

Millbury School Committee Meeting
REGULAR SESSION
Minutes

MILLBURY
TOWN CLERK
12 MAY -3 AM 8:55
MILLBURY MASS

Date: March 14, 2012

Present: Mrs. Vigneau, Chairperson, Mr. Corey, Vice Chairperson, Mr. Clawson, Mrs. Nietupski, Mr. Plante, Mrs. Hitchcock, Superintendent of Schools, Mr. Bedard, Business Manager

Time: 7:00 p.m.

Location: Raymond E. Shaw Elementary School Media Center

Principal Jennifer Bellville provided a tour of the Raymond E. Shaw School to the school committee prior to the start of the Regular Session.

1. Approval of the Regular Session Minutes of 2/15/2012

Mrs. Vigneau requested a motion to change wording to "Second and Final Reading of the Staff Technology Use Policy Amendments – Vote Required" under Agenda item 4. Old Business, section b.

Mrs. Vigneau requested a motion to approve the Regular Session Minutes of February 15, 2012 with referenced change. Mr. Corey made a motion to accept seconded by Mr. Clawson. All in favor 4-0 (*Mr. Plante abstained from the vote*)

2. Report of the Administration

a. Request by Mr. Ron Marlborough for Use of Windle Field by the Lions' Club

Mrs. Hitchcock welcomed Mr. Ron Marlborough to speak to the committee. Mr. Marlborough requested exclusive use of Windle Field and the club house for the Lions' Club annual town fair. The dates requested were from June 24 to July 11, 2012. The fair will be open to the public beginning on June 29, 2012. The July 4 carnival and fireworks will be held on July 3 and July 4.

Mrs. Vigneau voiced concern over the ruts left in the field last year after the carnival was held due to the spring weather conditions. She requested Mr. Marlborough meet with Mr. Bedard and/or Mr. Hanratty to do a walk through this year. Mr. Bedard agreed and Mr. Marlborough concurred. Mr. Marlborough will notify Mr. Bedard of the date when the equipment will be set up.

Mrs. Vigneau requested a motion to approve the use of Windle Field by the Lions' Club. Mr. Plante made a motion to accept seconded by Mrs. Nietupski. All in favor (5-0).

b. Report on the Destination Imagination Tournament

Mrs. Hitchcock reported on the success of the Destination Imagination Tournament held on March 3, 2012. Approximately 1500 people attended including 78 teams of students representing the elementary, middle and high school levels. Two of Millbury's high school teams advanced to the next level: the Technical Challenge Team managed by Mary Wright and the Theatrical Challenge Team managed by Kelly Sauriol. The state tournament will be held on March 31st at WPI. A team from Elmwood also participated.

Vicki Smith organized the event this year. Mrs. Hitchcock acknowledged the excellent job by Millbury's custodial staff during the event. Several vendors sold goodies for their fundraisers. Mrs. Hitchcock also complimented the high school lunch staff under the direction of Margie Houde for their contributions of time and food for the event.

c. Response to Senator Moore Regarding Homeless Transportation Costs

Mrs. Hitchcock referred to her email response to Senator Moore's letter citing the unfunded transportation costs for homeless students during previous years:

2009 - \$22,000

2010 - \$18,100

2011 - \$19,500

2012 - \$18,000 to date

A number of Senators and Representatives signed the letter from Senator Moore directed to Governor Deval Patrick, Therese Murray and Robert DeLeo on the recommendation for mandate funding of 11.3 million dollars to cover the transportation of certain homeless students. Mr. Bedard informed the committee that the amounts represent only half of the costs incurred under the McKinney Vento law. Other districts are paying the same costs to transport homeless students shared between Millbury and their district.

Mrs. Hitchcock referenced her email to the school committee members that Student Government Day is set for Friday, April 27, 2012. The same format will be followed as in past years. Jeff Lyon is in the process of organizing the event with Millbury Town Hall. Mrs. Vigneau requested any school committee member interested in participating to let her know. Mrs. Hitchcock noted that lunch will be provided at the Senior Center and will provide times once they are made available.

3. Budget

a. Approval of the 2012-2013 School Operating Budget – Vote Required

Mr. Bedard included a draft of the FY 2013 budget of \$18,092,861 and recommended a formal vote for approval.

Mrs. Vigneau requested a motion to approve the FY 2013 School Operating Budget in the amount of \$18,092,861. Mr. Plante made a motion to approve seconded by Mrs. Nietupski. All in favor (5-0).

Mrs. Hitchcock informed the committee on updated information that Mr. Bedard compiled on the funding required for FY2012 unemployment costs. The original budget allotted \$47,475 and expenditures through October were at \$54,450.50. At that point, the claims included 7 claimants. Expenditures through February 2012 are at \$89,416.30. The

amount of claims has dropped to 3 because of formal retirements or acquiring jobs. The projection through the remainder of year totals \$104,376.30. This amount reflects \$56,901.30 over the original budget. Mrs. Hitchcock noted help with these costs was offered through town hall meetings with both Mr. Spain and Mr. Turbitt. Mrs. Hitchcock requested a formal vote be taken to help with the \$56,901.30 shortfall. An unanticipated out of district placement cost for a junior high school student along with the admission of a PreK student requiring a one-to-one aide have made it necessary to pursue this request of funds.

Mr. Corey questioned if this type of request can be prevented in the future? He noted that the projected funding seemed severely underestimated. Mrs. Hitchcock noted two things occurred to impact this funding shortage: The original money was budgeted long before the \$150,000 in layoffs occurred. She also noted the inability to pay more prepays in Special Education. The committee wanted no more than \$100,000 in prepays.

Mr. Bedard stated that it is very difficult to calculate unemployment costs based on the variables involved. Mr. Corey concurred that these are hard economic times. Mr. Bedard noted that the three remaining claimants are not full time equivalents. Mr. Corey inquired if the final fuel and electric costs were available. Mr. Bedard said they are not available at this time.

Mrs. Vigneau asked if a certain timeframe is needed to ask for assistance from the town. Mrs. Hitchcock referred to previous conversations with the town manager for this fiscal year and their ability to help. She requested a formal vote in order to proceed with the request. She stated that only needed funds will be used and if not needed they will be returned.

Mrs. Vigneau requested a motion to request \$57,000 to settle unemployment claims for FY 2012. Mrs. Nietupski made a motion seconded by Mr. Corey. All in favor (5-0).

b. Roselli and Clark's FY2013 DESE End-of-the-Year Audit Report

Mr. Bedard referred to his memo and brochure provided in the packet. This information is the last of the audits from FY 2011. The required DESE school financial report audit found no material weaknesses.

c. Maintenance Report

Mr. Bedard referred to his memo on Maintenance Updates outlining the final phase of the Shaw ADA door replacements, elevator and stage lift repairs, installation of No Smoking signs, copy of letter to Office of the Sheriff for assistance from the House of Correction inmates to help clean and improve Windle Field, and information on the new kitchen oven being installed at Elmwood Street School.

4. Old Business

Mrs. Vigneau informed the committee of Jessica Sharon's presentation being held at the Millbury High School auditorium on Thursday, March 15th. Tables will be set up for volunteers to help Ms. Sharon rejuvenate Windle Field as her project as a member of the Blackstone Valley Youth Leadership Academy.

5. New Business

Mrs. Hitchcock will provide a draft of the 2012-13 school calendar for the next meeting. Mrs. Vigneau informed committee members of upcoming nominations for MASC, "Day on the Hill" on March 27, 2012, and Trivia Night for Scholars being held on March 24, 2012 at the Millbury Junior Senior High School. Members were asked to contact Mrs. Vigneau if interested in attending any of the events.

6. Executive Session (if needed)

At 7:35 pm, Mrs. Vigneau announced that "In accordance with Chapter 30A, Section 21 (a) (1) of the MGL, the Millbury School Committee will vote to move into Executive Session for the purpose of discussing litigation. Mr. Plante – Yes, Mr. Corey – Yes, Mrs. Vigneau – Yes, Mr. Clawson – Yes, Mrs. Nietupski – Yes (All in favor 5-0)

7. Next Meeting	March 28, 2012	MHS (cancelled)
	April 11, 2012	MHS

Respectfully submitted,

Sandra Femino
Executive Assistant to the Superintendent

Approved:

Arthur M. Corey

Janet B. Nietupski

Lester M. Vigneau

Items in Packet:

Draft of FY2013 Budget Hearing and Regular Session Minutes of 2/15/2012

Email from S. Hitchcock to S. Moore on Reimbursements for unfunded mandate impacting education budgets

FY13 Budget Draft

Memo from R. Bedard dated 2/29/2012 on EOY DESE Financial Report Audit

Roselli, Clark & Associates Report on Agreed-Upon Procedures over Compliance Applicable to MA School Districts' End-of-Year Financial Report

Memo from R. Bedard dated 3/7/2012 on Maintenance Update

Letter to Sheriff Evangelidis from R. Bedard dated 2/10/2012

Letter to R. Bedard dated 2/17/2012 from Sheriff Evangelidis

Letter to J. Sharon from R. Bedard dated 2/17/2012

Flyer on 7th Annual Trivia Night at MHS

Vacancy Postings (2)