

**MEMBERS PRESENT:**

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

**OTHERS PRESENT:**

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

**Hearing on the Proposed Budget for the 2014-2015 School Year**

President Burns called the Hearing to order at 7:05 pm.

Mr. Phelan reported that the present proposed budget has not changed since it was adopted by the Board on April 8, 2014. The Budget Newsletter has been delivered to the Post Office and the community should expect to receive the brochure tomorrow or the next day.

Mr. Phelan handed out a Three Part Budget Summary, as required, for the 2014-15 Proposed Budget. The budget is broken down into three parts: Administrative Budget, Program Budget, and Capital Budget. Mr. Burnell explained that the increases in the Administrative Budget are due to the hiring of a Personnel Assistant and various other operations in Central Services, hiring of a Computer Technician, an increase in curriculum development to accommodate increased summer curriculum writing, and employee benefits including increases to the retirement system and health insurance. The decreases in the Program Budget are due to teacher retirements and high-cost special education students that have aged out, as well as the elimination of the adult education program. Pupil Transportation will continue to be with Durham but the cost has decreased due to new rates and a change in the structure that produced a savings to the District. The Capital Budget, which includes the day to day operations of the buildings, has seen a slight decrease in the budget due to one retirement and the reduction of the debt service.

Mr. Phelan pointed out that the increase of the budget in the amount of \$567,616 represents a 1.87% increase over last year's budget which is just under the tax levy cap.

Mr. Phelan stated that one of the benefits this year is the considerable amount of retirements which helps us maintain and sometimes increase/enhance various school programs.

Mr. Burnell reported on the revenues. Interest earnings are not improving and other sources of income did not change. The District saw an increase of state aid of 3.4%. The Finance Committee did not feel that the District needed to add funds from the fund balance. Mr. Burnell stated that 85% of the District's revenues come from taxes and reminded the Board that homeowners will be receiving a refund from the State in the Fall for all Districts who stay at or below the tax cap.

Mr. Phelan mentioned that there are two seats available on the Board of Education. The District received one duly constituted petition by the deadline. Mr. Phelan explained that if not enough candidates run for the amount of available seats on the Board, the position can be filled by write in votes, by appointment, or by holding a second election. The District has received documentation that two individuals, David Tobias and Richard Walker, will be running as write-in candidates. Mr. Phelan explained that an individual does not have to be a declared write-in candidate in order to run as a write-in candidate.

President Burns provided an opportunity for community members to comment but none did. President Burns closed the Hearing at 7:28 pm.

## **Regular Meeting**

### **1.0 Call to Order**

President Burns called the meeting to order in the High School/Middle School Library at 7:33 pm.

### **2.0 Approval of Minutes**

**2.1 Motion** by Fleischhauer, seconded by Rosenthal, the Board voted to approve the minutes of the April 22, 2014 Regular Meeting\*

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

### **3.0 Public Comment**

None

### **4.0 Reports and Discussion**

#### **4.1 Curriculum Committee**

Mrs. Schulkind reported that the Curriculum Committee met with Brett King to discuss differentiated learning and balanced literacy. The goal for CLS is to use the workshop model, which is an integral part of the Balanced Literacy approach. As a result of initial concerns brought to the Board regarding the District's approach to literacy, Mr. King reported that regular meetings have been set up to keep a consistent line of communication open. Mr. Kreps and Mr. King have meet with the AUSSIE consultant to address the issue of consistency of approach and team building among the grade levels.

After a discussion on the topic of delayed start time, the Committee reviewed a number of obstacles that, in past discussions, seemed to make the change impractical, including increased transportation costs and a conflicts in sports schedules with other school districts. However, Mr. Phelan will report back to the Committee on a broader discussion being held on this topic amongst the County school superintendents.

The District is reviewing the details of a planned Phase 2 of the Extended Response Grant, funded previously by the Rhinebeck Science Foundation. Mr. King reported that this phase would include 16 teachers across most grade levels, special areas, and AIS.

The Committee briefly discussed the long-range plan for Foreign Language. With the technology integration plan in place, master schedule shifts at the middle school may allow for increasing foreign language capacity in the next two years.

#### **Audit Committee**

Mrs. Schulkind reported that the Audit Committee focused on the proposal from the Internal Auditor outlining the scope of work for the small focused audits for the Extra Classroom Fund and the Food Service.

Mr. Burnell will research ways that will provide multiple check points and allow for limited interruption in the Business Office. A checklist of procedures will be set up for the Treasurer to provide checks and balances and continuity during times of transition.

The Committee will be reviewing the Point of Sale system, specifically how the money being put on account is entered and drawn down to account for sales.

The District's External Auditor has filed our Federal report. The 2014 audit dates are set for August.

#### **Communication Committee**

Mrs. Schulkind reported that the Communication Committee recommends providing the community with more information about the number of seats up for election each year further in advance. Information will be provided during the vote as to how to include a write-in candidate on the ballot without endorsing any particular person for office.

Mr. Jensen reported that there doesn't seem to be anything thematic regarding his research as to the reasons why families leave the district. Next, Mr. Jensen will be researching why families leave and later return to the District.

The District continues to review our current website capabilities with an eye to create a more interactive, dynamic website. The Committee recommends a review and revision of the District's Mission, Vision and Core Value statements prior to a website re-launch. President Burns expressed concern of the delay of a new website launch pending the revised Mission, Vision and Core Value statements.

#### **Policy Committee**

Mrs. Lyons reported that the Policy Committee continues their review of District policies. Mr. Phelan and the administrators have been invited to give feedback on

Policy #9140.1 Staff Complains and Grievances. The Committee is working on a Meal Charging Policy with Mr. Burnell.

**CDEP Committee**

President Burns reported that the CDEP Committee discussed a presentation made by Mr. Steve Jensen relating to technology. A new Technology Plan will be brought to the Board this summer for approval after a review by the Technology Vertical Team. The Committee had a vibrant discussion regarding meeting the needs of students who are not academically high achieving. President Burns briefly shared that the Committee discussed the plan to restructure curriculum governance and how that would look like in relation to the Vertical Teams, Curriculum Governance Council, and how it interfaces with the school Planning Teams.

**5.0 Comments**

**5.1 Good News**

Ms. Rosenthal congratulated the Tennis team on an undefeated season. Mr. Fleischhauer commented on the great band concerts last week for the middle and high schools. President Burns shared the excitement of the Madagascar Project and the collaboration with Dr. Wright. The students were very excited and interacted well with the theater groups that were also involved. This project is a fantastic example of the blend of science, global awareness, theatre, technology and has a social justice component. Mr. Phelan added that it is the intention of the middle school to make this a part of the middle school culture every Fall. President Burns also commented on the fantastic student artwork in the library.

**5.2 Old Business**

Mr. Phelan shared that the Chamber Breakfast was a great opportunity to share the vision of the District and the kinds of things the District wants to do in terms of programs for students. Senator Gipson spoke of funding schools through an income tax rather than property tax. President Burns spoke on how the school and community can work together. There are many examples of local businesses supporting the schools and interacting with the students, but we are looking forward on how to sustain the relationship to keep the community strong.

**5.3 Public Comment**

None

**5.4 Other**

None

**6.0 Action Items**

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

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

**6.1.2 Motion** upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools to accept the resignation of Bryan Kallen as Boys Varsity Crew Coach, effective May 2, 2014.

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

**6.2 Motion** by Fleischhauer, seconded by Rosenthal, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board voted to approve the extension of the appointment of GERALYN ELY as a long-term substitute in the position of Instrumental Music Teacher at Chancellor Livingston Elementary School, at the pleasure of the Board, effective June 13, 2014 through June 20, 2014, at the salary of Step 3 MA+8 (\$61,015, prorated), in accordance with the 2013-14 RTA Salary Schedule. This appointment is to fill the vacancy created by the leave of absence granted to Stephanie Calli, Instrumental Music Teacher at Chancellor Livingston Elementary School.\*

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

**6.3 Motion** by Fleischhauer, seconded by Rosenthal, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board voted to approve an extension of the 1.0 FTE appointment of GIDEON MOOR as a long-term substitute in the position of Social Studies/ Business/Computer Teacher at Rhinebeck High School/Bulkeley Middle School, at the pleasure of the Board, such extension to be effective May 14, 2014 through June 24, 2014, at a salary of MA + 30 + 30, Step 2 (\$63,927, prorated and otherwise), in accordance with the RTA Salary Schedule for 2013-14.

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

**6.4 Motion** by Fleischhauer, seconded by Rosenthal, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board voted to approve the extension of the appointment of SUSAN VAN VLACK as a long-term substitute in the position of Computer Teacher at Bulkeley Middle School, at the pleasure of the Board, effective May 14, 2014 through June 19, 2014, to be reimbursed at her hourly rate.

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

**6.5 Motion** by Fleischhauer, seconded by Rosenthal, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board voted to approve the list of Poll Inspectors and Chairperson (Elyse Ettinger, Cindy Ping, Regina Recchia, Stacey Van den Thoon, Christine Livesey, Kathy Cassens, Laura Magley, Karin Murphy, Karen Kasius, Jane Hoffman, Debi Hazelwood, Deb Highley, Sue Waters, Linda Janow, Betty Mensch, Marlene Dahlem, Valerie Kilmer, Betsy Zubroff, and Susan

Gausepohl), with additions, and to give the District Clerk permission to fill additional positions as necessary.

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

**MOTION CARRIED**

- 6.6 Motion** by Fleischhauer, seconded by Rosenthal, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board voted to accept the donation of \$26,192.90 from the Friends of the Whale Watch to defray expenses relating to the 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Whale Watch field trips to Cape Cod for two classes (Palmatier/Blass and Stiverson) on June 4-6, 2014, and for two classes (West and Morrissey) on June 11-13, 2014.\*  
**VOTE: 7 AYE (Burns, Fleischhauer, Rosenthal, Kantaros, Lyons, Schulkind, d'Albertis); 0 NAY; 0 ABSTAIN; 0 ABSENT**  
**MOTION CARRIED**
- 6.7 Motion** by Fleischhauer, seconded by Rosenthal, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board voted to approve the list of additional emergency conditional substitute teachers and substitute non-instructional staff for the 2013-14 school year.\*  
**VOTE: 7 AYE (Burns, Fleischhauer, Rosenthal, Kantaros, Lyons, Schulkind, d'Albertis); 0 NAY; 0 ABSTAIN; 0 ABSENT**  
**MOTION CARRIED**
- 6.8 Motion** by Fleischhauer, seconded by Rosenthal, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools to approve an extension of a leave under the Family and Medical Leave Act for Donna Hahn, effective May 10, 2014 through June 26, 2014.  
**VOTE: 7 AYE (Burns, Fleischhauer, Rosenthal, Kantaros, Lyons, Schulkind, d'Albertis); 0 NAY; 0 ABSTAIN; 0 ABSENT**  
**MOTION CARRIED**
- 6.9 Motion** by Fleischhauer, seconded by Rosenthal, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board voted to approve the appointment of Kathren Greco as a long-term substitute in the position of Teaching Assistant at the Rhinebeck High School, effective April 22, 2014 through June 26, 2014, at the pleasure of the Board, at the salary of \$142.52 per diem (50% of Step 1 MA+6, \$57,006), in accordance with the 2013-14 RTA Salary Schedule. This appointment is to fill the vacancy created by the leave of absence granted to Donna Hahn, Teaching Assistant at the Rhinebeck High School.\*  
**VOTE: 7 AYE (Burns, Fleischhauer, Rosenthal, Kantaros, Lyons, Schulkind, d'Albertis); 0 NAY; 0 ABSTAIN; 0 ABSENT**  
**MOTION CARRIED**
- 6.10 Motion** by Fleischhauer, seconded by Rosenthal, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools to accept the donation of one (1) bell kit and snare drum from Taylor Russell, a senior at Rhinebeck High School.\*

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

- 6.11 Motion** by Fleischhauer, seconded by Rosenthal, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board voted to approve the Rhinebeck Crew Team overnight trip to the National Scholastic Rowing Championships in Princeton, NJ on May 23-24, 2014, at no additional unbudgeted cost to the school district.\*

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

- 6.12 Motion** by Fleischhauer, seconded by Rosenthal, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board voted to approve the following resolution:

**BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Board of Education hereby authorizes its President to execute a probationary term extension agreement along with the Superintendent of Schools regarding Employee #2789, as presented to the Board at this meeting. A copy of said agreement shall be incorporated by reference within the minutes of this meeting.

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

**7.0 Proposed Executive Session**

**Motion** by Fleischhauer, seconded by Rosenthal, the Board voted to enter Executive Session at 8:10 pm for the purpose of discussing the employment history of a particular person.

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

**Motion** by Fleischhauer, seconded by Rosenthal, the Board appointed Diane Lyons as Clerk Pro Tempore.

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

**(Joe Phelan left the meeting at 8:26 pm)**

**Motion** by Fleischhauer, seconded by Rosenthal, the Board voted to return to Regular Session at 9:36 pm.

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

RHINEBECK CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT  
BOARD OF EDUCATION  
May 13, 2014  
Hearing on the Proposed Budget for 2014-2015  
Regular Meeting

**8.0 Adjournment**

**Motion** by Fleischhauer, seconded by Rosenthal, the Board voted to adjourn at 9:37 pm.

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

**MOTION CARRIED**

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Ann Bovee  
District Clerk

Diane Lyons  
Clerk Pro Tempore