

Minutes of the Metamora CCSD #1 Board of Education Meeting of January 21, 2016

The January 21, 2016 meeting of the Metamora Community Consolidated School District #1 Board of Education was called to order at 7:00 p.m. in the Library at Metamora Grade School. Members present: Mr. Blundell, Mr. Edwards, Mr. Fisher, Mrs. Sikkema, Mr. Strawn, Mr. Ward, and Mr. Wernsman, Metamora Grade School Principal Cathy Costello, Metamora Grade School Dean of Students Tim Damery, and Marty Payne. There were a number of visitors at the meeting as well. The "Visitor Sign In" sheet has been included with the minutes.

Consent Agenda

Motion was by Mr. Edwards, seconded by Mr. Blundell, to approve the consent agenda. All present voted yea on a roll call vote.

Reports from the Public

No reports were given

Public Hearing for the Purpose of Issuing Working Cash Bonds

Motion by Mrs. Sikkema at 7:06 p.m., seconded by Mr. Edwards for the purpose of a public hearing regarding the issuing of working cash bonds. All present voted yea on a roll call vote.

Several members of the audience asked questions regarding working cash bonds. The discussion included the process for issuing bonds, as well as the current debt that the district has and how, if the bonds were to be issued, the debt would be structured. The discussion included the function of working cash within the budget process as well. Additional discussion included the current fund balances in the Educational Fund and Working Cash Fund, as well as the Board's perspective on a tax referendum.

Motion by Mr. Edwards, at 7:32 p.m., seconded by Mrs. Sikkema, to close the public hearing and return to open session. All present voted yea on a roll call vote.

Action Items

A. Review of the Past Six Month's Executive Session Minutes and the Approval of Public Access to, Selected by the Board of Education, the Respective Minutes.

Motion by Mr. Blundell, seconded by Mr. Strawn, to approve the following executive session minutes for public access: September 17, 2015, October 15, 2015, November 10, 2015, November 21, 2015, and December 9, 2015. All present voted yea on a roll call vote.

B. Discussion and Approval of a Contract Renewal with Gorenz and Associates as the District's Certified Public Accountants

Motion by Mr. Wernsman, seconded by Mrs. Sikkema, to approve the contract renewal. Those members voting Yea: Wernsman, Blundell, Sikkema, Strawn, Ward, and Fisher. Those members voting nay: Edwards. Motion carried.

C. Discussion and Approval of the 2015-2016 Tenured Faculty and Non-Certified Seniority Lists

Motion by Mr. Ward, seconded by Mr. Blundell, to approve the respective lists as presented. All present voted yea on a roll call vote.

Discussion Items

A. 2016-2016 Public School Calendar

Mr. Payne presented two options for next year's calendar. One version followed the Metamora Township High School version, and the other followed the calendar with input from the MGS staff. The discussion included starting dates for next year, Christmas vacation for next year, and the waving of Veterans' Day so that students would be in attendance, with the recognition of Veterans. Mr. Payne was directed to bring two versions of the calendar to the February Board meeting for the selection of a final calendar.

B. Board of Education Retreat

Motion by Mr. Edwards, seconded by Mrs. Sikkema, to approve Saturday, February 20 2016, as the date for the Board of Education Retreat. All present voted yea on a voice vote.

C. Request from the "Citizens for MTHS" to place an article in the MGS newsletter and to set up informational booths at various MGS events regarding the Metamora Township High School Referendum

Motion by Mr. Edwards, seconded by Wernsman, to allow the request from the "Citizens for MTHS" pending approval from legal counsel.

Those members voting aye: Edwards, Wernsman, Ward. Those members voting nay: Blundell, Sikkema, Strawn, and Fisher. The motion failed. The BOE will allow the posting of the date, time, and location of a public meeting regarding the MTHS referendum.

Information Items

A. Committee Reports

1. Building Committee
2. Education Committee
3. Executive Committee
4. Finance Committee
5. Negotiations Committees
6. Policy Committee
7. Transportation Committee
8. Alternative Revenue Committee

Action was not required for this agenda item

B. Administrative Reports

Action was not required for this agenda item

Acknowledgement of Cards and Letters

Action was not required for this agenda item

Executive Session for the Purpose of Appointment, Compensation, Discipline, Dismissal, or Performance of Employees, and for the Purpose of Collective Negotiation Matters between the Public Body and its Employees

Motion by Mrs. Sikkema (at 9:05 p.m.), seconded by Mr. Blundell, to enter into Executive Session. All present voted yea on a roll call vote.

Motion by Mr. Blundell (at 9:58 p.m.), seconded by Mrs. Sikkema to adjourn the Executive Session meeting and return to Open Session. All present voted yea on a roll call vote.

Action Taken after Executive Session

Motion by Mr. Edwards, seconded by Mr. Blundell to approve a 2% increase for non-certified employees, effective January 1, 2016, with the compensation to be effective from that point forward. All present voted yea on a roll call vote.

Adjournment

Motion by Mr. Edwards, (at 10:00 p.m.), seconded by Mrs. Sikkema to adjourn the December 9, 2015 meeting of the Board of Education. All present voted yea on a voice vote.

Bob Fisher
President

Jeff Wernsman
Secretary