

Mr. Hipp said that they are in phase 1 and will be moving into phase 2, which is the end of the schematic design. That is when we need to make up our minds on grass or turf.

6.2 School Business Administrator Interview

Mr. Hipp informed the audience that the Preliminary Screening Subcommittee, made up of Dr. Tyrell, Mr. Hipp, Ms. Peters, Mr. Michael Devine (Hull High School Principal), Ms. Diane Saniuk (Finance Coordinator, and Ms. Ollerhead, reviewed all applications and interviewed one candidate, Mr. David DeGennaro. After the interview with Mr. Degennaro the Screening Committee decided to bring him forward to the entire School Committee. He explained that the Screening Committee used set interview questions and that is what will happen now in this public interview. Mr. DeGennaro first told the Committee about his background. He stated that he has been the Business Manager in the Cohasset Public Schools for 10 years and was at Acushnet Public Schools before that. He received his undergraduate and Master's degrees from the University of Massachusetts. He then was asked, and answered, the same series of questions he was asked in Executive Session.

Committee members discussed the candidate after the interview and Ms. Judith Kuehn said that she and Dr. Tyrell did the reference checks and everyone they spoke to spoke highly of Mr. DeGennaro and said they would work with him again.

Motion: Stephanie Peters

Second: Kelley Huxtable

Move to hire Mr. David DeGennaro as School Business Administrator pending successful negotiations.

Vote: 5-0-0

7.0 Superintendent's Business Items

7.1 School Breakfast and Lunch Price Increase

Mr. Gillis informed the Committee that the food program in the district is struggling to self fund, although the program is supposed to self fund, which means that the school's general fund needs to pick up the difference. Mr. Gillis' proposal is to increase the lunch and breakfast prices in all schools by \$0.25. His rationale for doing this is as follows:

- The food service program is struggling to self fund and when the program closes the fiscal year with a negative balance the general fund school budget must make up the negative balance.
- The last price increase was implemented in September, 2011.
- The Massachusetts minimum wage increased from \$9.00 per hour to \$10.00 per hour on January 1, 2016 and will increase to \$11.00 per hour on January 1, 2017, which will impact the labor costs with the food service program.
- The new price is in the range of public school lunches south of Boston. Prices currently range between \$2.50 in Abington to \$3.50 in Hingham. Prices range because most school systems are trying to self fund, but not have significant surplus either.

School Committee members asked questions and discussed the issue of participation going down and labor and health insurance going up. Even though enrollment is going down Chartwell's still needs employees. They talked about making an effort to try to get more students to buy lunch. Mr. Gillis reminded people watching the meeting at home that they can apply for free and reduced lunch at any time during the school year and that there is no negative stigma because everyone swipes the same type of card. Mr. Hipp brought up the

question of how having the elementary school be a “nut free” school could be negatively impacting the lunch programs financially. The Committee discussed the pros and cons of continuing to be nut free.

Motion: David Twombly

Second: Stephanie Peters

Move to increase breakfast and lunch prices by \$0.25 per meal beginning January 19, 2016.

Vote: 5-0-0

7.2 FT17 Budget Discussion

Dr. Tyrell informed the Committee that since the last meeting the only change to the budget is the circuit breaker offset, which will be \$18,332 less than we projected in the December 14, 2015 Preliminary Administrators Budget for FY17. The new budget request is \$14,978,134, which is 3.79%. Mr. Hipp told the Committee and the community that the budget will be on the agenda for every meeting moving forward until Town Meeting.

8.0 School Committee Policy Issues

None

9.0 Old Business Items

9.1 Sub-committees

- The School Committee Goals subcommittee met and will draft new goals

9.2 Acceptance of Donations

Motion: David Twombly

Second: Stephanie Peters

Move to accept the following donations as presented:

- \$500 from Audrey Connor Foundation to Jacobs School Music Program
- \$500 from Hull Boosters Club to HHS Harvard Mock Trial
- \$1,000 from Hull Boosters Club to HHS Art Mural – Waves of Change
- \$575 from Pat Henderson (Hockey Alum) to HHS athletics program

Vote: 5-0-0

10.0 New Business

None

11.0 Approval of Warrants

Motion: Stephanie Peters

Second: David Twombly

Moved to approve the following warrants as presented:

Warrant 18S, 656 and 657

Vote: 3-0-2 Eric Hipp and Kelley Huxtable abstained

12.0 Correspondence to and Comments from School Committee Members

- Happy New Year to all
- Jacobs Express was a special day and there were lots of volunteers including high school students.
- HHS Winter Concert was a success Mr. Devine and several alumni played with the band
- MMS Band Concert and Chorus were great

13.0 Executive Session

14.0 Adjournment

Motion: Stephanie Peters

Second: David Twombly

Motion to go into Executive Session at 8:30 p.m. for the purpose of negotiation strategy with the HTA (Teachers) and non union personnel (School Business Administrator). An open meeting may have a detrimental effect. The Committee is not expected to reconvene in Open Session.

Roll Call Vote: Ayes: David Twombly, Stephanie Peters, Eric Hipp, Marianne Harte and Kelley Huxtable.

These Minutes of a meeting of the Hull School Committee were approved and adopted by the Committee on March 7, 2016.

David Twombly, Secretary
Hull School Committee