

**IPSWICH SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING
APRIL 5, 2012
MIDDLE/HIGH SCHOOL ENSEMBLE ROOM**

CALL TO ORDER

OPEN SESSION

Mr. Loeb, Chair, called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m. with the following members present: L. Dietz, S. Gresh, J. Bauman, H O'Flynn, and R. Roesler. Also in attendance were Superintendent R. Korb, Finance Director J. Cuff and Student Representative V. Paduchak.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mr. Loeb made the following announcements:

Executive Session will not be held

Bean Counting will be held on April 7, 2012, 9 a.m., Meeting Room A of Town Hall

School vacation week is April 16 – 20, 2012.

Policy Subcommittee will meet on April 23, 5:30 p.m., Payne School

Feoffees Working Group will meet on April 24, 7:30 p.m., Middle/High School Guidance Conference Room

School Committee will meet on April 26, 2012, 7 p.m., Middle/High School Ensemble Room

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

CITIZENS' COMMENTS

SPECIAL ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

I. SCHOOL COMMITTEE PRESENTATIONS

A. PURCHASE/LEASE OF SPED VAN OPTIONS ANALYSIS/RECOMMENDATIONS

Ms. Cuff spoke to the purchase of a 7D Ford Econo 8-passenger van, air-conditioned, and with child tethers from Stone Ford at \$24,373 and recommended purchase from monies which are available in the FY12 SPED budget.

Dr. O'Flynn moved seconded by Mrs. Dietz, to accept the recommendation from the Finance Director. Mrs. Roesler inquired about leasing and was told that it would cost about \$2,000 to \$3,000 more with financing. UNANIMOUS.

B. APPROVAL OF SCHOOL CALENDAR FOR SCHOOL YEAR 2012-2013

Mr. Korb reviewed Options 1 and 2 with professional day for teachers and date for graduation at the High School. The IEA has selected and recommended Option 2, and the Superintendent recommended Option 2 for the calendar 2012-2013. To Mrs. Roesler's question of giving up one full day by the IEA, the reply was that the Town employees don't want to do this.

Mrs. Bauman moved, seconded by Mrs. Roesler, to accept the recommendation for Option 2 for the school year calendar 2012-2013. UNANIMOUS.

C. IPSWICH EDUCATORS ASSOCIATION BELL SCHEDULE RATIFICATION

Mr. Korb notified the Board that the official ratification vote by IEA for the bell schedule recommendation at 7:45 a.m. start and 2:21 p.m. dismissal had been approved by an overwhelming majority according to President Krieger. The Superintendent recommended and Mrs. Dietz moved, seconded by Dr. Gresh, to accept the recommendation to support the ratification of a new start/dismissal time language for the Middle/High School in the Collective Bargaining Agreement as voted by the IEA. UNANIMOUS.

D. FEOFFEES OF THE GRAMMAR SCHOOL

(b) FEOFFEES BILLING

Mr. Loeb stated that the School Committee has the ability, through counsel, to seek reimbursement for legal fees covering the period through January 31, 2012. After discussion regarding release of documents before payment of outstanding bills, Mrs. Roesler moved, seconded by Mrs. Bauman, to request from Casner & Edwards the release of any non-privileged documents that can be released without prejudice to the School Committee so as to negatively affect them. UNANIMOUS.

Mrs. Dietz moved, seconded by Dr. O'Flynn, to authorize Casner & Edwards to seek reimbursements of fees and expenses for amounts paid and/or owed to Casner & Edwards through January 31, 2012, not to exceed \$575,000 into the Feoffees revolving account. UNANIMOUS.

(a) TRUST DOCUMENT

Mr. Loeb reported that the Trust document draft had come out over last weekend and Attorney Sheehan (for Feoffees) had requested two changes to Eric Hayes (consulting attorney for the trust document) and Steve Perry, School Committee attorney; namely, Life Feoffees want the ability to do some fund raising and resignations of the existing Feoffees don't take place until the new Board of Feoffees is selected. Two additional language pieces involved the concept of term limits of Feoffees and the tweaking of the formula if there is a distribution in excess of 5% from the School Committee, Finance Committee, and Board of Selectmen. Mr. Howard distributed copies of his emails with Eric Hayes regarding these two points.

Mr. Hopping joined the meeting at 8 p.m.

Mrs. Roesler felt that "term limits" are very important to prevent any small group of the Feoffees controlling the Board. Mrs. Roesler moved, seconded by Mrs. Bauman, to insert under 4(c)(i) (of the Trust Administration Order (TAO)) that there be term limits of no more than two consecutive three-year terms followed by a one-year hiatus and that staggering of appointments include all Feoffees throughout the years and not just the initial appointments. IN FAVOR - Dietz, Hopping, Bauman, Roesler, Gresh; OPPOSED - O'Flynn, Loeb.

Mrs. Roesler was concerned that there would be no protection for the corpus over a long time period. Others had concern as well, and Mr. Korb gave an example of his own experience when 20% of all earnings went back to the principal in perpetuity. Mr. Loeb found no invasions of principal because of mathematical and calculable provision, and he commented that the spending and distribution policy was formed by Mr. Hayes who is an expert.

Mrs. Roesler moved, seconded by Mrs. Bauman, to add to 5(g) (at the end of that paragraph in the TAO) "that the spending policy described in the paragraph not be allowed to reduce the initial principal." IN FAVOR - Roesler, Gresh, Bauman, Loeb, Hopping, Dietz; OPPOSED - O'Flynn.

Mrs. Roesler was concerned that distributions be confined to enhancements and enrichments within the schools, which Mr. Loeb defined as either automatic or discretionary. Mr. Hopping, Chair of the Policy Subcommittee, commented that it is inherent upon the Policy Subcommittee to write the policy regarding spending and distributions.

Mrs. Dietz moved, seconded by Mrs. Bauman, to delete the words "with preference" from paragraph 3, p. 2, and from paragraph 5(e) (and anywhere else it might appear). IN FAVOR -Roesler, Gresh, Bauman, Loeb, Hopping, Dietz; OPPOSED - O'Flynn.

Mr. Hopping asked for clarification of the terms "supplemental enrichment" and "education enhancement." The long-range school plan of 2001-02 specified these terms as reported by Mr. Korb.

Mrs. Dietz moved, seconded by Dr. Gresh, to approve the Trust Administration Order subject to the amendments made this evening. UNANIMOUS.

E. DOYON PERSONNEL RECOMMENDATION

Mr. Korb, in referring to the FY13 Administrators' Recommended "Add Back" List in order of priority and the "Amended Add Back" list with an additional retirement not budgeted, recommended that a second teacher be added to the Doyon School.

Mrs. Bauman directed a question to Ms. Conley regarding the preference of adding a classroom teacher rather than adding a reading and/or math specialist in whom she had previously expressed need. Ms. Conley replied that the discussion with the faculty resulted in the decision to add a teacher in the crucial third-grade year and continue to work with Winthrop in developing changes at the Doyon. Ms. Conley explained the present practice at Doyon for those students in math and reading who need extra support, promising to work on delivery of interventions next year.

Mrs. Roesler moved, seconded by Mrs. Dietz, to authorize, as recommended, the additional teaching position at the Doyon School for FY13. UNANIMOUS.

F. BEAN COUNTING PREP FY13 NEW REVENUE PROJECTIONS

Mr. Loeb began discussion about Bean Counting with the Finance Committee and Board of Selectmen on April 7 stating that Feoffees money doesn't exist this year and the extra snow/ice funds appear to be melting away with unpaid bills for Veterans' overrun, contract payment to the former Fire Chief, and overtime at the Fire Department. He supports the Finance Committee's suggestion for an economic development person. Finance Committee members want the School Department's Circuit Breaker and Choice funds to be more liberally spent. The administration promptly gave a concrete example of two recent hits that used a significant amount of Circuit Breaker funds. Thirty-eight students plan to go out of district for schooling (at \$9,000 loss apiece). Mr. Korb advocates for 2.7% (leaving \$18,000 under the levy limit) rather than 2.65% which leaves \$36,000 under. He asked the School Committee to support the \$47,000 escrow (Feoffees) money for Common Core professional development.

Board members discussed the "hold harmless" issue concerning OPEB, the possible override motion, and the Choice graduates, 8th Grade student departure, and Ipswich as a "foundation aid" town.

G. APPOINTMENT TO IPSWICH COMMUNITY ACCESS MEDIA (ICAM) BOARD

With Scott Ames' availability, Mr. Hopping moved, seconded by Mrs. Dietz, to reappoint Scott Ames to the ICAM Board. UNANIMOUS.

II. SCHOOL COMMITTEE REPORTS**A. VOUCHERS****B. SCHOOL COMMITTEE REPORTS****1. IPSWICH HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE**

Victor Paduchak reported that his last meeting of the Student Council (with the State) was today and he is wrapping up the Chapter 70 matters.

2. ATHLETIC SUBCOMMITTEE**3. ATHLETIC FIELD STUDY COMMITTEE**

Mr. Hopping and Mr. Korb informed the Board that a 2 p.m. meeting will take place on April 12 to walk the property behind the Doyon School to determine the feasibility of an athletic field.

4. AD HOC TOWN/SCHOOL COLLABORATION COMMITTEE**5. BUDGET SUBCOMMITTEE**

Mrs. Bauman was directed to speak with Ms. Cuff and Mrs. Seltenrich to coordinate a meeting.

6. COMMUNICATIONS SUBCOMMITTEE

7. DAY CARE CENTER SUBCOMMITTEE

8. FEOFFEEES SUBCOMMITTEE

Dr. O'Flynn moved, seconded by Mrs. Bauman, to approve the contract with Eric Hayes, consulting attorney for the Trust document, not to exceed \$6,000. UNANIMOUS.

Two School Committee-appointed Feoffees will be named at the April 26 School Committee meeting and applicants must file their letter of intent by April 13.

Mrs. Roesler reported that at the Annual Feoffees' meeting, "seasonal use" was changed to "annual use." Tenants were retroactively asked to pay back rent of \$500 (approximately \$70,000) by May 1. She reminded that the Settlement presentation had a spreadsheet which showed \$25,000/month in rents until the Master Deed is registered on May 1. Mrs. Roesler and Mrs. Bauman asked Mr. Loeb to procure a detailed accounting of the money so that it can benefit the schools.

9. LONG RANGE FINANCIAL PLANNING

Ms. Cuff said only three members attended and they discussed OPEB.

10. OPERATIONS SUBCOMMITTEE

Mr. Korb stated that the Superintendent's evaluation will follow the same model as last year.

11. POLICY SUBCOMMITTEEE

(a) Curriculum Development, IFF

(b) Instruction, IA

Dr. O'Flynn moved, seconded by Mrs. Dietz, to accept both policies for first reading. UNANIMOUS.

Mr. Hopping will ask the administrators for a homework presentation to the School Committee. He named several other areas where the Policy Subcommittee will be involved and urged members to channel their questions through the Superintendent first.

12. PUBLIC SAFETY FACILITY COMMITTEE

13. SPECIAL EDUCATION PARENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE (SEPAC)

14. OTHER

Dr. O'Flynn reported that the search for a Middle School principal had gone well. Nine candidates came down to three finalists whose names will be in the Superintendent's hands tomorrow.

III. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Mr. Korb will follow up with interviews next week. Candidate site visits will take place after vacation week. The High School Assistant Principal will begin on August 1. While Mr. Korb's professional call would be on a 12-month basis, it will not happen this coming year. The Middle School assistant principal will be for 12 months as far as money goes.

The Chief Educational Provider at Verizon will meet with him to eventually give a thorough analysis and potential cost for coverage and networking for the school system.

IV. CONSENT**A. CONSENT AGENDA**

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

- Acceptance of Minutes of December 13, 2011, Triboard Open Session
- Acceptance of Minutes of March 15, 2012, Open Session
- Acceptance of Minutes of March 20, 21, and 22, 2012, School Committee/Finance Committee Open Budget Session
- Acceptance of donation of \$1,750 from the Ipswich Family YMCA to the Birth to Three Center, to support and enhance the work of the Birth to Three Center
- Acceptance of donation of \$3,220 from the Charity Girls NEMA to the Birth to Three Center to support and enhance the work of the Birth to Three Center
- Acceptance of donation of \$820 from the Friends of Ipswich Elementary Schools to the Winthrop School to purchase Kindles and books for Grade 4.
- Acceptance of donation of \$5,490 from the Doyon Friends of Ipswich Elementary Schools toward the purchase of 4 iPads for the second grade classroom and toward new curtains for the Doyon cafeteria stage. UNANIMOUS.

VI. ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned at 11:25 p.m.