

**NEWBURYPORT SCHOOL COMMITTEE
REGULAR MEETING
Monday, August 8, 2011**

**Newburyport High School
Meeting Convened at 7:02 PM**

**Room 118
Mayor Donna Holaday/Bruce Menin Presided**

**Present: Steve Cole , Cheryl Sweeney, Bruce Menin, Mayor Donna Holaday,
Nick deKanter, Dan Koen**

Absent: Stephanie Weaver

CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL/PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

Mayor Donna Holaday called the meeting to order at 7:02 PM. A Roll Call of members showed one member absent, Stephanie Weaver. All those present stood for the Pledge of Allegiance.

READING OF MISSION STATEMENT:

Mayor Holaday read the Newburyport School Committee Mission Statement.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Dominique Deare CONCERN: She spoke concerning the inspiration schools can bring to the community regarding life-long learning.

CONSENT AGENDA:

Motions

Minutes

On a motion by Nick deKanter and seconded by Dan Koen it was

VOTED: To approve, receive and file the Newburyport School Committee meeting minutes of Monday, July 11, 2011.

Motion Passed

Stephanie Weaver absent for vote

MSBA UPDATES:

Superintendent Dr. Marc Kerble acknowledged Assistant Superintendent Deirdre Farrell, Facilities Manager Steve Bergholm and other members of the OPM Selection Committee for their dedication and hard work.

Assistant Superintendent Farrell outlined and explained the Mass. School Building Authority Update report as follows:

Enrollment Design Build Letters

Enrollment Design Build Letters from MSBA were issued in July and were as follows:

Molin	4-5	130 students
Nock	6-8	515 students
Bresnahan	K-3	625 students
Bresnahan	1-3	475 students

In reviewing the figures she was concerned with the kindergarten enrollment forecast and worked with MSBA on the methodology used to determine that forecast. After considerable discussions, they agreed to change the Bresnahan forecast to better reflect the enrollment potential:

Bresnahan	K-3	660 students
Bresnahan	1-3	500 students

MSBA has issued two Enrollment Design Build figures for the Bresnahan as we move through Feasibility in our efforts to have the Pre-K and K populations included in the Bresnahan Model School Project. The Molin/Nock enrollment forecast, at this juncture, seems appropriate.

Request for Services (RFS) Owner’s Project Manager (OPM) Interview Process

The Request for Services (RFS) for Owner’s Project Manager (OPM) has been advertized according to MGL Chapter 149. The Bresnahan process and timeframe is as follows:

RFS Advertized and Available	July 6 th
RFS for OPM Due	July 20 th
Selection Committee Finalizes Ranking	July 26 th
Selection Committee Interviews	August 4 th

There were 10 requests for the Bresnahan RFS, and 10 responses were ranked. The Committee were supplied with the tabulation spreadsheet that reflected the ranking as a result of the July 26th Selection Committee meeting. The top four ranked respondents chosen to be interviewed are:

- 1 Heery
- 2 RF Walsh
- 3 Dore & Whittier
- 4 Daedalus

The Nock/Molin process and timeframe is as follows:

RFS Advertized and Available	July 20 th
RFS for OPM Due	August 3 rd
Selection Committee Finalizes Ranking	August 11 th
Selection Committee Interviews	August 17 th

There were 8 requests for the Nock/Molin RFS, and 7 responses were received on-time and one was not on-time, which was eliminated as a result.

School Building Committee Meeting

On Monday, August 1st, the School Building Committee met as was presented with an update on the status of both projects with regard to hiring the Owner’s Project Manager (OPM). Additionally, Mayor Holaday established a Communications subcommittee and asked for members to participate in this very important aspect moving forward.

Discussion:

Bruce Menin inquired as to when will MSBA let us know which K-3 or 1-3 we will have. Assistant Superintendent Farrell said early on in the Feasibility study.

Nick deKanter inquired if they would be provided with details regarding the Request for Services interviews. Assistant Superintendent Farrell explained that MSBA requires submissions of this process and the Committee will be provided with the details as well.

Dan Koen, who is a member of the School Building Committee, spoke of the interview process.

Cheryl Sweeney inquired regarding OPM; does it have to be two separate companies or can it be one company. Assistant Superintendent Farrell said it can be one or it can be two. She stated she has a call in to Douglas to ask how they got into one pipeline. Ms. Sweeney inquired when we would know. Assistant Superintendent Farrell said August 19 or August 22 at the latest.

Mayor Holaday explained the contract procedure.

Motions:

On a motion by Mayor Holaday and seconded by Dan Koen it was

VOTED: To approve the RFS for the OPM of the Bresnahan Elementary School building project and authorize it to be advertized.

Roll Call Vote:

- Steve Cole - Yes**
- Cheryl Sweeney – Yes**
- Bruce Menin - Yes**
- Mayor Holaday – Yes**
- Nick deKanter – Yes**
- Dan Koen - Yes**
- Motion Passed**
- Stephanie Weaver absent for vote**

On a motion by Mayor Holaday and seconded by Steve Cole it was

VOTED: To approve the RFS for the OPM of the Nock/Molin School renovation project and authorize it to be advertized.

Roll Call Vote:

- Steve Cole - Yes**
- Cheryl Sweeney – Yes**
- Bruce Menin - Yes**
- Mayor Holaday – Yes**
- Nick deKanter – Yes**
- Dan Koen - Yes**
- Motion Passed**
- Stephanie Weaver absent for vote**

TRANSPORTATION CONTRACT:

Assistant Superintendent Farrell reviewed and explained the Transportation Bid Award Report. The transportation services contract expired on June 30th, 2011. A bid was advertised according to M.G.L. 30B requirements with a bid submission due date of July 21st at noon. Two vendors were sent the Request for Proposal (RFP). Only one vendor submitted a proposal. The bid results for the initial three year award is as follows:

Salter Transportation	
School Year 2011-2012	\$523,800
School Year 2012-2013	\$540,720
School Year 2013-2014	\$558,000

Also, there are 2 additional one year options that can be voted by the Committee at a later date. The determination of awarding those additional years will be based market conditions toward the end of the three year period. If it is in the best interest of the Newburyport Public Schools, the award for the fourth and fifth years would be as follows:

School Year 2014-2015	\$579,960
School Year 2015-2016	\$601,920

The first year of this bid represents a **decrease** of 13.6 percent from the 2010-2011 school year. There is approximately a 3.0 percent increase in each of the subsequent school years.

I would recommend that the School Committee vote to award the Regular Transportation service for Newburyport Public Schools to Salter Transportation. This is a three-year contract award, with 2 additional one year options.

Motion:

On a motion by Mayor Holaday and seconded by Dan Koen it was

VOTED: To approve the transportation bid award.

Discussion:

Dan Koen inquired if transportation fees will increase. Assistant Superintendent Farrell explained.

Cheryl Sweeney asked if this reflects changes in bus routes with the new school. Assistant Superintendent Farrell said yes.

Bruce Menin asked if this reflects changes in the number of students. Assistant Superintendent Farrell said yes.

Assistant Superintendent Farrell explained the contract re: fluctuation/adding/deleting buses.

Registration has occurred and these figures will be provided to Salter.

Motion Passed

Stephanie Weaver absent for vote

Bruce Menin stated it is a rare opportunity for the Committee to vote on a contract that comes for less money.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Dominique Deare **CONCERN:** She spoke of preparation for the public on June 6; regarding informing the public, the use of consulting for promotion and engaging the community.

SUPERINTENDENTS REPORT:

Superintendent Dr. Kerble acknowledged the following:

1. GLEC (Greater Lawrence Educational Collaborative) Board of Directors Meeting – There has been a change in the Exec. Director position – a search is underway. He spoke of the Newburyport funding – they are paying attention to budget and development.
2. Summer Professional Development – he reported on the projects that teachers worked on this summer.
3. High School Class of 1953 – he reported on the class's annual picnic and their donation to the NEF.
4. Sherry Pearl of Newburyport Framers who donated over \$1,500 worth of art supplies for all five schools.
5. Yankee Homecoming – he reported on the annual 5K road race and bed race of which he participated in both.
6. Walk Back in Time – he spoke about the fundraiser for the music program at the middle school. The event will be August 13, 6-11 Elks Hall
7. Summer Music Festival August 28, 11-6, Spencer Pierce Little Farm – this is a full day festival that is a fundraiser for the NEF.
8. Networking Lunch/Fair on September 1 – during the full professional development day for teachers, businesses and community members will join teachers during lunch to develop relationships; internships, classroom guests, and speakers. He thanked Nick deKanter for his help.
9. Perfect attendance for 2010-2011 school year: Thom Stolar (MS) and Beth Taylor (HS); cafeteria part-time staff: Caron Giglio, Gail Derrivan.
10. School Committee Retreat – this went exceptionally well. On August 24, 25 there will be a School Leaders Retreat.

11. On August 14 a GAM will be held – 12:00 to 2:00 PM.

ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENTS REPORT:

Assistant Superintendent Farrell reported on School Choice:

Grades Open for Choice 2011-2012: Grades 7, 8 & 9

Grade 7: 10 slots opened up
14 students applied; 13 accepted; 3 withdrew, 1 waitlisted
Net: 10

Grade 8: 10 slots opened up
9 students applied; 9 students accepted; 1 withdrew
4 have registered to date

Grade 9: 30 slots opened up
28 students applied; 28 students accepted
9 students have withdrawn applications
10 students actually registered as of 8/4/11
2 students have appointments to register in the next few weeks
5 students homes have been contacted (8/4) to inquire as to their plans on registering

Total: 25 definite

Tuition students: South Hampton, NH

1 in September, 1 @ grade 10

2 of the 3 So. Hampton, NH students (same family) have sold their So. Hampton home and are moving to Newburyport – they will attend as residents. 1 @ grade 9, 1 @ grade 11

Assistant Superintendent Farrell said preventive measures are taking place in the schools during the summer – the custodial staff have done a yeoman’s job.

APPOINTMENTS TO COMMUNICATION/FINANCE SUB-COMMITTEES:

Mayor Holaday announced her appointments to the Communication and Finance Sub-Committees:

Communication

Nick deKanter

Dan Koen

Stephanie Weaver

Finance

Cheryl Sweeney

Steve Cole

Bruce Menin

Mayor Holaday stated they need to work on how we are going to communicate with the public regarding the school building projects.

Bruce Menin stated the Finance Sub-Committee will take part in larger finance planning for the city.

ADJOURNMENT:

Motion

On a motion by Steve Cole and seconded by Mayor Holaday it was

VOTED: To adjourn the meeting at 8:12 PM.

Motion Passed

Stephanie Weaver absent for vote