

The Mission of the Litchfield Schools, in partnership with parents and the Litchfield community, is to provide and develop a complete education program of the highest quality that enables students to develop intellectually, socially, physically, emotionally and be capable of adapting to a changing world and its technology. The School Board recognizes this mission statement as its guiding principle. (1994)

LITCHFIELD SCHOOL BOARD

APPROVED MINUTES

November 15, 2006

PUBLIC SESSION

(approved as written 12-6-06)

Present:

Mrs. Cindy Couture, Chair
Mrs. Dot Beauregard, Vice Chair
Mr. Ralph Boehm, Board Member
Mr. Dennis Miller, Board Member
Mrs. Pat Jewett, Board Member
Ms. Catherine Hamblett, Superintendent
Mr. Stephen Martin, Business Administrator
Mrs. Michele E. Flynn, School Board Secretary

1) Public Session – Call to Order - Pledge of Allegiance

Mrs. Couture called the meeting to order at 6:40 p.m.

2) Review and Revision of Agenda

Mrs. Couture introduced Jay Vance, Student Representative from CHS and welcomed him to the meeting.

Mr. Lecklider introduced Peter Lubelczyk, Assistant Principal of LMS to the Board. He gave a brief history of Mr. Lubelczyk's background and thanked the community and staff for making him feel welcome. Mr. Lubelczyk commented that he was very impressed with the students and staff at LMS and thanked the Board for welcoming him.

3) Recommended Action

a) Business Affairs

1) Draft School Board Minutes:

a) Public Minutes of November 8, 2006 (Attachment #1)

b) Public Minutes of November 14, 2006 (Attachment #2)

The minutes were deferred to the December 6th meeting.

2) GMS Swale Discussion

Mr. Martin summarized the non-televised swale discussions from the previous Board meetings for the viewing public. The minutes of the previous meetings have more detailed information. Briefly, \$15,000 has been encumbered to clean out Phase I of the swale at GMS. Phase I includes the part of the swale beginning at Route 3A traveling east to the baseball diamond and the Anna Lane section. Phase II of the swale is the section in back of the ball fields that connects the other two pieces and has never been cleaned. In order to clean the swale the District needs a permit from the State. Mr. Martin received a quote from Vollmer Associates for development of the permit request, which includes the cost for the permit and the engineering survey of the swale. The quote includes both Phases at a cost of \$8800.00.

The Board discussed the feasibility of digging the swale deeper to increase the surface water flow that may be redirected. Mr. Martin reported that Vollmer questioned the advisability of reconstructing the swale, commenting that at best the swale might be reduced another foot as any deeper would bring it closer to ground water. The estimate to engineer the redesign of the swale is \$15,000 and the rough estimate of the reconstruction of the swale would be a minimum of \$70,000 to \$80,000, which will only redirect surface water and will not solve the ground water problem. Mr. Martin questioned the benefit of the expense noting that Vollmer cannot provide a firm estimate until after the engineering survey. He added that the State required permit to redesign the swale is a whole different process and will cost much more than the permit to clean both phases of swale.

Mr. Martin commented that the next step after completing the swale project is a dewatering design of the GMS site. Vollmer has advised that any solution to dewater the site would have to be mechanical. Mr. Martin indicated that Vollmer can perform the engineering work for the dewatering at the same time as the swale. The Board instructed Mr. Martin to come back with a cost for the engineering work for the dewatering design.

Mr. Martin informed the Board that the earliest Vollmer can complete the engineering survey of the swale is early December. The cost estimate will follow, but it will not be in time for the posting of warrant articles. He added that \$15,000 should cover all the engineering of redesigning the swale.

Mrs. Beauregard made a motion to authorize Mr. Martin to use the encumbered \$15,000 in funds for engineering fees for the GMS swale. Also, to place the cleaning out and redesigning of the swale on a warrant article. Mr. Miller seconded. The motion carried 5-0-0.

3) Manifest

The manifest was circulated and signed by the Board.

4) **Community Input**

There was no community input.

5) **Old Business**

1) Title I Grant

Ms. Hamblett informed the Board that the Title I grant has been submitted and the program will target at-risk students at the high school and those who transition from eighth grade to high school. The staffing for the program will consist of one teacher to assist in core classes during and study halls during the school day. She added that the District will have Title V funds to hire a Reading Specialist/Teacher at CHS to diagnose students' reading difficulties and a writing teacher.

Mr. Miller made a motion to create the core teacher position for the Title I program, conditional of the approval of the grant. Mr. Boehm seconded. The motion carried 5-0-0.

6) **Budget Work Session**

Mr. Martin distributed a list of School Board reductions and reported that the status of budget request is down to 7.99% increase. The Board re-reviewed New and Expanded positions making the following consensus:

The consensus of the Board was to remove the Summer Technology Intern and the Summer Grounds Intern, encouraging sophomore and senior projects in both areas. The Board agreed to all other recommendations previously submitted.

7) **FY2008 Warrant Articles Discussion**

Mrs. Couture suggested a warrant article for the construction of an Emergency Access Road at LMS. Mrs. Beauregard commented that before costing it out, we should meet with the Fire and Police Departments to understand what is required. Mr. Martin will meet with the Fire and Police Chiefs before getting a cost estimate from the architect.

Mrs. Beauregard suggested a warrant article for the replacement of the GMS 1930's building roof estimated at \$21,000.00.

Ms. Hamblett suggested a warrant article for an Acoustic Shell for CHS estimated at \$11,491.00.

Mrs. Jewett suggested a warrant article for \$800,000.00 for the renovation of a specific area of GMS. Mrs. Couture suggested taking a smaller amount and adding to the capital reserve for repairs for GMS. Mrs. Beauregard indicated that this issue be discussed with the Building Committee before placing anything on the ballot.

8) **Community Input**

There was no community input.

9) Correspondence

There was no correspondence.

10) Non-Public Session: RSA 91-A:3II (a-c)

[Minutes of Non-Public Session are written under separate cover.]

Mr. Miller made a motion to go into non-public session at 9:10 p.m. under RSA 91-A:3II(a) The dismissal, promotion or compensation of any public employee or the disciplining of such employee, or the investigation of any charges against him, unless the employee affected (1) has a right to a meeting and (2) requests that the meeting be open, in which case the request shall be granted. (b) The hiring of any person as a public employee. (c) Matters, which, if discussed in public, would likely affect adversely the reputation of any person, other than a member of the body or agency itself, unless such person requests an open meeting. Mr. Boehm seconded. The motion carried by role call vote: Mrs. Couture, yes; Mr. Boehm, yes; Mrs. Beauregard, yes; Mr. Miller, yes; Mrs. Jewett, yes.

11) Return to Public Session

Mr. Miller made a motion to return to public session at 9:42 p.m. Mr. Boehm seconded. The motion carried by role call vote: Mrs. Couture, yes; Mr. Boehm, yes; Mrs. Beauregard, yes; Mr. Miller, yes; Mrs. Jewett, yes.

Mr. Boehm made a motion to seal the Staff Welfare of the non-public minutes until November 15, 2007. Mr. Miller seconded. The motion carried 5-0-0.

12) Adjourn

Mr. Miller made a motion to adjourn at 9:44 p.m. Mr. Boehm seconded. The motion carried 5-0-0.

16) Upcoming Meetings

>Litchfield School Board: December 6, 13, 20, 2006 - CHS Media Room - 6:30 PM

Respectfully submitted,

Michele E. Flynn
School Board Secretary