

Special Business Meeting Minutes – February 11, 2009

BOARD OF EDUCATION: Tina Mackay, President PRESENT
Guy Cohen, Vice President
Trustees Mary Maus and Valerie Fitzgerald

Trustee Frank Reale was not present (notified)

ADMINISTRATORS: Dr. Marc Space, Superintendent of Schools
Nick Bellantoni, Director of Operations

OTHERS: Town Board Supervisor Robert Tendy, Council Members
Robert Cinque, Wendy Wetsel, Priscilla Kerese, Eugene Yetter;
Town Clerk Eileen Royael, Town Council William Zutt, Director of
Parks and Recreation Frank DeMarco, Assistant Director of Parks
and Recreation Ray Gallagher, Superintendent of Highways Earl
Smith, Putnam County Representative Vincent Tamaga and
community members

Ms. Mackay and Mr. Robert Tendy convened the Business Meeting at 7:05 p.m. and CONVENE
asked everyone to join them in the Pledge of Allegiance. MEETING

Mr. Tendy explained the objective of the meeting that was to maximize the delivery of services from our organizations to the community with a minimization of cost to taxpayers. He further stated that the meeting was driven by recent requests from Parks and Recreation with respect to play fields and their usage.

Dr. Space and Mr. Tendy listed the current shared services: road maintenance of school property during snow, sharing of fields, school uses town fuel facility for its buses, school supports before and after school center run by Parks and Recreation, use of school by boy scouts and girl scouts, PAC at Putnam Valley High School used for town informational meetings, and in the past the Elementary School was used as part of Town Day celebration.

Mr. Bellantoni mentioned that the school has used the highway department facility for certain rapid bus repairs, borrowed parts for the buses and shared equipment. Mr. Earl Smith mentioned the town also sands the school properties during snow and removes the accumulated snow from the parking areas.

Other areas investigated were:

Mr. Frank DeMarco and Mr. Ray Gallagher discussed the field and school usage needs. It was concluded there was a need to standardize policy to be implemented by both organizations with strong communication as to availability and scheduling. It was noted that fee schedules would be different between the two organizations due to costs and mandated formula. It was noted the formula should be based on the sponsoring organization (town, Putnam Valley, outside), private vs. public and percent of participants from Putnam Valley. All will be required to name the town and school district on their liability insurance. It was agreed that the most stressing need during the summer is for the use of a full-size baseball field (High School field). It was noted that the school has a formula, which does include the above formula criteria. Mr. Bellantoni mentioned that the upper field might be able to be converted to a full baseball field if funds were available. There was a discussion of usage charges versus a deposit to ensure fields were left in the same condition.

Ms. Mackay suggested Parks and Recreation and the Athletic Coordinator, along with Mr. Bellantoni, meet to develop a criteria and usage policy. It was noted that a member of the business office attend to resolve the financial portion.

An additional shared service with respect to the MS4 standard of water/storm drainage was mentioned.

Mr. Gallagher asked if the Elementary School old gym could be restored to a basketball facility which would be investigated.

Storage of buses: Dr. Space noted that significant space at the Elementary School could be free if school buses could be stored off-site, possibly on town property. Mr. Smith mentioned the Orlando property for sale and the sharing of the highway garage. Discussion with the county will take place. Mr. Zutt mentioned Incentive Zoning as an option.

Garbage pickup: The possibility of joint contracts will be investigated to reduce costs.

Equipment: It was noted that the school district and the Town presently share equipment. The school district will be able to use the town maintenance shed for repairs, one piece of equipment at a time. Sharing of brine for winter salting was discussed. This a positive environmental move. The town currently is maximizing their brine production and discussions will continue.

Cost Structure: The sports committee will follow-up on this item.

The school district will appoint a liaison to the Town Board at its next meeting. This person can communicate timely and important messages and respond to community queries. The Town Board meets the third Wednesday of the month at 6:30 p.m. for announcements and regular meetings

start at 7:00 p.m.

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Tax Bills: The Assessors' Office and Business Office will try to generate material that will better explain tax bills. Both groups will develop material to more clearly present their budgets. The county will also participate, with Mary Comptom being the county representative.

The next joint meeting will be scheduled after the sports committee meets.

PUBLIC CONTRIBUTION PERIOD

Mr. Tandy stated he appreciated the open communication between the two groups. He noted the school is the center of the town and that the strong working relationship will hopefully continue.

County Representative Vincent Tamagna suggested that both organizations write the state about the proposed MTA tax and that the county had just passed a motion to write the state. He noted that Putnam Valley has led the way in shared services/cooperation between the organizations.

Mr. Cohen noted that at the next meeting the mandated electronic voting machines for 2010 should be discussed.

At 8:40 p.m., on motion of Mr. Tandy, seconded by Mr. Yetter, there being no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned.
Motion carried unanimously.

ADJOURN
MEETING
09/179

Submitted by
Guy Cohen
Vice President
Board of Education

Typed by
Linda Pregiato
District Clerk