

North Hero School Board
Tuesday, April 9, 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. Maltais calls the meeting to order at 8:08PM.

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

Adjustment of Agenda

- M. Maltais adds staff resignation letters to start of Board Business;
- M. Maltais adds snow day discussion under Board Business after item 10. Other;
- M. Maltais moves item 7. Land Transfer to last item in Board Business;
- J. Resteghini requests to add a discussion on the lawn care contract and M. Maltais adds it under Business of the Board after item 6. Building Update.

Citizens and/or Staff to be Heard

There are no visitors present.

Consent Agenda

M. Maltais asks if everyone present had a chance to read the minutes of March 12, 2019; they have. M. Maltais states that hearing no objections or discussion the minutes are approved.

Reports

Financial

R. Gess confirms the budget to actuals report was distributed to the board by email a week and a half ago with no significant changes between then and now. He gives the following highlights:

- He will be looking at discretionary expenditures between now and middle of May to ensure there is no excess spending;
- He has a packet of South Burlington tuition payments for the board to approve tonight after finally receiving the last of their tuition bills. All students will be paid for except for two students that will be discussed under Board Business;
- North Hero is well within the Budget to Actuals for tuition;
- A letter will be going out between now and May 1st to principals explaining no discretionary spending may happen after May 15th in order to close the year in a timely manner and do a full blown final inventory.

M. Maltais asks about reporting and R. Gess says the GISU is on target and only needs to complete the staff book, which will be overnighted on Friday, for the auditors.

Principal's Report

J. Resteghini says a written report has been previously distributed by email and reviews the highlights:

- Preschool screening will start next month;
- Annual spaghetti dinner is happening this Thursday and will support the Missisquoi Wildlife Refuge;
- The lines are on the gym floor;
- Zoning for the sugar shack has been completed and the project will start as soon as the snow stops.

Board Business

Staff Resignation

This discussion did not happen.

Building Update

J. Resteghini says the dishwasher will be here by the end of the week and installed next week.

Two quotes have been obtained for the replacement of the heat exchange units. Three quotes are needed but J. Resteghini is having a hard time getting a third quote. This will make getting the work completed by June 30th difficult.

M. Clark arrives at 8:18PM.

M. Clark says next month he will ask the CIUUSD board to approve the expenditure of the remaining capital improvement funds to allow the North Hero board to finish the heat exchange project this summer. He encourages the board to stick out the bidding process as required in statute for expenditures over 15K. If an RFP is required it will be a month before the GISU office will have resources to manage the process. Discussion follows.

J. Resteghini says he spoke recently at the Snelling Institute to Secretary of Education Dan French about the lack of mental health services and how to finance these services. J. Resteghini anticipates a need for increased capacities for children from birth to age 3 in the school.

Lawn Care Contract

J. Resteghini presents the board with some information from The Wright Cut and Clean, the contractor that provided last years lawn care service. As the anticipated contract is under 5K the board does not need to put the service out to bid. Discussion on how the contract will roll over to the new district follows with M. Clark clarifying the CIUUSD will be obligated to implement any contract the board signs.

The board asks J. Resteghini to come back with a contract in May.

Capital Improvement Fund.

R. Gess gives a brief update of monies spent to date from the capital improvement fund and estimates there is 20K left to spend. B. Brisson asks if this amount includes the gym floor and R. Gess states yes.

She does not feel there can be 20K left and J. Resteghini volunteers to double check the numbers with his spreadsheet. He will report at the next meeting.

Approval of Bills for Payment

J. Gariety asks why the Abby is billing as Underwood Catering and R. Gess states this issue will be addressed in July when the food service contract is renewed. The contract is currently in the RFP process.

J. Gariety motions to approve the warrant in the amount of \$55,364.32 for batch number 2784. M. Maltais seconds the motion and it passes 3-0. All members present sign the warrant.

J. Gariety motions to approve the warrant with batch number 2791 in the amount of \$91,616.00. B. Brisson seconds the motion and it passes 3-0. All members present sign the warrant.

Other

There is no other business to discuss at this time in the meeting.

R. Gess leaves the meeting at 8:40PM.

Snow Days

M. Maltais says there were three snow days this year and asks how the board would like to handle making up the lost days. Discussion follows. M. Clark states Grand Isle just voted to end the school year for students on June 13th as previously planned and add three professional development days.

M. Maltais moves to adjust the school calendar to add three professional development days to end of the school year. B. Brisson seconds the motion and it passes 3-0 with no further discussion.

Land Transfer

M. Clark says the 10 acres of land the school was planning to give to the town was purchased by the school at the assessed or actual value. J. Resteghini distributes some documentation which shows the intent of the land purchase was to provide a space for a future septic system. Discussion follows.

B. Brisson says if the land was purchased by the school for the purposes of the school it should stay with the school based on its specific use for septic. Discussion follows.

M. Clark says the article voted on Town Meeting Day authorized the board to make the land transfer but does not require it. J. Gariety says they have information they did not have prior to the vote. Discussion follows.

M. Maltais states the board is in consensus not to transfer the land. M. Clark suggests the board draft an explanation to the voters and contact the Select Board.

A press release will be written, and M. Maltais will contact the Select Board chair.

Student Residency Verification

M. Clark says there are a number of North Hero students that the GISU cannot verify the residency of because they did not send back their paperwork. He will be sending a list of the students to the board for review. If the board can verify they are residents, he will release the funds to the schools and continue to work to get the paperwork. He will ask tuition schools not to allow students to enroll until the paperwork is completed. Brief discussion on resident definition follows.

Setting the Next Agenda

May 14, 2019:

- Preschool
- Lawn care contract
- Capital Improvement Fund

Adjourn

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 8:59PM.

Respectfully Submitted, Corinn Julow

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