

Approve 05/13/2014.

5.1

NEWPORT SCHOOL COMMITTEE
Special Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, April 23, 2014, 11:45 a.m.

MINUTES

1.0 OPENING ITEMS.

1.1 Call to Order. Chairperson Charles P. Shoemaker, M.D., called the special meeting of the Newport School Committee to order at 11:45 a.m., at the Newport Public Schools' Administration Center, in room 924.

1.2 Roll Call. Attendance was as follows: **School Committee Members:** Chairperson Charles P. Shoemaker, M.D., Vice Chairperson Jo Eva Gaines, Rebecca Bolan, Sandra J. Flowers, Ph.D., Robert J. Leary, Thomas S. Phelan, and Robert B. Power, Ed.D.; and **School Department:** Superintendent of Schools Colleen B. Jermain and Director of Administrative Services Joan Tracey.

Under public input, city councilors Justin McLaughlin and Jeanne Marie Napolitano were present.

1.3 Pledge of Allegiance. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

2.0 DISCUSSION ITEMS.

2.1 Budget and Maintenance of Effort. Rhode Island Department of Education's (RIDE) Deputy Commissioner and Attorney David V. Abbott and Finance Director Mark Dunham answered questions from committee members and city councilors regarding maintenance of effort (\$22.56 million—with no increase from the city over the past eight years) and its effect on appropriating authority (city) when additional funding is provided to reduce a current fiscal year school budget deficit. Superintendent Jermain reiterated that, by state law, the school department could not spend into its deficit but needed to balance its budget in the current fiscal year ending, June 30, 2014. Should the city appropriate additional funds, Attorney Abbott stated those monies must be carried forward into the next fiscal year if there is not a reduction in enrollment. Additional options available to reduce the projected school budget deficit of \$754,932 were reviewed. Attorney Abbott did indicate there were some one-time expenses the city could pay for the school department without increasing the city's obligation to the schools (as attached). Public input was

received from both councilors McLaughlin and Napolitano, indicating their willingness to have the city absorb the \$225,125 in one-time school costs to reduce the budget gap.

3.0 **EXECUTIVE SESSION.** No Executive Session was held.

4.0 **ADJOURNMENT.**

At 1:13 p.m., Dr. Flowers made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Dr. Power seconded the motion, which carried unanimously (7-0).

Charles P. Shoemaker, M.D.
Chairperson

Colleen B. Jermain
Clerk

CO ACCT-UNIT	Budget	ACCOISUB-A	ACTUAL-DTL	ENCUMB-I	COMMIT-	TOTAL-DTL	BUDGET-DTL	REMAIN-DTL	Account Description
Identified for first meeting with City Manager									
Custodians (Sal & benefits)	51000		44,335.33	-	-	44,335.33	-	(44,335.33)	A
Rubbish Disposal Services	54201		2,038.98	-	-	2,038.98	-	(2,038.98)	A Rubbish Disposal Services
Rodent & Pest Control	54205		195.00	-	-	195.00	-	(195.00)	A Rodent & Pest Control
Maintenance & Repair - Bldg	54312		959.50	420.00	-	1,379.50	-	(1,379.50)	A Maintenance & Repair - Buildings And Grounds
Water/Sewage	54402		25,123.27	-	211.50	25,334.77	-	(25,334.77)	A Water/Sewage
Energy Management Services	54404		-	23,251.00	-	23,251.00	23,251.00	-	B Energy Management Services
Alarm & Fire Safety Services	54902		400.00	400.00	-	800.00	-	(800.00)	A Alarm & Fire Safety Services
General Supplies	56101		-	294.06	257.81	551.87	-	(551.87)	A General Supplies
Natural Gas	56201		1,023.13	-	-	1,023.13	-	(1,023.13)	A Natural Gas
Fuel Oil	56209		10,196.35	-	-	10,196.35	-	(10,196.35)	A Fuel Oil
Electricity	56215		11,258.35	-	-	11,258.35	-	(11,258.35)	A Electricity
Custodial Supplies	56219		41.92	-	-	41.92	-	(41.92)	A Custodial Supplies
Redemption of Princ Non Debt Svc	58315		98,118.18	-	-	98,118.18	98,118.18	-	C Redemption of Princ Non Debt Svc
Interest Non debt service	58325		26,852.37	-	-	26,852.37	26,852.37	-	C Interest Non debt service
			220,542.38	24,365.06	469.31	245,376.75	148,221.55	(97,155.20)	

Old Balances should be removed but no one knows how!

(294.06) (257.81)

Total identified at prior meeting 220,542.38 24,071.00 211.50 245,376.75 148,221.55 (97,155.20)

Additional items to consider:

Rubbish Disposal Services	54201		11,426.28	16,396.72		27,823.00	27,823.00	-	D
Water/Sewage	54402		10,472.60	66,130.02	17,222.38	93,825.00	93,825.00	-	E
Gasoline	56202		3,792.11	7,207.89		11,000.00	11,000.00	-	E
Diesel	56203		37,231.06	87,768.94		125,000.00	125,000.00	-	E

Potentially paid by the City 503,024.75 405,869.55
 Budget Deficit 401,252.00 401,252.00
 Difference 101,772.75 4,617.55

- A Custodial and other Building expenses for the 4 closed elementary schools incurred after 6/30/13 • 97,155 (three schools transferred to the City in FY 2013, Triplett retained)
- B Energy Management Services related to RHS boiler replacement to convert to natural gas
- C Capital Lease charges on RHS boiler replacement to convert to natural gas • 124 970.55
- D Cost incurred by all schools under a city negotiated contract with an outside vendor
- E Cost incurred by NPS, payable to a City Department

• City may absorb