

*Watervliet City School District
Watervliet, New York*

BOARD OF EDUCATION

REGULAR MEETING

Minutes

DATE: *DECEMBER 16, 2008*

TYPE OF MEETING: Regular Meeting

MEETING OPENED: 7:05 P.M.

WHERE: Watervliet Jr.-Sr. High School

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: President, Donna Neary-Hart
Vice President, Mark W. Scully
Frank McGrouty
Virginia Mullaney

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT: Christine Chartrand

SUPERINTENDENT: Paul J. Padalino

STUDENT COUNCIL REP: Jessica Summers, Co-President

The meeting was opened at 7:05 P.M., with President Donna Neary-Hart officiating.

COMMENTS FROM THE FLOOR

Mr. Bob Gusberti – 1212 Hillside Drive, Watervliet, New York 12189 – complained about the **traffic** at the **High School**. He said it is more problematic at dismissal times, when there is less parking and traffic is obstructed by parents picking up their children. He questioned whether construction plans include improvements to the parking lot.

Mr. Padalino responded that the High School construction plans do include **improvements to the parking lot**.

Ms. Gretchen Hodges – 472 Broadway, Watervliet, New York 12189 – suggested that the e-mail notification system be used in the future to notify people that the District is experiencing incoming e-mail problems, as it did last week.

Mr. Padalino agreed with Ms. Hodges and also suggested that VLT be utilized.

OLD BUSINESS

The proposed **change to the tax collection process** was discussed. **Mr. John Heid**, Business Manager, noted that taxes normally due in July and January would now be **due in September**.

Ms. Gretchen Hodges – 472 Broadway, Watervliet, New York 12189 – commented that **collecting taxes once a year makes sense**, but noted that September is a difficult time of year.

Superintendent Padalino noted that the change to tax collection processes would **save the District approximately \$50,000.00**, as the district would not have to borrow the money to cover the funding until taxes were collected for second half of the school year.

The **first reading** of this proposed policy will be held at the **January 20, 2009** Board Meeting. The **second reading** will be held at the **February 10, 2009** Board Meeting. The Board will also vote on the policy at that time.

BOARD STAFF AND STUDENT REPORTS

Bruce Wiggins, from **CSArch**, gave an **update** on the school district renovation project.

Mrs. Terry Bradway gave a **presentation** on the **Music Program**. Mrs. Bradway noted that Apple computer technology has allowed for a new curriculum for music education. She also shared some of the students' work with the Board.

ITEMS REQUIRING BOARD ACTION

On a motion by Donna Neary-Hart, seconded by Mark Scully and unanimously accepted, the Board **approved** the Board of Education Minutes for the meeting held **November 18, 2008**, submitted by Bernadette L. Boardman, Clerk of the Board, as recommended by the Superintendent.

On a motion by Donna Neary-Hart, seconded by Mark Scully and unanimously accepted, the Board **approved** the **Committee on Special Education's** recommendations for the meetings held **November 3, 2008, November 18, 2008, November 20, 2008** and **December 1, 2008**, submitted by Janelle Yanni, CPSE Chair, as recommended by the Superintendent.

On a motion by Donna Neary-Hart, seconded by Mark Scully and unanimously accepted, the Board **approved** the **Committee on Pre-School Special Education's** recommendations for the meeting held **November 19, 2008**, submitted by Janelle Yanni, CPSE Chair, as recommended by the Superintendent.

On a motion by Donna Neary-Hart, seconded by Mark Scully and unanimously accepted, the Board **approved** the following **Treasurer's Reports** for the month of **November 2008**, submitted by John Heid, Business Manager.

On a motion by Donna Neary-Hart, seconded by Mark Scully and unanimously accepted, the Board **approved** the **Payment Requests**, submitted by John Heid, Business Manager, as recommended by the Superintendent.

On a motion by Donna Neary-Hart, seconded by Mark Scully and unanimously accepted, the Board **approved** **Thirty 2008 – 2009 Regular School Special Education Transportation Contract Extensions** between **Star & Strand** and the Watervliet City School District at a cost of \$1,017,948.00, as recommended by the Superintendent.

On a motion by Donna Neary-Hart, seconded by Mark Scully and unanimously accepted, the Board **approved** the **2008 – 2009 Regular School Transportation Contract Extension** between **Folmsbee's Transporation** and the Watervliet City School District at a cost of \$287,193.00, as recommended by the Superintendent.

On a motion by Donna Neary-Hart, seconded by Mark Scully and unanimously accepted, the Board **approved** the following **Bid Result** submitted by John Heid, Business Manager, as recommended by the Superintendent:

\$1,500,000 REVENUE ANTICIPATION NOTE

Pioneer Savings Bank

Interest Rate
2.78%

On a motion by Donna Neary-Hart, seconded by Mark Scully and unanimously accepted, the Board **approved** the **Substitute Registry** submitted by **BOCES**, as recommended by the Superintendent (packets #12 and #13).

On a motion by Donna Neary-Hart, seconded by Mark Scully and unanimously accepted, the Board **approved** the **transfer** of **Rachel Anderson** from the position of **Long-Term Substitute Reading Teacher** at Watervliet Jr. – Sr. High School to the position of **Teacher Assistant**, at Watervliet Elementary School, at an hourly rate \$7.65, effective December 4, 2008, as recommended by the Superintendent.

On a motion by Donna Neary-Hart, seconded by Mark Scully and unanimously accepted, the Board **approved** the **resignation** of **Terri Kehrley** from the position of **Self-Contained Special Education Teacher** at **Watervliet Jr. – Sr. High School** effective December 20, 2008, as recommended by the Superintendent.

On a motion by Donna Neary-Hart, seconded by Mark Scully and unanimously accepted, the Board **approved** the **appointment** of **Robin Rivenburg** to the position of **Food Service Worker** at the **Watervliet Elementary School**, beginning October 6, 2008, at an hourly rate of \$7.15, as recommended by the Superintendent.

On a motion by Donna Neary-Hart, seconded by Mark Scully and unanimously accepted, the Board **approved** the **Amendment to the Agreement between the Board of Education and the Superintendent**, dated November 17, 2008, and authorized the President of the Board, or the Vice President in her absence, to execute said Agreement on behalf of the District and to file same with the District Clerk.

On a motion by Donna Neary-Hart, seconded by Mark Scully and unanimously accepted, the Board **approved** the **appointment** of **Meghan Morrissey and Megan Thouin** to the positions of **Co-Coaches** for the **Watervliet Jr. – Sr. High School Girls Junior Varsity Softball Team**, at a split salary of \$1,529.50, as recommended by the Superintendent.

On a motion by Donna Neary-Hart, seconded by Mark Scully and unanimously accepted, the Board **approved** the **appointment** of **Dennis Lane** to the position of **Coach** for the **Watervliet Jr. – Sr. High School Boys Tennis Team**, at a salary of \$2,897.00, as recommended by the Superintendent.

On a motion by Donna Neary-Hart, seconded by Mark Scully and unanimously accepted, the Board **approved** the **appointment** of **Pat Blum** to the position of **Volunteer Coach** for the **Watervliet Jr. – Sr. High School Girls Softball Team**, as recommended by the Superintendent.

On a motion by Donna Neary-Hart, seconded by Mark Scully and unanimously accepted, the Board **approved** the awarding the status of **tenure**, in the area of **Mathematics**, to **Camelia Sofrone**, effective February 27, 2009, as recommended by the Superintendent.

NEW BUSINESS

There was no new business to be discussed.

COMMENTS FROM THE FLOOR

Donna Neary Hart congratulated **Terry Bradway** for all of her work on the Holiday concert.

Jessica Summers, Student Council Co-President, noted that the **Talent Show** on November 25, 2008 was a huge success.

Ms. Summers noted that the Student Council's **Food Drive** had raised 89 food items and \$250.00 in donations. Food collected will go to St. Joseph's Home.

Ms. Summers reported that the **Snow Ball** will be held on Friday, February 13.

Virginia Mullaney commented on how "nice and informative" the **Watervliet Elementary School newsletter** is.

Superintendent Padalino thanked the Board for approving the purchase of the **Apple Computers** in the Budget. Apple programs are very student-friendly.

Mr. Padalino thanked **Mrs. Whited** for the **\$300.00** donation made on behalf of the **Verizon Foundation**. The money will be used to help Watervliet families in need this Holiday Season.

Ms. Caplan noted the **City of Watervliet** will be **honoring** the **football team** and **Coach Bernard** on Thursday, December 18, 2008 at 7:00 p.m.

Ms. Caplan thanked **Mr. Wareing** for all of his **Character Education** work.

Ms. Caplan noted that the **Go for 4 Night** for Junior High School parents was very successful. She noted that **Movie Night** was successful as well.

Terri O'Brien noted that **Watervliet Elementary School** collected **1,500 pounds of food**, which was donated to **St. Patrick's Food Pantry**.

Mrs. O'Brien also noted that the **Watervliet Elementary School** concert has been **re-scheduled** for Thursday, December 18, 2008 at 7:00 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

On a motion by Donna Neary-Hart, seconded by Virginia Mullaney and unanimously accepted, the Board **adjourned** the meeting at 7:50 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

*Bernadette L. Boardman
Clerk of the Board*

NOTE: All district appointments are subject to fingerprint clearance by the NYS Education Department and verification of Permanent or Pending Certification by NYS.