

**NEWBURYPORT SCHOOL COMMITTEE
BUSINESS MEETING
Monday, December 1, 2014**

**Newburyport High School
Meeting Convened at 8:07PM**

**Room 118
Mayor Donna Holaday/Cheryl Sweeney Presided**

**Present: Bruce Menin, Steve Cole, Cheryl Sweeney, Mayor Donna Holaday,
Nick deKanter, Audrey McCarthy, Michael Luekens**

CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL/PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

Mayor Donna Holaday called the meeting to order at 8:07 PM. Mayor Holaday called for a roll call, which found all member present. All those present stood for the Pledge of Allegiance.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

David Hawkeiser CONCERN: He spoke regarding the upcoming vote on the allocation of funds to apply funds to athletic fields. He stated this was bad politics.

Mayor Holaday explained that these projects came in under budget. Three million dollars under budget. CPA funds are available. Athletic fields are in sad shape and need upgrading.

Audrey McCarthy stated for the record that the School Committee had nothing to do with this, the City Council is responsible.

Bruce Menin stated there was a real lack of information.

Dr. Ralph Orlando, 4 Wm. Hall Terrace CONCERN: He wondered why athletic fields were not on the agenda for this evening, He stated a few points in favor of athletic fields.

Audrey McCarthy inquired if it was 1.0 or 1.7. Mayor Holaday said 1.7.

Rebecca Wiffish, Lime St. CONCERN: She spoke regarding the Brown School.

Paulette Turco, Milk St CONCERN: She spoke in support of Bruce Menin's proposal for the Brown School.

Christine Dougherty CONCERN: She spoke in support of Bruce Menin's proposal for the Brown School.

CONSENT AGENDA:

Motions:

Warrants:

On a motion by Bruce Menin and seconded by Nick deKanter it was

VOTED: To approve, receive and forward to the City Auditor for payment the following warrant.

\$25,206.33

Motion Passed Unanimously

On a motion by Bruce Menin and seconded by Michael Luekens it was

VOTED: To approve, receive and forward to the City Auditor for payment the following warrant.

\$196,656.99

Motion Passed Unanimously

Minutes:

There were no minutes to approve at this time.

NHS STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE REPORT:

NHS Student Representative Report Julia Bradley reported on the following:

- 12/3 - Poetry Soup
- 12/5 - Women's Self Defense hosted by Julia Bradley
- 12/12 - NHS Student Day of Poetry - students are looking forward to that
- Juniors won Color Day. The senior class of 2015 has never won Color Day and will not have their year painted on the Color Day Jug
- A winter dance is being planned directly after the break

MCAS AND ACCOUNTABILITY REPORT:

Assistant Superintendent Angela Bik presented the growth and accountability data for the district. The principals from the various schools reported out MCAS data on each of their schools through a power point presentation.

Discussion:

Bresnahan School:

Mayor Holaday inquired regarding Engage New York.

Molin School:

Steve Cole inquired regarding tracking after school extra help.

Audrey McCarthy asked if there was after school transportation. No

Rupert Nock Middle School:

Mayor Holaday asked if there is a reason why the Elementary School uses TURK

Steve Cole questioned open response.

Superintendent Viccaro stated she will come back in late Spring with data.

BROWN SCHOOL PROPOSAL:

Motion:

On a motion by Mayor Holaday and seconded by Michael Luekens it was

VOTED: To approve an ad hoc committee to review the Proposed Process for School Committee Due Diligence on the Brown School with a completion date on or around March 1st.

Discussion:

Mayor Holaday asked how are people sending e-mails to you. Bruce Menin said people who want to volunteer should volunteer.

Cheryl Sweeney suggested that they vote in Bruce Menin as chair of that committee and have one more School Committee member on that committee. Cheryl Sweeney volunteered to be on the committee.

Amendment to the Motion:

The motion was amended to read:

To approve an ad hoc committee to review the Proposed Process for School Committee Due Diligence on the Brown School with a completion date on or around March 1st, with Bruce Menin as Chair of the

committee.

Discussion:

Steve Cole asked if it was a conflict naming a chair.

Nick deKanter said it was in their venue to name a chair.

Bruce Menin said he will make corrections.

Motion Passed Unanimously

Mayor Holaday announced that Mark Ritchy will make cabinets for the artifacts that will be displayed at the Bresnahan School. She stated that the school district really needs athletic fields - it will be an extra \$19 in taxes.

ADJOURNMENT:

Motion

On a motion by Bruce Menin and seconded by Audrey McCarthy it was

VOTED: To adjourn the meeting at 10:10 PM.

Motion Passed Unanimously