

Grand Isle Supervisory Union  
**South Hero School District**  
School Board Special Meeting  
Informational Meeting for Annual Meeting  
**Thursday, Feb. 25, 2021**, at 6 p.m.  
Location via Google Meet  
meet.google.com/xkp-efvx-erj  
By phone (US) +1 786-310-6195 PIN: 170 518 399#

## MINUTES

*The South Hero School District held its annual meeting remotely in 2021 as a result of the Covid-19 pandemic, following the health and safety guidelines per the Vermont Legislature and Gov. Phil Scott's executive orders.*

### Call to Order

1. Call to order at 6:03 p.m. (B. Chutter)

Introductions. In attendance:

-Board members: Tim Maxham, Bob Chutter, Erin Morse, Nathaniel Kouns, Bentley Vaughan

-Staff: Michael Clark, Rob Gess, Julie Pidgeon

-Audience: Buddy Meilleur (LCATV), Janet Yates, school clerk; Bob Buermann, Natalie Kendrach, Peter and Rosemary Zamore, Kate Demong, Douglas DiSabito, Helen Bishop

2. Public Comments

None.

3. Present Budget Informational Report (B. Chutter). Chutter opened the annual meeting by expressing appreciation to Folsom Community and Education Center staff and community members for all their efforts to maintain education during the Covid-19 pandemic.

The board thanked school clerk Janet Yates upon her retirement for her outstanding service to the town and school. The board expressed its appreciation for her service with a gift it will deliver after the meeting. Yates said it had been an honor to work with the board and the Grand Isle Supervisory Union staff.

The board paused for a moment of silence to honor Sharon Roy, former town and school clerk as well as dedicated parent and grandparent at Folsom, who died on Feb. 12, 2021.

Chutter presented information on the FY2022 Proposed Budget to community members.

Voting is by absentee ballot or in person on Tuesday, March 2, 2021. Yates noted residents can come to the town office on Monday, March 1, as well as Tuesday, March 2, to vote.

#### Discussion:

Bob Buermann expressed thanks to the board for the early information provided on the budget. He said the board answered his questions before the meeting. Rosemary Zamore asked about the increase in special education. Superintendent Michael Clark responded that the budget had two kinds of special education costs, one for professional staff and one for paraprofessional staff. The paraprofessional staff cost had risen due to increased student need. He noted that Act 173 is focused on improving the effectiveness, equity and access of special education and has potential to reduce costs in the future.

4. Review the Australian Ballot Articles (B. Chutter). Chutter reviewed Articles 1-4, which focus on electing school officers, considering a budget, placing unencumbered funds from FY21 into a reserve fund for capital improvements, and authority to borrow in anticipation of taxes.

Maxham expressed thanks to Erin Morse for her work on the School Board. Morse is seeking election as town and school clerk and if elected will need to resign her position on the board.

#### 5. Adjourn

The board adjourned at 6:32 PM on a voice vote. T. Maxham made a motion to adjourn. B. Vaughan seconded the motion. Approved unanimously on a voice vote.