TOWNSHEND SCHOOL BOARD MINUTES
@ TOWNSHEND ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
7:00 PM
2-9-15-draft

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

Absent: Tricia Shine and Cliff Passino

Call to Order: Al called the meeting to order at 7:07 pm.

Additions and Deletions: None

Members of the Public: None

Consent Calendar
   a. Principal's report
   b. Superintendent's Report
   c. Minutes for January 12, 2015

Superintendent's Report: Steven reported to the board that they will be getting a lot of information from the Legislature. Steven gave a verbal report to the board for the superintendent's report. Steven suggested to the board to pay attention to the VSB alerts. The message is we are not going to stay the same we have to change.

Steven gave a summary of budgets around the WCSU-LGUHS was even in terms of money; Dover had the greatest increase in budget at 9.8%, Windham's budget is up; Wardsboro is going to spend down some of their surplus and Townshend's budget is up 5% and tax rate up 5%.

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Brookline/Newfane budgets are up-Brookline is 9.6% and Newfane is up 6.4%.; Marlboro is down a fraction and Jamaica at 0% and no information of impact on taxes.

The consent calendar was approved unanimously.

Treasurer and financial reports: The Revenue statement as of January 31, 2015 was reviewed by the board and Steven and was reported to be in pretty good shape. Deborah will report on the Building and Maintenance line at a later date. It will be a lengthy discussion. Deborah said the UV Disinfection system is really costing the town money, it is constantly needing attention. Steven thinks we need to pursue this water issue and he will talk with someone at the state level and report back to the board with his findings.

Bills and Purchase Orders: Al made a motion to pay the bills and purchase orders as follows: Payroll PO#48 $16,007.90, Payroll PO#49 $7,272.06, Payroll PO#50 $17,724.32, Payroll PO#51 $12,848.93 and Payroll PO#52 $17,809.45. No discussion. Motion carried to pay bills and purchase orders as read.

Reports of Administration and Committees None

Unfinished Business and General Orders:

a. Town Meeting Preparation final steps
   i. Special Education timeline-Deborah did not have the information but she said Victor does have the information and it will get to the board. Steven talked about the possibility of sharing special ed costs throughout the WCSU. Al asked Steven to ask Victor if he could get some financial information to him before next week for the Pre-Town Meeting.
   ii. Notes/assumptions for 2016 budget Al asked Victor to get information together concerning any major increases and anything that might be out of the ordinary before Pre-Town Meeting. Steven will talk with Victor and make sure it is available.

New Business:
    a. Next steps in Townshend/Jamaica collaboration
Oliver Olsen, Legislature met with the Jamaica Board. He has something submitted to the House regarding collaboration. Oliver asked Stephanie from Jamaica to get something together as an analysis of the cost benefit of collaboration. Stephanie and the Jamaica board will be reviewing this and then send to the Townshend School Board members for review and discussion.

Correspondence: Grace Cottage Water Flow Report: Al presented the report to the board for their review. There were a couple of high water usage days on the report for December. Deborah was given the report to file.

Upcoming Meetings
    a. Pre Town Meeting, February 23, 2015 @ 6 pm
    b. TES School Board Meeting, March 9, 2015
    c. Town Meeting Day, March 3, 2015
    d. WCSU Board of Directors Reorganization Meeting and Agency Fund Budget Vote, March 25, 2015 @ Leland and Gray

Executive Session None

Adjourn:

Al made a motion to adjourn at 8:26 p.m. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Judy Hawkins
Recorder