

Sullivan School Board meeting
Wednesday, July 23, 2014
6:30 p.m. at the Sullivan Town Hall, lower level

Sullivan School Board: Risa Keene, Stephanie Jacques Kleine, JJ Prior, Malinda Scherpa.
Absent: Paul Bolduc.
Others in attendance: Toni Ellsworth.

Call to order

The meeting was called to order at 6:37.

Public comments

None present.

Superintendent

Dr. Dassau was unable to attend the meeting this evening. S. Jacques Kleine shared that the board has received a contract extension proposal from First Student for the coming three years.

A risk assessment has been received by the insurance company regarding the school playground. Areas of concern include defective equipment and splintered wood on play structure. What would it cost to have the playground dismantled? We will be accepting bids for this work.

The alarm on the school's underground storage tank has been going off due to water seepage from recent heavy rains.

Treasurer

T. Ellsworth shared that the audit took place today. The audit process was successful. Some difficulties included rounding up minutes from special meetings and hearings. J. Prior suggested posting all documents necessary for audits to the district web site so everything is all together come audit time. It appears the district ended FY13-14 with a surplus of about \$80,000. This figure is yet to be finalized. auditor is reviewing whether this money can be used to pay down the loan as was expected. The written audit report is expected to be completed and available in about 6 weeks.

T. Ellsworth expressed concerns about the delay in paying bills due to a wide range of time between board meetings. At the next meeting we should discuss language for a policy to help pay bills on time.

The board expressed its gratitude to district treasurer Toni Ellsworth, superintendent Ken Dassau, and business administrator Brian Gallagher for their time spent on the audit process.

The board signed the payment manifest.

Other business

The board discussed at length the difficulty faced in selling the school building. The price has sat at \$100,000 for quite some time now. We should drop the price again before we need to invest more money to go through another winter. Reasons are compelling to sell now. The condition of the building will depreciate if we do not let it go soon. We should drop the price to an auction-comparable price for an as-is sale.

MOTION: M. Scherpa MOVED to reduce the listed price of the school building to \$60,000. **SECOND:** R. Keene. Discussion: The budget committee has authorized the school board to reduce the price, but still has final say on accepting an offer. A very low price could bring in multiple offers. T. Ellsworth recommended \$65,000, since similar properties have sold for this amount.

AMENDMENT: R. Keene moved to AMEND the motion to read \$65,000. **SECOND:** M. Scherpa. Voice vote, amendment passes.

Voice vote, motion passes as amended.

The date of the next meeting was set for August 11 at 7:00. After this, the board will regular schedule of third Wednesday of the month.

Approval of Minutes

MOTION: J. Prior MOVED to approve the minutes of the June 25, 2014 meeting. **SECOND:** M. Scherpa. Voice vote, motion passes.

Public comments

None present.

Adjournment

MOTION: J. Prior MOVED to adjourn. **SECOND:** R. Keene seconded. Voice vote, Motion passes.
Meeting adjourned at 8:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

John J. Prior
Recording secretary
