

**TOWNSHEND SCHOOL BOARD MINUTES**  
**@ TOWNSHEND ELEMENTARY SCHOOL**  
7:00 pm  
5-12-14-DRAFT

**Present:** Cliff Passino, Beth Cutts, Al Claussen, Tricia Shine, April Chase, Members of the Board, Deborah Leggott, Principal, Steven John, Superintendent, Judy Hawkins, Recorder

**Call to Order:** Al Claussen, vice chair, called the meeting to order at 7:03 p.m.

**Additions and Deletions:** Addition: Steven asked to add to the agenda under Reports of Administration and Committees: Superintendent, legislature, R.E.D, etc. and also to add under New Business: Resolution to borrow in FY2014.

**Consent Calendar:**

- a. Principal's Report
- b. Minutes for April 21, 2014

Consent Calendar was approved unanimously.

**Treasurer and Financial Reports:** No treasurer report. Steven went over the financial report from his office. He commented on Professional Development which includes six school districts and \$46,000 will be put into a pool among the six districts and be divided up. Administrative Professional Development is subsidized by the Consolidated Federal Grant. Liability and Bond insurance: Steven said the policy is sent out to the supervisory union and then it is divided out to each school. The VSBA initially saved us \$56,000.

**Bills and Purchase Orders:** Al made a motion to pay the bills and purchase orders as follows: Payroll PO#69 \$16,382.47, Payroll PO#70 \$10,822.78, Payroll PO#71 19,603.07, Payroll PO#72 \$8,239.78 and Payroll PO#73 \$28,441.04. No discussion. Motion carried to pay bills and purchase orders as read.

**Reports of Administration and Committees:**

- a. Technology: Deborah said they are in the process of purchasing chrome books for the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> grade students. Once she gets all the information together the technology committee will meet and discuss it.
- b. RED- Steven reported on the RED committee- he said the committee was going to send some articles to the state but decided not to since the legislatures had not finished their work yet. The next RED committee meeting will be on May 29<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m. at LGUHS. John Moran told Steven that the small schools grant is still in. The RED committee put information in an article that if a school is in the RED it could be sold to the town for \$1.00, but if they are not in the RED it can't happen that way.

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- c. Superintendent: Legislation etc. LGUH Budget passed. Steven went to the state house as two principals from this supervisory union were nominated principals of the year, Bill Anton, Dover and Rosemary Fitzsimmons, Wardsboro. He mentioned some other articles that were in the Brattleboro Reformer: Townshend School Circus performance, Jamaica is working on pre-k for the whole school day, Heather Sperling working with Newbrook 1<sup>st</sup> grade students teaching them about gardening and planting of seeds. Steven said he had received a call from a Newbrook member of the public to ask about the CORE standards. The Core Standards pertain to math and language arts only. The new testing that will be given next year will be at the beginning of the school year rather than like the MAPS testing which is given 2 times a year, once in the fall and then in the spring. The next generation of Science standards-Steven mentioned the district won't invest heavily on these until the following year.

**Unfinished Business and General Orders**

- a. Discuss collaboration with Jamaica-still trying to come up with a collaborative date. Another e-mail will be sent out to everyone so that we make sure everyone gets the e-mail.
- b. Special ratifying warning- April had presented to the board a special Town Meeting Warning to ratify two positions for L&G representatives. Three signatures were obtained at the April meeting. There will be a meeting on June 9<sup>th</sup> at 6:50 pm to vote on this before the regular Townshend School Board meets at 7:00 p.m.
- c. Summer maintenance schedule-Deborah reported to the board that she has met with Tim Jeffers and he will start work on the leaks in the heating pipes, he will start with 2 of the upstairs classrooms. The work will be started on June 26<sup>th</sup> and continue throughout that week. The next week the carpets will be steam cleaned. On July 1<sup>st</sup> Jeffers Plumbing will continue on the heating pipes project until finished during the month of July. Deborah reported that she would also like to re-paint the gym walls.

**New Business:**

- a. Graduation and retirement: Deborah reported that two long time teachers will be retiring this year, Judy Gould and Barbara Bedortha. Sixth grade graduation will take place on June 17<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 pm. June 18<sup>th</sup> is the last day of school-this will be a whole day. June 19<sup>th</sup> will be the TES Staff In-service.

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- b. Resolution to borrow 2014-Based on cash flow projections for FY14 ending 6/30/14 please approve the following motion: Beth made a motion that the Townshend School District Board approves a resolution which authorizes the district to borrow up to \$150,000 to fund current expenses for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2014. The District shall borrow funds through a Current Expense note from Peoples United Bank. The loan may be disbursed to the District on May 20, 2014 and shall be repaid to Peoples United Bank on July 21, 2014. Beth, Al or April will sign the document. Motion carried.

**Correspondence:** Deborah received a letter of resignation from April Chase. Al made a motion to regretfully accept the resignation effective immediately. April will remain on the board until they find a replacement, but no later than September 1, 2014. Motion carried. Al nominated Cliff Passino as Vice Chair. Motion carried.

**Upcoming Meetings:**

- a. WCSU Full Board Annual Meeting on Wednesday May 28, 2014 at L&G at 7 pm.
- b.

**Executive Session** if needed-None

**Adjourn:** Beth made a motion to adjourn at 8:30 p.m. Motion carried.

**Respectfully submitted,**

Judy Hawkins  
Recorder

DRAFT