

Sullivan School Board meeting
Wednesday, January 15, 2013
6:30 p.m. at the Sullivan Town Hall, lower level

Sullivan School Board: Paul Bolduc, Stephanie Jacques Kleine, Risa Keene, Malinda Scherpa.

Absent: JJ Prior

Others in attendance: Ken Dassau, Toni Ellsworth

Call to order

The meeting was called to order at 6:42p.m.

Approval of Minutes

MOTION: R. Keene MOVED to approve the minutes of the Dec. 18,2013 board meeting. **SECOND:** Melinda Scherpa. Voice vote, motion passes.

Treasurer

T. Ellsworth presented the manifest in the amount of \$117,185.99 for Monadnock tuition (reg + sped), First Student, preschool Services, Surry village and GSTP. She explained the glitch with paying some of the tuition obligations with the town manager. She noted a mistake on the number of payments that appeared on the budget table and explained the impact of the error.

T.Ellsworth expressed concern about working on these numbers without an extra set of eyes and more guidance within the process.

K. Dassau commented that the surplus money the town received should not impact the bottom line. M. Scherpa concurred.

T. Ellsworth commented that it would be important for her to touch base and meet with the business manager to help her with this process.

K. Dassau acknowledged Toni's concern and will facilitate better communication between her and the business manager, Brian Gallagher.

S. Jacques Kleine suggested that she help set up a meeting with Brian Gallagher to help with communication and understanding of roles.

Public Comments

T. Goodnow inquired on the amount of money in question with the building was surplus monies and the board confirmed it was.

T. Goodnow asked about Title 1A money and how it was distributed to students between the two towns.

K. Dassau explained that we would like Nelson to decide how best to use the money and for us to secure those funds. We have these monies and we

need to identify specific needs and assistance to be able to use them.

T. Goodnow inquired which school board member's seats were open. He was notified that Risa Keene and JJ Prior's terms were up.

T. Goodnow inquired who was paid and how the Superintendent was chosen. The board explained that the only paid position was K. Dassau and that he was chosen for his vast experience with both Monadnock and Surry.

Superintendent

K. Dassau discussed the issues which still exist with the settlement of the Sullivan School Building with Monadnock. He believes we are close in agreement and nearing a date. Sullivan attorney wants to see a Monadnock's Board vote on the agreement of the business managers. The surplus refund and the LGC distributions from MRSD can be exchanged prior to closing on the building.

T. Ellsworth commented that that revenue was already accounted for within our taxes.

K. Dassau commented that whatever the budgeted amount the town of Sullivan appropriated to the district will be received by the district.

S.Jacques Kleine commented that this information and situation needs to be shared with the town's Budget Committee.

K. Dassau commented on the Title 1A money. SAU 29 Assistant Superintendent Reuben Duncan along with Title I coordinator Jan Barry are drafting the MOU and will also draft the grant for the Sullivan Board's review.

BUDGET 2014 - 2015

K. Dassau commented that he and T.Ellsworth will sit down and work off of the budget template from last year for the 2014-15 budget.

T.Ellsworth, K.Dassau and S. Klein will meet on January 23rd at RISE at 10:30 to begin the budget process.

Discussion of Board Stipends. S.Jacques Kleine requested that board members identify roles to guide potential stipend amounts for the coming budget. K.Dassau suggested to consider stipend amounts received by other boards to decide what stipend amount that the board would feel comfortable with.

T.Ellsworth commented that bookkeeping should be compensated due to the time involved.

R.Keene commented that she did not feel that she would like a stipend but supported the compensation for those on the Board who bear the brunt of the workload.

K.Dassau suggested that the Board take a vote on the issue. He also mentioned the personal costs of board members in travel, purchasing printer ink etc. which a small stipend would cover. P.Bolduc commented that he wasn't against compensating Board members, but he personally wouldn't take a stipend and instead would return it to the District.

MOTION: Melinda Scherpa MOVED to approve Board stipends at \$200 per annum. SECOND: R. Keene. No further discussion. S.Jacques Kleine called for vote. Voice Vote: Unanimous. Motion Passes

MOTION: Melinda Scherpa moved to request a stipend for the Treasurer and district clerk at \$800 each. Second: R.Keene. Discussion. R.Keene commented that they have worked hard and have done so without stipends. P.Bolduc concurred with these sentiments. S.Jacques Kleine called for vote. Voice Vote: Unanimous. Motion Passes

NEW BUSINESS

Budget 2014-15

S. Jacques Kleine shared that she had attended the town budget committee on Jan. 9th. The intent was to review the budget status with the school district. The Budget committee suggested that we start with a payment of oil to get the building through the winter. She suggested that we put in a place holder for next year's budget in case we don't sell the building. She also suggested that we put another 1000 gallons in the tank. She also noted that the school board is now empowered by the Budget Committee to make price reductions on the listing of the building. Discussion on resetting a price on the building. **MOTION:** R.Keene moved to reduce the price of the building to \$100,000. Seconded by M. Scherpa. Voice Vote: Unanimous. Motion Passes

The Board and Budget Committee will meet on January 30 at 7:00PM to hammer out the budget. S. J-K commented that we should send them our budget ahead of this meeting even if is sent electronically.

The public hearing for the school district and the town budget will both be held on February 13 at 7:00.

The town vote will be held on the 11th and the town meeting will be held March 12th.

Warrant Articles were discussed.

K.Dassau commented on the entry amount of surplus being open ended within Article 3. And the Board will need to propose an "up to amount" for insertion.

The board exchanged many ideas around the wording of the articles all centered on the school building's potential sale, loan as well as maintenance. Dave Bradley and the DRA will ensure that the wording and arrangement are appropriate.

Nelson Budget: P.Bolduc and S.Jacques Kleine commented on the Nelson budget meeting that attended. The major issue is the reduction of the principal position that

was discussed. The Board discussed our concerns on potential impact on student and staff.

Pupil counts were discussed and S.Jacques Kleine asked for input from board member who contacted the various schools about population changes.

Late bus issue with KMS is currently being reviewed and this need will influence budget for next year. KHS? Principal Dotty Frasier was looking into interest, need and possible pooling with Nelson and or Stoddard. K.Dassau suggested that we determine the minimum number of student use to ensure it is a viable expenditure. First Student has not returned the contract yet. K. Dassau will contact.

9:03 MOTION: P. Bolduc Motion to move to go into non-public under RSA 91A:3 II(c) to discuss special education issues. Seconded R. Keene. Roll call Vote: Unanimous. Board returned to public session 9:21.

9:22 MOTION: M. Scherpa moved to go into non public under RSA 91A:3 II (b) consideration of hiring a public employee. Seconded by R. Keene. Roll call Vote: Unanimous. Motion Passes. Board discussed superintendent /SAU contract for next year. Agreed budget amount to be the same as current year. Meeting returned to public session at 9:57pm

MOTION to adjourn was offered by P. Bolduc. Second: R.Keene

Meeting was adjourned at 10:00pm

Upcoming meeting dates:

The next town budget school district meeting is on January 30 at 7:00PM.

The next board meeting will then be held on February 12th at 6:30PM.

Public hearing of budget (town and school) February 13th 7:00PM.

Following that the next meeting will be on February 26th at 6:30PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Paul Bolduc
Board Member