

November 28, 2012

A meeting of the Wareham School Committee was held on Wednesday, November 28, 2012, at 7:00 p.m. in the Wareham Middle School Auditorium. Present were Geoff Swett, Kenny Fontes, and Michael Flaherty as well as Superintendent Dr. Rabinovitch, and recording secretary, Mrs. Ruiz. Absent were members Rhonda Veugen, Cliff Sylvia and student rep, Cindy Pham.

The meeting was called to order by Chair Swett at 7:00 p.m.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION - None

GOOD NEWS

Dr Rabinovitch shared the following:

- Resource Officer Karl Baptiste is back to work and he thanked Peter Sylvia for substituting
- WBZ meteorologist Joe Joyce made a presentation on weather to the 5th graders at Minot
- The Wareham Foundation for Education gave out 15 awards totaling \$7,185 to support various teacher projects
- Minot Forest students are celebrating the word of the month

Mr. Flaherty shared that he had won the Middle School Raffle and will be donating the money back to the school system.

Mr. Swett applauded the existence of the Wareham Foundation for Education and its awards to teachers.

Minutes of the Meeting

Mr. Fontes moved approval of the minutes of November 7, 2012, seconded by Mr. Flaherty.

VOTE: yea – 3; nay – 0; abstain - 0

School Committee Reports

Action Committee – Mr. Swett reported that the Action Committee met last Monday and discussed refurbishing our buses by Maine Military Authority. Due to the age of our fleet the committee agreed it was not the right time but to keep it in mind for the future. Also discussed was the \$55,000 allocation by Capital Planning approved by Town Meeting to purchase vehicles plus approximately \$35,000 encumbered from last year. It was prudent to buy two large buses and eliminate two 1998 vehicles. We can theoretically get a third bus depending on pricing and the operating budget when making this decision. The committee voted unanimously to have the Town Administrator and Superintendent incorporate Town Counsel's opinions into the RFP and send it out to be part of the upcoming budget process. Also Mr. Tatro reported on the list of buses which could be considered for joint inspection and a gas usage report on our buses.

December 17th is the next meeting for a discussion of priorities as pertaining to the four options in the RFP.

Dr. Rabinovitch suggested having a public hearing on the RFP options, and Chair Swett agreed to add this item to a future agenda to be determined.

At the budget advisory meetings each principal will come with current and next year space needs issues including moving Grade 5 students to the middle school.

It was agreed to hold two public hearings on January 9th – one for transportation services and one for grade reorganization.

Any other business

Status of WHS Roof:

Dr. Rabinovitch stated that he has contracted with a company for the specifications; the pre-bid conference is next week and the bid opening the following week. The bid award recommendation will go to the Board of Selectmen to be voted upon.

The Committee asked Dr. Rabinovitch to notify the Selectmen of the urgency of this bid award to ideally do this work over school vacation.

Dr. Rabinovitch also informed the Committee that in September we received a call from the EPA about an underground tank at WHS used for generator fuel. This tank was inspected and we have to either fix it or remove it at \$18,000 and then purchase an above ground tank. This cost will come from the building and grounds revolving account.

Mr. Fontes moved to adjourn, seconded by Mr. Flaherty

VOTE: yea – 3; nay – 0; abstain - 0

The meeting adjourned at 7:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted: 

List of documents:

Draft Minutes of November 7, 2012

Policies:

- Charging Student Meals
- Public Participation at School Committee Meetings
- Closing One School Building
- Special Education Transportation
- Automated External Defibrillator
- AIDS School Attendance
- Student Attendance

AFSCME Council 93 Letter to Chair Swett November 14, 2012

Draft Memo to Chair Holmes from Dr. Rabinovitch Re: Rescinding of August 10, 2012 letter

Correspondence: Newsletter – Personnel List – Notice of Vacancies