

**IPSWICH SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING
APRIL 26, 2012
MIDDLE/HIGH SCHOOL ENSEMBLE ROOM**

**CALL TO ORDER
OPEN SESSION**

Mr. Loeb, Chair, called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m. with the following members present: B. Hopping, L. Dietz, S. Gresh, J. Bauman, H O'Flynn, and R. Roesler. Also in attendance were Superintendent R. Korb, Finance Director J. Cuff, Student Representative V. Paduchak, Principal S. McAdams, and Board of Selectmen R. Morley, C. Surpitski, W. Craft, S. Berry, and P. McNally.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mr. Loeb made the following announcements:

Executive Session will not be held.

Junior Prom will held April 27, 6 p.m., Hellenic Center

Budget Subcommittee will meet on April 30, 7 p.m., Payne School

School Committee will meet on May 3, 2012, 7 p.m., Middle/High School Ensemble Room

CITIZENS' COMMENTS

SPECIAL ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

I. SCHOOL COMMITTEE PRESENTATIONS

A. VOTE TO APPOINT TWO SCHOOL COMMITTEE REPRESENTATIVES TO THE FEOFFEEES

Mr. Loeb began procedures by expressing his appreciation to the applicants who had submitted resumes for their interest and willingness to volunteer for the role of Feoffee. He proposed the plan that the top vote getter of the two Feoffees which the School Committee will appoint (according to the Trust Administrative Order) will assume the three-year term and the next highest vote getter will get the two-year term. In further discussion, members proposed a discussion between the two in case either preferred a three-year term over a two-year term. Each applicant (of the 11) – three of whom were not present – had previously written that s/he is a resident of Ipswich, is not a sitting member of the Board of Selectmen, Finance Committee, School Committee, and is not a resident nor homeowner of Little Neck.

Mr. Loeb commented that the judges, who are supposed to carry out the provisions of the Probate Court's judgment document (in its final phase) are not available until April 30. Alphabetically, Mr. Loeb called each applicant to the microphone to explain credentials and reasons for applying. As the process went along, several Board members expressed concern at the method being used to interview, the short timeframe for voting, and the failure to get a better sense of whom the applicants really are. Each applicant was given another opportunity to answer how s/he could help in being a Feoffee because of his/her work-related experience.

The first vote went as follows: Roesler: Filosa, Stevens; Gresh: Filosa, Kallman; Bauman: Ward, Stevens; Loeb: Finch, Ward; Hopping: Tragert, Stevens; Dietz: Kallman, Twining; O'Flynn: Filosa, Ward.

With a three-way tie, it was necessary to vote again. Results are as follows: Roesler: Filosa, Stevens; Gresh: Filosa, Ward; Bauman: Stevens, Ward; Loeb: Filosa, Ward; Hopping: Filosa, Stevens; Dietz: Filosa, Ward; O'Flynn: Filosa, Ward. Tracy Filosa received 6 votes; Seth Ward received 5 votes.

The applicants not elected were urged to go on to the Board of Selectmen's meeting on April 30 at which time the Board of Selectmen will choose two Feoffees.

B. BIRTH TO THREE PROGRAM UPDATE

Kitt Cox, Director of the Birth to Three Center, and Dana Allen, Director of Executive Committee Funding, reviewed the program which began in 2000 with a State grant of \$150,000, now reduced to \$61,000 a year which is not a sound model for sustaining operations. The Directors, the counselors, parents, and Ipswich school administrators all asked for support from the community. The Executive Committee is asking for \$40,000 to fund the pre-school coordinator so that the budget can be 2/3 of what it was at the program's peak. Mrs. McAdams, Winthrop Principal, expressed concern about the Birth to Three staff being burned out and under-supported. The grants now offered are very competitive. She suggested coordinating community services of the Town library, the Recreation Department, after-school elementary programs, and Birth to Three. In a long-range plan, these cooperative measures would line up Ipswich to receive the grants. Mr. Loeb called it a community issue rather than a school issue. Dr. O'Flynn and Mrs. Dietz commented that the schools need to take responsibility for the educational component with their resources and a conversation with the three Boards is necessary for joint support. Dr. O'Flynn moved, seconded by Mrs. Dietz, to support the submission of a State grant application to benefit the Birth to Three program. UNANIMOUS.

The five members of the Board of Selectmen (who were present) took a UNANIMOUS vote to support the grant application to the State Department of Education for the Birth to Three program. Mr. Hopping thanked the Board of Selectmen for remaining through the Feoffees application/vote process and the Birth to Three presentation, symbolizing a unified message to the community.

C. RECOMMENDATIONS FOR SCHOOL CHOICE ENROLLMENTS FOR 2012/13

Mr. Korb, referring to the "School Choice Enrollment Acceptances, 2012-13", reported that the administrators have requested that there be no approval of "Choice" slots for next year. While there have been 51 requests to attend Ipswich schools through Choice, class sizes estimated for fall, 2012, are running in the low 20's, the desirable amount. Three applications have come in for teachers' children at the kindergarten level. Dr. O'Flynn questioned acceptance of a student because s/he has a sibling (Choice) already in the system and expressed real desire to allow teachers' children in as a benefit to the teacher, urging consideration of both sibling and the teachers' children categories. He also asked for Mr. Cahill's input on the small size of the incoming 9th grade. Mrs. McAdams has

included two staff children in her 128 count after kindergarten screening. Dr. O’Flynn moved, seconded by Mrs. Dietz, to admit up to three children of existing staff in the Kindergarten class as seen as a best fit by the two principals under the tuition-free policy. IN FAVOR – O’Flynn, Dietz, Loeb, Gresh; OPPOSED – Roesler, Bauman, Hopping. The enrollment will continue to be monitored as the school year ends.

D. ESTABLISHMENT OF NEW REVOLVING ACCOUNT FOR OUTSIDE TUITIONS

Ms. Cuff wishes to establish a revolving account for accepting non-resident tuitions for the purpose of managing cash receipts. Discussion took place as to how these amounts would be determined: the Program Manager and the parent will project the cost for attendance in Ipswich schools and a legal agreement will be made at the administrative level. Examples were given as group-home residents from out of town but living in Ipswich, students whose own town cannot provide the level of special education service that Ipswich can, and a summer resident who received services here.

Mr. Loeb moved, seconded by Mr. Hopping, to establish a revolving fund for the purpose of outside tuitions paid for residents of group homes located in Ipswich, for non-residents whose participation in special education programs is not offered in the sending district, and for the providing of summer programs to students outside of Ipswich who come into Ipswich for the summer. UNANIMOUS. The Board asked Mr. Korb to discuss with Mary Gallant, SPED Director, circumstances which exist for providing services to non-resident students.

E. FINANCIAL REPORT

Ms. Cuff reviewed Bean Counting decisions of a budget of 2.65% over base and a \$226,000 one-time funding component to \$24,355,520. The end-of-year FY11 audit report showed no findings or recommendations nor noncompliance issues.

F. FEOFFEES OF THE GRAMMAR SCHOOL

Mr. Loeb reported that Mr. Clasby, accountant for the Feoffees, had dropped off the FY11 financial statement. A written response has been requested from Attorney Sheehan (Feoffees) explaining why money that could have come to the schools has not materialized. The judge will sign off on the Trust document next week. The Master Deed will be recorded on May 1. Mrs. Roesler expressed dismay that there has been no money forthcoming to the beneficiary of the Trust. Mr. Loeb suggested that the first duty of the new Feoffees be to appoint an accountant for a new audit.

II. SCHOOL COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. VOUCHERS

B. SCHOOL COMMITTEE REPORTS

1. IPSWICH HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE

Victor Paduchak announced that he won’t be present on May 3 because of his participation in The Company’s play and AP exams after that. He also commented that a simulated car accident took place for the students in an assembly, staged every four years.

Mr. Hopping showed an article entitled "Ipswich to Ipswich" which was featured in the National Council of Music publication. It referred to the music groups from the High School which traveled to England last year.

2. ATHLETIC SUBCOMMITTEE

3. ATHLETIC FIELD STUDY COMMITTEE

Mr. Korb reported that Ken Swenson, Lisa Manzi, David Pancoast, and he had toured the entire site behind the Doyon School. The proposed field would cover and disrupt a very large section of fauna, would infringe upon the wetlands area, and would not pass muster with the Conservation Commission.

4. AD HOC TOWN/SCHOOL COLLABORATION COMMITTEE

5. BUDGET SUBCOMMITTEE

6. COMMUNICATIONS SUBCOMMITTEE

Dr. Gresh met with Doyon parents about improving communication and will be following up with open sessions, probably in the early fall, to get input from them. Winthrop will participate as well. He will be representing the School Committee in meetings concerning the potential impact of year-round residents of Little Neck.

7. DAY CARE CENTER SUBCOMMITTEE

8. FEOFFEES SUBCOMMITTEE

9. LONG RANGE FINANCIAL PLANNING

The group met last week and the next meeting's focus will be on the schools.

10. OPERATIONS SUBCOMMITTEE

11. POLICY SUBCOMMITTEE

(a) Curriculum Development, IFF

(b) Instruction, IA

Mrs. Dietz moved, seconded by Mrs. Bauman, to accept both policies for second reading. UNANIMOUS.

Mrs. Dietz reported that the group had discussed a number of things: (1) need for a policy on physical restraints which must be approved by 9/1/12; (2) Physical Education requirements brought up by David Dalton, (3) website time length for Minutes and Agendas (2 months), and (4) conversation begun on the distribution policy in the Feoffees trust document.

12. PUBLIC SAFETY FACILITY COMMITTEE

13. SPECIAL EDUCATION PARENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE (SEPAC)

14. OTHER

Mrs. Bauman reported that she attended the Nobel Laureate and was impressed with student questioning. She asked that a Subcommittee be put on the agenda for Birth To Three.

III. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Mr. Korb reported preparations being made for the Town Meeting's Warrant Articles. He thanked Dr. O'Flynn for serving on the search and interview team and Mrs. Bauman for putting in three days on the site visitation team.

IV. CONSENT

A. CONSENT AGENDA

Mrs. Dietz moved, seconded by Mr. Hopping, to accept the Consent Agenda as follows:

Acceptance of Minutes of April 5, 2012, Open Session
UNANIMOUS.

VI. ADJOURNMENT

Dr. O'Flynn moved, seconded by Mrs. Dietz, to adjourn at 10:50 p.m. UNANIMOUS.