

SPECIAL JOINT MEETING NS TOWN COUNCIL/SCHOOL COMM.

FEBRUARY 25, 2010

KENDALL-DEAN SCHOOL AUDITORIUM

5:30 P.M.

The meeting began at 6:07 P.M. The prayer and the pledge to the flag were waived. Council members present were Dr. Benoit, Mr. Biron and Mr. Leclerc. School Committee members present were Mrs. Flaherty, Mrs. Johannis, Mr. Vadenais and Mr. Lafleur. Also in attendance were Town Administrator Hamilton, Town Solicitor Nadeau and Superintendent of Schools Lindberg.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

MOTION by Mr. Biron, seconded by Dr. Benoit, and voted unanimously on an aye vote to enter into executive session at 6:09 P.M. pursuant to RIGL 42-46-5(A)(2) Sessions pertaining to collective bargaining or litigation to discuss the North Smithfield Teachers Association Contract Negotiations, the North Smithfield Association of Support Staff Personnel Contract Negotiations, Municipal Employees – RI Council 94 Local 937 Contract Negotiations and the International Brotherhood of Police Officers Local 410 Contract Negotiations. It was also voted to enter into executive session pursuant to RIGL 42-46-5(A)(5) Any discussions or considerations related to the acquisition or lease of real property for public purposes, or of the disposition of publicly held property wherein advanced public information would be detrimental to the interest of the public to discuss a potential lease.

(School Committee Member Christine Bonas arrived at 6:13 P.M.)

(Mr. Zwolenski arrived at 6:24 P.M.)

MOTION by Mr. Biron, seconded by Dr. Benoit, and voted unanimously on an aye vote to come out of executive session at 7:19 P.M. and to seal the minutes. No motions were made and no votes were taken.

February 25, 2010

FISCAL YEAR 2010 AND 2011 OPERATING/CAPITAL BUDGETS

Mrs. Hamilton has received the third quarter excise tax. She does not expect to receive the fourth quarter which would result in an approximate \$500,000 shortfall to the town.

Mr. Lindberg commented that the school department has made numerous cuts including teaching positions, an assistant superintendent, janitorial staff, etc.

(Mr. Lovett arrived at 7:25 P.M.)

There was discussion about the state imposed bus transportation for a special education child that has cost the town three times more than what the town could have contracted for.

The two boards discussed a school funding formula whereby the money would follow the child.

There was discussion about use of the surplus, bond ratings, spending caps and closing Halliwell School.

HALLIWELL SCHOOL BUILDING TASK FORCE

The committee is awaiting more information from bond counsel Dan Waugh. There are six options that they would like to have reviewed by Gilbane/RGB. A short-term solution needs to be found but there is no room at the other schools to move the kids from Halliwell.

PERFORMANCE-BASED CONTRACTING

The savings are still there; it is a matter of when the plan will be implemented. There is a meeting scheduled for next Thursday.

BLOCK SCHEDULING

The question was asked if there was any correlation between the school scheduling format and the NECAP scores.

NECAP

When asked about the improved NECAP scores, Mr. Lindberg commented that over the last few years, the emphasis has been on language arts, reading and math.

PORTFOLIO-BASED DIPLOMA SYSTEM

This is a program that was first implemented last year. During their high school years, students keep a portfolio on themselves which they present to a panel in their senior year.

OWNERSHIP OF SCHOOL PROPERTY

Dr. Benoit felt he had this question answered earlier in the evening. School property is owned by the town and the operations are in control of the school committee.

MOTION by Mr. Zwolenski, seconded by Mr. Leclerc, and voted to adjourn at 9:07 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Debra A. Todd, Town Clerk

SPECIAL MEETING NORTH SMITHFIELD TOWN COUNCIL

FEBRUARY 25, 2010

KENDALL-DEAN SCHOOL AUDITORIUM 7:00 P.M. OR

IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING

JOINT MEETING

The meeting was called to order at 9:08 P.M. The prayer and the pledge to the flag were waived. Council members present were Dr. Benoit, Mr. Biron, Mr. Leclerc, Mr. Zwolenski and Mr. Lovett. Also in attendance were Town Administrator Hamilton and Town Solicitor

Nadeau.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

MOTION by Mr. Leclerc, seconded by Mr. Biron, and voted unanimously on an aye vote to enter into executive session at 9:09 P.M. pursuant to RIGL 42-46-5(A)(2) Sessions pertaining to collective bargaining or litigation to discuss Narragansett Improvement vs. the Town of North Smithfield.

February 25, 2010

Dr. Benoit recused himself from executive session.

MOTION by Mr. Leclerc, seconded by Mr. Biron and Mr. Zwolenski, and voted unanimously on an aye vote to come out of executive session at 9:34 P.M. and to seal the minutes. No motions were made and no votes were taken.

MOTION by Mr. Leclerc, seconded by Mr. Biron, and voted unanimously on an aye vote to adjourn at 9:34 P.M.

(The tape recorder did not pick up this meeting)

Respectfully submitted,

Debra A. Todd, Town Clerk