

STONINGTON BOARD OF EDUCATION SPECIAL MEETING

JULY 31, 2008

Mr. Bolduc, Chairman called the meeting to order at 7:13 p.m. in the High School Commons. Members present were John Bolduc, Chairman, April Smith, Secretary, Sam Agnello, Gail MacDonald, Rob Cary, Kevin Bornstein and Doug Rea.

Also present were Michael McKee, Superintendent of Schools, Leanne Masterjoseph, Assistant Superintendent, Judy Samokar, Finance Manager, Bill King, Operations Manager, Jackie Garvie, Recording Secretary, members of the staff, and interested citizens.

Budget Reductions

The Board discussed and approved several reductions. Please see attachment.

The following motion was made by Gail MacDonald and seconded by Kevin Bornstein:

- **Motion 1: To approve reducing Expansion of World Language Program by \$9,468 and approve reduction of \$14,205 from Pro-Rated Division by Enrollment.**

The vote was as follows:

Doug Rea: No

Gail MacDonald: Yes

April Smith: No

John Bolduc: No

Sam Agnello: No

Rob Cary: Yes

Kevin Bornstein: Yes

The motion failed.

Comments from Citizens

Mr. Bolduc opened the meeting to the public for comments regarding the 2008-2009 Board of Education budget reductions recommended at this meeting. Several citizens came forward to voice their concerns regarding the possible reduction of the middle school Tech Ed teacher and the possible reduction of expansion of the World Language program. Citizens also came forward to thank the Board for not recommending the reduction of a music teacher at the high school.

Board Action on Budget 2008-09 Reductions

The following motion was made by Gail MacDonald and seconded by Sam Agnello:

- **Motion 2: To propose returning Tech Ed position and part-time custodian position to the budget and approving reduction of the middle school assistant principal position.**
- **Motion 3: To amend motion to add \$10,178 for painting in school buildings.**

Aye: All

The following motion was made by Doug Rea and seconded by Kevin Bornstein:

- **Motion 4: To reduce \$ 10,178 for painting and return \$12,000 for AP Exams for students.**

The vote was as follows:

Doug Rea: Yes

Gail MacDonald: No

April Smith: Yes

John Bolduc: No

Sam Agnello: Yes

Rob Cary: No

Kevin Bornstein: Yes

The motion carried.

The following motion was made by Sam Agnello and seconded by Gail MacDonald:

- **Motion 5: To approve reductions totaling \$729,000 from the 2008-09 Board of Education Budget.**

The vote was as follow:

Doug Rea: Yes

Gail MacDonald: Yes

April Smith: No

John Bolduc: Yes

Sam Agnello: Yes

Rob Cary: Yes

Kevin Bornstein: Yes

The motion carried.

April Smith stated she needed to restate her feeling on the expansion of the World Language Program and her belief that many voters do not approve of this item in the budget.

Gail MacDonald gave the Board her letter to the editor encouraging citizens to vote. She also shared the letter with Glen Frishman, Board of Finance Chairmain, and with Ed Haberek, First Selectman. Both supported the letter.

Mrs. Smith stated that she thought the letter written by Gail was a wonderful step forward for the town.

The following motion was made by Sam Agnello and seconded by Kevin Bornstein:

- **Motion 1: To adjourn at 9:30 p.m.**

Aye: All

April Smith, Board Secretary