Fleischhauer, Lyons, Rosenthal, Schulkind, Walker); 0 NAY; 0 ABSTAIN; 0 ABSENT
MOTION CARRIED**

6.2 Motion by Burns, seconded by Rosenthal, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board voted to accept grants from the Rhinebeck Science Foundation to fund the following: “Phillies Bridge Farm and Nature Writing,” submitted by Henry Frischknecht, in the total amount of \$1,200, as stipulated; and “Clearwater Tidelines Program,” submitted by Henry Frischknecht, in the total amount of \$2,430, as stipulated. (See attached.)*

**VOTE: 7 AYE (Burns, d’Albertis, Fleischhauer, Lyons, Rosenthal, Schulkind, Walker); 0 NAY; 0 ABSTAIN; 0 ABSENT
MOTION CARRIED**

Prior to the vote, the Board wished to thank all the teachers who participate in the RSF projects outlined above and the RSF for their continued generosity.

6.3 Motion by Burns, seconded by Rosenthal, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board voted to approve the appointment of additional Enrichment Program advisors for Chancellor Livingston Elementary School for the 2015-16 school year. (See attached.)*

**VOTE: 7 AYE (Burns, d’Albertis, Fleischhauer, Lyons, Rosenthal, Schulkind, Walker); 0 NAY; 0 ABSTAIN; 0 ABSENT
MOTION CARRIED**

7.0 Proposed Executive Session

There were no matters before the Board requiring an Executive Session.

8.0 Adjournment

Motion by Burns, seconded by Rosenthal, the Board voted to adjourn at 8:50 pm.

VOTE: 7 AYE (Burns, d'Albertis, Fleischhauer, Lyons, Rosenthal, Schulkind, Walker); 0 NAY; 0 ABSTAIN; 0 ABSENT

MOTION CARRIED

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Ann Bovee
District Clerk