

Minutes Approved this ____ day of _____, 20__

Dave Davis _____

Judith Wimble _____

Jennifer Gariety _____

Bridget Brisson _____

Mason Maltais _____

North Hero School Board

Tuesday, January 2, 2018 | North Hero School

Board Present: Dave Davis (chair), Bridget Brisson, and Jennifer Gariety

Board Absent: Judith Wimble and Mason Maltais

Administration Present: Don Van Nostrand (Superintendent), Rob Gess (Business Manager), Joe Resteghini (Principal)

Guests: Gabrielle Grace

Call Meeting to Order

The meeting was called to order at 6:51PM by D. Davis.

Pledge of Allegiance

D. Davis leads the pledge of allegiance.

Adjustment of Agenda

None needed.

Approval of Minutes: December 5, 2017

D. Davis asks if there are any comments or questions on the minutes. Hearing none he states they are accepted as read.

Recognition of Visitors

No comments or questions at this time.

Superintendent's Report

D. Davis states December was a month of budget preparations and the new GISU website is up and running allowing minutes to be available in a central location.

Principal's Report

J. Resteghini distributes a written report to the board for review. J. Resteghini reviews the highlights:

- A thank you to B. Brisson for responding to a temperature alarm and securing the building for cold weather;
- There was a 2 hour delay today due to the extreme cold weather;
- The holiday performance was well attended;
- The east side door needs evaluating for replacement or modification.

Business of the Board

Monthly Budget to Actuals

Revenue and expense reports have been distributed to the board. D. Davis asks if there is anything R. Gess would like to point out; he states board approved security cameras have been added and everything is trending well.

There are no questions from the board.

Approval of Bills for Payment

J. Gariety requests more time to review the bills.

Finalize FY19 Budget

A draft budget has been distributed to the board. R. Gess updates the board on changes from the last review:

- In the expenditure report all the assessments from the SU have been updated.
- December 22 he received all the reimbursements for special ed from the DOE and as a whole they are down resulting in additional cost for all the school districts.
- From an operational perspective nothing has changed.
- The back two pages show a current tax rate estimate of 1.6747 based on the numbers he has right now.
- He offers to show the board an email from Brad James at the AOE regarding corrections to the FY18 equalized pupil count, which was incorrect at 104.89; the revised FY18 number is 92.01 pupils. None ask to see it.
- The revised FY18 homestead tax rate calculation, 1.3807, is based on the revised 92.01 equalized pupil. The resulting anticipated tax rate is 1.6747 which equates to a 21% increase.
- The drivers of the 21% increase are the impact of the special ed assessment at the SU level being close to 400 thousand dollars over last year, the decrease in CLA, and the equalized pupil count going down. This is on top of the calculations from the state representing the 89 million dollar short fall which comprises 8 to 9 cents of the increase.
- Line 460 shows the North Hero's GISU Special Ed Assessment is up 61%.

B. Brisson states line 37: Tuition – Tech Ctr/Vocational should have a budgeted amount reflecting a three year rolling average. R. Gess calculates the three year average and adds \$25777.00 to line 37.

D. Davis verifies the total budget increase is 7.85% and R. Gess states the change in this number from the review in December is primarily based on receiving less special ed revenue from the state than anticipated.

Approval of Bills for Payment

The warrant has a transpose error for a Blue Cross Blue Shield bill so the final approval total has been increased by \$300.00 to account for the error.

J. Gariety motions to approve bills in the amount of \$83,322.16, \$300.00 over the amount shown on the warrant. B. Brisson seconds and the motion passes 3-0 with no further discussion.

All members present sign the warrant.

Finalize FY19 Budget

J. Gariety asks about a 484% increase for Line 15: Instructional-Group Life. R. Gess finds a decimal error in the spreadsheet and changes the amount of Line 15 to \$395.00.

J. Gariety asks to double check Line 21: Instructional-group Vision Insurance. R. Gess verifies the number is valid.

Discussion follows for Line 33: Tuition HS-In State and what the tuition student count is.

The board reviews the deadline for the town report, the next GISU meeting date, and decides to meet a second time to allow for review of tuition students and a finalized GISU budget.

Future Agenda Items & Next Meeting

The board will hold a special meeting January 17, 2018, at 8:00AM at the GISU office. The agenda will include:

- Finalize budget
- Approve warning

The agenda for the regularly scheduled meeting of February 6, 2018, will include:

- Prepare flyer
- Prepare town meeting presentation

R. Gess asks if any items need to be on the warning besides the budget approval. The board reviews the FY18 warning to see what is applicable to the FY19 vote. R. Gess will draft the warning.

Executive Session

None needed.

Adjournment

J. Gariety motions to adjourn at 7:39PM; B. Brisson seconds and the motion passes 3-0 with no further discussion.

Respectfully Submitted, Corinn Julow

CC: Board Members

GISU Office

Principal Resteghini

Town Clerk's Office