

North Hero School Board
Tuesday, March 12, 2019 | North Hero School

Board Present: Mason Maltais, Bridget Brisson, and Jennifer Gariety

Administration Present: Joe Resteghini (Principal), Mike Clark (Superintendent), Rob Gess (Business Manager)

Guests: None

Call to Order and Pledge of Allegiance

M. Clark called the meeting to order at 8:28PM.

M. Clark led the board in the pledge of allegiance.

Reorganization of the Board

M. Clark asks if there are any nominations for chair and J. Gariety nominates M. Maltais. B. Brisson second the nomination and it passes 3-0 with no further discussion.

M. Clark turns the meeting over to M. Maltais.

The board agrees a vice chair is not necessary.

M. Maltais nominates B. Brisson for clerk. J. Gariety seconds the nomination and it passes 3-0 with no further discussion.

M. Maltais states they need to appoint three representatives to the Supervisory Union Board until July 1st. The board agrees that as a three-member board they all are default members of the Supervisory Union Board. M. Maltais states for the record that M. Maltais, B. Brisson, and J. Gariety are all members of the Supervisory Union Board.

M. Clark states the only committee they need to appoint a member to is the Executive committee. M. Maltais confirms that the chair is a default member but an alternate needs to be designated. M. Maltais nominates B. Brisson to be officially noted as an alternate to the Executive Committee for the board chair of North Hero. J. Gariety seconds the motion and it passes 3-0. B. Brisson clarifies that she will be a voting member of this committee *only* if M. Mason is not present.

M. Mason explains appointments to the other committees are not needed because as of July 1 the board will turn over full operational control to the CIUUSD and any decisions made by those committees will be made on behalf of that district.

M. Maltais motions to continue the practice of carousel meetings and set the regularly scheduled meeting time and date to coincide with the time and date of the CIUUSD meetings on the second Tuesday of each month at 6:30PM. J. Gariety seconds the motion and it passes 3-0 with no further discussion.

B. Brisson moves to continue posting agendas and meetings at the North Hero Town Office, Supervisory Union Office, and the North Hero School. M. Maltais seconds the motion and it passes 3-0 with no further discussion.

M. Maltais motions to use Robert's Rules for Small Boards. B. Brisson seconds the motion and it passes 3-0 with no further discussion.

M. Maltais distributes the VSBA Code of Ethics for School Board Members and asks if there are questions. Hearing none, J. Gariety motions to adopt the Code of Ethics. B. Brisson seconds the motion and it passes 3-0 with no further discussion.

M. Clark asks how the board would prefer the GISU communicate with them. A brief discussion follows about the use of gisu.org emails for board communication. The board asks M. Clark to continue using email.

M. Clark states the VSBA offers opportunities for board development and that as board members they have local and statewide advocacy responsibilities.

M. Maltais motions to designate the Islander as the newspaper for notification of meetings. B. Brisson seconds the motion and it passes 3-0 with no further discussion.

Adjustment of Agenda

M. Maltais states items 7. DataPath Money Due Report and 11. Land Transfer from Board Business will be moved to follow the adjustment of the minutes.

Board Business

DataPath Money Due Report

M. Clark notifies the board that employees may have been overpaid by DataPath. He is working to eliminate discrepancies from the DataPath report and believes there may be no overpayment when all errors are identified. In North Hero there may be \$589.05 outstanding. If this turns out to be the case, he will need the board to decide if they want him to attempt collection with the employee and how aggressively. No action is needed at this time.

A brief discussion on the transition from Future Planning to DataPath follows. M. Clark will be showing employees how to reconcile their DataPath feed with their BlueCross BlueShield feed at the next in-service training.

Land Transfer

M. Maltais states voters approved the article to move forward with the land transfer to the Town of North Hero and M. Clark has done some research on the process. M. Clark states school attorneys have verified that language could be added to the transfer to uphold the intent of the gift of the land to the school as was discussed at town meeting. He recommends the school board talk to the select board before motioning to approve the transfer to explain the provisions on the transfer. When all parties are on board, the deeds will be drafted.

J. Gariety asks for clarification on why a provision is needed. M. Maltais states that at town meeting Deb Bumgardner shared that when her father gave the land to the school his intent behind that gift was to provide educational impact to the children of North Hero and his hope was the land would be used for that purpose in perpetuity. Understanding the transfer is necessary with the school becoming part of the CIUUSD, the board is suggesting a provision be added to the deed stating the school is giving the land to the town with the intent the land be used for the school.

M. Clark states the language proposed by the attorney is, “with the hope that the property is used for the purpose of.” The board will need to decide what the “purpose of” is. Using the language “with the hope” will not make it a terrible nightmare for the town in the future trying to deal with a defunct entity but makes the intent of the donation clear.

R. Gess joins the meeting at 8:49PM.

M. Clark asks the board to consider the purpose. After brief discussion the board agrees on “enhancing the education opportunities of the school located in North Hero.”

J. Resteghini states the land is the fallback plan for where the septic would go if the school’s current system ever fails. This is shown in the blueprints.

M. Clark will call the Select Board chair to start the discussion. B. Brisson will attend the April 1st, 2019, Select Board meeting.

M. Clark leaves the meeting at 8:54PM.

Citizens and/or Staff to be Heard

There are no visitors present.

Consent Agenda

Approve the minutes from 1/8/2019 and 1/18/2019

M. Maltais asks if there are any objections on the minutes. Hearing none he states the consent agenda is approved.

Reports

Financial

R. Gess confirms the budget to actuals report was distributed to the board by email.

Right now the North Hero budget is positive about twenty-five thousand dollars with opportunity for shifting depending on how the tuition bills play out. Currently there are 10 outstanding verification forms for tuition students.

Brief discussion on the tuition bill process follows.

Principal's Report

J. Resteghini says the February meeting cancelation put the capital improvement projects on hold pending approval of the board. A motion will need to be made for each item as they are all over \$3K. The board begins to review the proposed projects:

- Replace heat exchanges in kindergarten and ½ classroom at approximate cost of \$12K;
- Replace dish machine at approximate cost of \$3-\$4K;
- Build Sugar Shack at approximate cost of \$6K;
- Paint game lines and school logo on gym floor for \$3,800.

Brief discussion on each item follows.

M. Maltais motions to approve J. Resteghini to procure a replacement for the 3 heat exchanges that are the highest priority. B. Brisson seconds the motion and it passes 3-0 with no further discussion.

M. Maltais motions to approve the replacement of the dish machine for the maximum amount of \$4K in the North Hero school kitchen. B. Brisson seconds the motion and it passes 3-0 with no further discussion.

M. Maltais motions to approve the expenditure of \$6K for the sugar shack and to move forward with the zoning paperwork for said project at this time. J. Gariety seconds the motion and it passes 3-0 with no further discussion.

M. Maltais motions to approve contracting with Southern Connecticut Sport Court to install gym lines and emblem at half court for the estimate of \$3,800. B. Brisson seconds the motion and it passes 3-0 with no further discussion.

J. Resteghini shares that Iron Chef Competition number 8 was a great success. He distributes copies of the Parent Climate Survey responses. There were 28 responses with 100% stating child's academic and emotional needs were being met. A brief discussion on the results follows.

J. Resteghini also circulates an essay from Grace McCarty in 6th grade on why chocolate milk should not be served in school.

Business of the Board

DataPath Money Due Report

Item was addressed after Adjustments to the Agenda.

Building Updates

This discussion took place under principal's report.

Para Hiring

J. Resteghini states a position for a para educator has been posted since February with no viable candidates applying. A maternity leave has been staffed with an in house teacher and when the maternity leave ends the teacher will take the para position.

M. Clark returns to the meeting at 9:17PM.

Approval of Bills for Payment

J. Gariety asks for clarification on the credit card statement because she cannot reconcile the charges with the warrant. After discussion R. Gess recommends the credit card statement be removed from the warrant and he will create a separate warrant for the charges.

J. Gariety motions to approve the warrant in the amount of \$172,171.62 after the Peoples credit card statement of \$615 is removed. Two board members will stop at the GISU office and sign the credit card warrant when it is ready. Brief discussion on how the charged amounts show on the supporting documentation follows. B. Brisson seconds the motion and it passes 3-0.

All members present sign the warrant.

Land Transfer

Item was addressed after Adjustments to the Agenda.

Setting the Next Agenda

April 9, 2019:

- Capital Improvement Fund Expenditures;
- Land Transfer;
- Building update.

Adjournment

B. Brisson motions to adjourn and J. Gariety seconds and the motion. The motion passes 3-0 with no further discussion and the meeting is adjourned at 9:24PM.

Respectfully Submitted, Corinn Julow

CC: Board Members
GISU Office
Principal Resteghini
Town Clerk's Office