

KING PHILIP REGIONAL SCHOOL COMMITTEE
MINUTES - APPROVED
September 21, 2015
King Philip Regional High School - Library

CALL TO ORDER:

Mrs. Martin, Chair called the meeting to order at 7:00PM.

ROLL CALL OF COMMITTEE MEMBERS:

| | | |
|------------------------------------|-------------|--|
| Members Present: | Norfolk: | Michael Gee |
| | Plainville: | Patrick Francomano, Ann-marie Martin, Charlene McEntee |
| | Wrentham: | Danielle Schmitz, Lynn Desrochers |
| HS Student Council Representative: | | Eliza Sheehan |
| Members Absent: | Plainville: | Present |
| | Wrentham: | Jim Killion |
| | Norfolk: | Noelle Tonelli, Jeff Chalmers |

The meeting is not being videotaped by Wrentham Cable Access. Mrs. Martin explained that the public may visit the district's website at www.kingphilip.org to review informational documents pertaining to each school committee meeting. Videotaped meetings may be viewed in their entirety at www.wrenthamcableaccess.com Mrs. Martin also explained the procedure for public comment.

DELEGATIONS AND VISITORS

Mr. Wolloff, HS Music Teacher
Mr. Meichelbeck, Regional Treasurer and Ms. McLean, Financial Advisor
Mr. Charles Jenkins, Synergy Energy

CONSENT AGENDA

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- ✚ A Motion was made by Mr. Francomano, seconded by Mrs. Desrochers, to approve the Minutes of August 17, 2015. All in favor, with Mrs. McEntee abstaining.

PAYMENT OF BILLS, FINANCIAL REPORT

Warrants/Budget Report/Budget Transfers

COMMUNICATION:

- Board & Administrator, August 2015, Vol. 29, No. 4
- Appointments, Retirements, Resignations, dated 9/21/15 was presented to the Committee.

AGENDA

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- ✚ A Motion was made by Mr. Gee, seconded by Mrs. Desrochers, to approve the Executive Session Minutes June 15, 2015 as they relate to superintendent's raise that was already voted upon in public record and not to be retained. All in favor with Mr. Francomano, Mrs. Martin and Mrs. Schmitz abstaining.

- ✦ **A Motion was made by Mr. Francomano, seconded by Mrs. Schmitz to approve and retain the Executive Session Minutes of August 17, 2015. All in favor with Mrs. McEntee abstaining.**

New Business: (Taken of order)

HS Music Overnight Field Trip: Mr. Wolloff

- ✦ **A Motion was made by Mr. Francomano, seconded by Mrs. Desrochers, to approve the attendance of the King Philip Regional High School Marching Band to attend the US Bands National Finals in East Rutherford, NJ from November 6-8, 2015, according to Policy JJH and IJOA. All in favor.**

Refinancing of Debt Service: Mr. Meichelbeck and Margaret McLean

A review of the bid process was given by Ms. McLean. The District received various bids to refinance the outstanding debt service of \$13,995,000 remaining on the school building projects. For FY17, the realized savings is \$257,300 with the estimated savings for the three member towns being:

- Norfolk - \$88,202
- Plainville - \$66,924
- Wrentham - \$102,174

Bond counsel has prepared the proper language and the Motion for the School Committee's action this evening to refinance the District's debt service.

- ✦ **A Motion was made by Mr. Francomano, seconded by Mrs. Desrochers, that in order to reduce interest costs, I move that the King Philip Regional School Committee approve the votes as presented in Bond Counsel's language (Letter AM 54829643.1) for the refinancing of debt service for the King Philip Regional School District. All in favor.**

VOTE OF THE REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT SCHOOL COMMITTEE

I, the Secretary of the Regional School District School Committee (the "Committee") of the King Philip Regional School District, Massachusetts (the "District"), certify that at a meeting of the Committee held September 21, 2015, of which meeting all members of the Committee were duly notified and at which a quorum was present, the following votes were unanimously passed, all of which appear upon the official record of the Committee in my custody:

Voted: That in order to reduce interest costs, the District Treasurer is authorized to issue refunding bonds, at one time or from time to time, pursuant to Chapter 44, Section 21A of the General Laws, or pursuant to any other enabling authority, to refund all or a portion of the District's outstanding (i) \$27,300,000 General Obligation School Bonds dated December 15, 2005 and (ii) \$5,000,000 General Obligation School Bonds dated December 15, 2006 (collectively, the "Refunded Bonds") and that the proceeds of any refunding bonds issued pursuant to this vote shall be used to pay the principal, redemption premium and interest on the Refunded Bonds and costs of issuance of the refunding bonds.

Further Voted: that the sale of the \$11,605,000 General Obligation Refunding Bonds, Series A of the District dated October 1, 2015 (the "Series A Bonds"), to Hutchinson, Shockey,

Erley & Co. at the price of \$13,503,109.76 and accrued interest, if any, is hereby approved and confirmed. The Bonds shall be payable on December 15 of the years and in the principal amounts and bear interest at the respective rates, as follows:

| <u>Year</u> | <u>Amount</u> | <u>Interest Rate</u> | <u>Year</u> | <u>Amount</u> | <u>Interest Rate</u> |
|-------------|---------------|----------------------|-------------|---------------|----------------------|
| 2016 | \$1,200,000 | 5.00% | 2021 | \$1,150,000 | 5.00% |
| 2017 | 1,190,000 | 5.00 | 2022 | 1,145,000 | 5.00 |
| 2018 | 1,190,000 | 5.00 | 2023 | 1,140,000 | 5.00 |
| 2019 | 1,190,000 | 5.00 | 2024 | 1,130,000 | 5.00 |
| 2020 | 1,150,000 | 5.00 | 2025 | 1,120,000 | 5.00 |

Further Voted: that the sale of the \$2,390,000 General Obligation Refunding Bonds, Series B of the District dated October 1, 2015 (the “Series B Bonds,” and together with the Series A Bonds, the “Bonds”), to Hutchinson, Shockey, Erley & Co. at the price of \$2,765,768.37 and accrued interest, if any, is hereby approved and confirmed. The Bonds shall be payable on June 15 of the years and in the principal amounts and bear interest at the respective rates, as follows:

| <u>Year</u> | <u>Amount</u> | <u>Interest Rate</u> | <u>Year</u> | <u>Amount</u> | <u>Interest Rate</u> |
|-------------|---------------|----------------------|-------------|---------------|----------------------|
| 2016 | \$200,000 | 3.00% | 2022 | \$220,000 | 5.00% |
| 2017 | 215,000 | 4.00 | 2023 | 220,000 | 5.00 |
| 2018 | 215,000 | 5.00 | 2024 | 220,000 | 5.00 |
| 2019 | 215,000 | 5.00 | 2025 | 225,000 | 5.00 |
| 2020 | 215,000 | 5.00 | 2026 | 225,000 | 5.00 |
| 2021 | 220,000 | 5.00 | | | |

Further Voted: that in connection with the marketing and sale of the Bonds, the preparation and distribution of a Notice of Sale and Preliminary Official Statement dated September 2, 2015, and a final Official Statement dated September 16, 2015 (the “Official Statement”), each in such form as may be approved by the District Treasurer, be and hereby are ratified, confirmed, approved and adopted.

Further Voted: that the District Treasurer and School Committee be, and hereby are, authorized to execute and deliver a continuing disclosure undertaking in compliance with SEC Rule 15c2-12 in such form as may be approved by bond counsel to the District, which undertaking shall be incorporated by reference in the Bonds for the benefit of the holders of the Bonds from time to time.

Further Voted: that we authorize and direct the District Treasurer to establish post issuance federal tax compliance procedures in such form as the District Treasurer deems sufficient, in order to monitor and maintain the tax-exempt status of the Bonds and such other tax-exempt bonds and notes as are issued by the District from time to time.

Further Voted: that each member of the Committee, the District Secretary and the District Treasurer be and hereby are, authorized to take any and all such actions, and execute and deliver such certificates, receipts or other documents as may be determined by them, or any of them, to be necessary or convenient to carry into effect the provisions of the foregoing votes.

I further certify that the votes were taken at a meeting open to the public, that no vote was taken by secret ballot, that a notice stating the place, date, time and agenda for the meeting (which agenda included the adoption of the above votes) was filed with the Town Clerks of each of the member towns of Norfolk, Plainville and Wrentham (together, the “Town Clerks”) and a copy thereof posted in a manner

conspicuously visible to the public at all hours in or on the municipal buildings in which the offices of the Town Clerks and the District Secretary are located, or in accordance with an approved alternative method of notice prescribed or approved by the Massachusetts Attorney General as set forth in 940 CMR 29.03(4), at least 48 hours, not including Saturdays, Sundays and legal holidays, prior to the time of the meeting and remained so posted at the time of the meeting, that no deliberations or decision in connection with the sale of the Bonds were taken in executive session, all in accordance with G.L. c.30A, §§18-25, as amended.

Dated: September 21, 2015

Secretary of the Committee

Solar Net Metering by Synergy Energy: Mr. Charles Jenkins

Mr. Jenkins presented the solar net metering and power purchase agreement prepared for the District by Synergy Energy. He explained that net metering would provide a significant savings to the District's electricity bills. Net metering 101 overview was presented to the School Committee. He noted that Regional districts fall in to the same category as municipal cities and towns as an independent entity from the towns. Several different sites will be coming up online and there are several landfills that are becoming available to build on in remote locations to generate solar power.

Mr. Jenkins explained the economic benefits of the electricity bill savings. Generate power, produce credits, net savings provide no risk to the municipality whatsoever and savings are based on the credits. There is a 20 year standard contract with a shared net savings of upward to 40%.

Usage assessment through billing data was determined based on last year's usage. There is a fixed rate based on the retail rates on the bills with a 2.0% escalation annually and keep the upside delta, hedging against the market for a 5.3M lifetime savings, with the benefits going to the district:

Summary of terms:

1. 25% discount over existing Tariff Billing Rate;
2. Guaranteed annual production and up for shortfall;
3. 20 year term for PPA and net metering credits.

Benefits to school district:

1. Zero upfront payment; pay only for net metering credits; reduce or eliminate demand charges.

This is a short-term pathway where you can maximize your benefits. Synergy would like a 6 month window if usage commitment is reduced. Maximum is 10 megawatts as a cap, but KP will not reach that as there is not enough usage. Referred to Haverhill as an example.

Historical data on rates and modeling suggest a 3.5% increase is very conservative.

1. At the end of the contract, the panels lose a small amount of efficiency but can go 50 years and create power. The inverters have a 25-30 year warranty and are most likely to fail first.
2. At the end of the 20 year contract, there are options to renew, a couple of 5 year options. Future technologies and may double capacity on the same footprint requiring a new negotiation that you may be involved with and is spelled out in the contract.
3. Another option – you can decline.
4. If the site is turned off, Synergy will remove it and that is built into the contract.

The Committee asked what other areas were using net metering. Mr. Jenkins indicated that Melrose, Revere, Abington, Salem, Franklin Tri-County, and Quaboag school district currently have contracts. Do you diversify into windmills, they do far more than solar, they do controls, solar, wind, biomass (composting), all about credits. Supermarkets and restaurants use biomass. Mr. Jenkins indicated that he is not a big windfarm fan, only entertain wind in the far corner of western Mass in Sandersville, on 400 acres. He prefers micro-turbines that are the size of a flagpole, and can put those in some inconspicuous areas. The problem with wind in New England is that it is not consistent. Mr. Jenkins suggested putting a kiosk in to educate the students. Synergy has a curriculum to support this.

Discussion ensued on the timeline of the project:

Looking at first quarter of 2016 because the land is under control, and this will allow for time to do all the engineering, permitting and get the site ready to go.

1. Prohibitive to build a project without a customer; no one will finance it.
2. There is a risk that you lose opportunity and time is of the essence.
3. Urgency is that we have a finite amount, get through procedures, very diligent to getting this information out to everyone with the finite amount that is available.

Dr. Zielinski noted that King Philip has 2 buildings running off of different power companies. Mr. Jenkins explained that all the major utilities are under the same jurisdiction, National Grid and Eversource (N-Star) are almost the same in their weights. They have no limitations on selling credits, the supply contract is not affected because this is public procurement and the rates are almost identical.

Mrs. Desrochers asked about the downside, even if no risk, what happens if credits go off-line, or if government regulations change?

1. Not credit laundering. The money is invested all upfront.
2. Failure to perform clause is addressed in the contract. Has to be back on line within 30-45 days or we need to start paying you. There is recourse if it goes on longer than what it says in the contracts.
3. What if the market crashes, no adverse risk? When you hit that point, you make less, then you cease to benefit and paying less for the supplier.

Dr. Zielinski requested a copy of a standard contract to have a legal review. Mr. Jenkins indicated that he would send a template by Wednesday, September 23rd to Dr. Zielinski so that she may have legal counsel review it.

Tabled to October 5, pending legal review. Dr. Zielinski noted that she will not be in attendance at this meeting, but that Dr. Gilson, Assistant Superintendent will be at the meeting.

COMMUNICATION:

The following documents were presented to the School Committee:

- KP In the News
- Special Education: Basic Rights for Parents Presentation Invitation
- 2015/2016 Ethics Compliance for School Committee members was distributed for the 2015/2016 school year and asked that the paperwork be completed by 10/5/15.

REPORTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

None

REPORTS FROM SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEMBERS:

Norfolk School Committee Representative: None

Plainville School Committee Representative: Mrs. McEntee

Reviewed FY 2016 Grants
SPED Director reviewed the recent changes to the Special Education laws and regulations
Introduced the new school leadership team
Completed Superintendent Evaluation and approved a new contract for the superintendent.

Wrentham School Committee Representative: Ms. Schmitz

Open House
Introduced the new district leadership team
Reviewed the current wellness policy
Discussed allergies and dietary restrictions for other nationalities
Reviewed Teacher Evaluation procedures
Reviewed a Reebok Exercise/Grant program

HS Student Council Representative: Ms. Sheehan
Schoolwide

On September 15th, King Philip held its yearly open house. It was a successful evening with a large turnout. Many parents visited booths highlighting this year's DECA projects, signed up for the KPPN and were seen purchasing KP planners.

KP Football has their first home game this Friday, vs North Attleboro High School. The season's first home game is typically a major attraction for King Philip Students! Come cheer on the boys, this Friday at 7PM, on our brand new turf!

KP Cares

KP Cares will be hosting "Chop to Stop, Shave to Save" on September 28th, in the cafeteria. The event was held last year to raise awareness of childhood cancer, to raise funds for The Jimmy Fund and local families battling the disease. Last year at the "Chop to Stop/Shave to Save", hair stylists, and over 60 students, faculty, and administration participated. The event raised over \$3,000 and 25 KP girls each donated over 8 inches of their hair to the Pantene Foundation and Locks of Love. These organizations were able to use the hair to make wigs for children with cancer. KP Cares says it exceeded all expectations last year, and they went through with their plan to make it an annual event. The event is highly anticipated by many, and it is expected to be a major success again this school year.

Student Council

The Student Council has been busy selling Planners to students (and their parents!) since the start of the school year. Planner sales have been very successful this year. Approximately 300, out of the 325 planners have been sold. King Philip students have been finding the planners to be an effective tool in and out of the classroom. Students are able to keep track of exams, and homework assignments, as well as extracurricular activities in their own personalized King Philip planner. The planners are being sold for \$10.00 each.

NEW BUSINESS (continued):

Home School Requests

- ✦ **A Motion was made by Mr. Francomano, seconded by Mrs. McEntee, to approve the following home school requests for the 2015/2016 school year according to School Committee Policy IHBG:**
 - C.C.**
 - T.C.**
 - N.G.**
 - I.I.**
 - All in favor.**

Unfinished Business:

School Committee Goals:

Mr. Francomano suggested having a retreat earlier during the school year or have a meeting on a Saturday to dedicate a significant amount of time to this topic.

Discussion ensued on whether or not the Committee established the district goals, referencing the strategic plan which was reviewed last year and is designed to be reviewed every 3 years. Dr. Zielinski reviewed the history of the mission and vision statement that had not been looked at in about 10 years prior to her tenure. The strategic objectives and the theory of action were reviewed by the community, teachers, and was looked at it to revise/update it and by the end of the third year. She indicated that much of this is multiple year work and is used as a guide for the superintendent's goals and administrative goals. The objectives are now aligned with the state rubrics.

Discussion was held on whether there should be a sharper focus on what goals the School Committee wants to focus on. In the past having a facilitator such as Amy Seville-Nelson has been helpful.

The School Committee reviewed the strategic initiatives and the goals of Arlington, which are defined as the goals of the district. Should the strategic initiatives be reviewed and revised year to year to determine the timeframe in which they may be accomplished.

Mr. Gee referred to Minutes of July 21, 2015 (Retreat). Discussion ensued on how to support these types of goals (such as community engagement). We do the things that we can do, but if it is a goal, The Committee can take ownership of it.

Need to articulate a direction. Pick target areas based upon strategic objectives. Choose an area such as community.

Dr. Zielinski and the School Committee discussed the records retention policy discussion i.e. personnel records, teacher evaluation, summative and formative done via *Teach point*, but can't be contained in *Teach point*, so where would that be stored. Mr. Francomano stated that as a district we should recognize that and move forward, set it up as a priority, as a goal, make them part of a long term priority. Do some background work with the Policy Subcommittee. Should we have a consultant come in and make a presentation to the committee?

The School Committee developed draft goals:

1. Develop a records retention policy and an electronics files policy- under operations and management
2. Plan and develop an effective alumni network for career/college networking and placement
3. Publish an annual report in late May, distributed to member towns that discusses college/career profiles, district achievement and upcoming budget
4. Determine an interest level for an enrichments program for grades 5-6 to be housed at the MS and perhaps partnering with park and recreation
5. Assure that the SPED program is offered as a collaborative effort of the four member school districts to maximize student achievement.
6. Enhance programs that support the social/emotional needs of all district students.
7. Support ongoing operations improvements to maximize dollars spent on learning.
8. Promote centralized services between the member towns and the district.
9. Support initiatives that will continue to exhibit the status of KP District as an educational leader within the Commonwealth
10. Increase awareness of accelerated opportunities for gifted/talented students such as scholarship/internship opportunities (building a culture of excellence).
11. Develop and publish a strategic five year plan for capital needs
12. Implement a formal fixed asset inventory control system (bar code system)
13. Develop an internal control system to ensure the security of high cost assets

14. Expand the programs offered and increase the rigor of same to allow students to achieve and excel as they progress through their learning career

Discussion ensued on continuing this discussion over the next few meetings. Ms. Desrochers will organize these draft goals into categories and present them at the next school committee meeting on October 5, 2015.

LATE COMMUNICATIONS

REPORTS OF SPECIAL COMMITTEES

RECOMMENDATIONS OR QUESTIONS FROM INDIVIDUAL COMMITTEE MEMBERS

- Mrs. Martin received a call from a Plainville parent regarding a transportation issue and bus overcrowding.
- Mr. Francomano addressed the security of the computers stored in the open computer carts in the library,

PUBLIC COMMENT

ADJOURNMENT INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION

- ✚ At 9:35 pm, a Motion was made by Mr. Francomano seconded by Mrs. Desrochers, to adjourn into Executive Session and to return to open session solely for the purpose of Adjournment. All in favor by roll call vote. Yes (6) No (0).
- ✚ At 9:58pm, A Motion was made by Mr. Francomano, seconded by Mrs. McEntee, to adjourn. All in favor by roll call vote. Yes (6); No (0).

Respectfully submitted,

*Lisa Barrett Witkus
Secretary to the School Committee*