

Tentative minutes of the **Bethel Board of Education Regular Meeting** held on **Thursday, November 17, 2011**, in Board of Education Conference Room E.

Attendance: Jen Larsen

Administrative Attendance: G. Chesley, J. Jordan, T. Yonsky, D. DeBlois, K. Gombos, K. Smith, C. Troetti

L. Craybas, Chairman, called the meeting to order at 7:04 p.m.

1. **Call to Order**
A. *Roll Call for Quorum*

Board Members Present: S. Carlsen, L. Craybas, J. Chrzescijanek, S. Clayton M. Duff, W. Duff, K. Lacey, M. O'Brien, R. Renner

Board Members Absent: None

B. Pledge of Allegiance

Motion by L. Craybas: Move to add two items to the agenda:
1. Unfinished business from November 15, 2011 – Executive Session as Item #2
Motion by M. Duff: Move to add second item:
2. Hiring policy of Board members of the Board of Education as Item #7
Seconded by S. Carlsen
Motion Carried Unanimously

2. **Appointment of new Superintendent of Schools**

Motion by L. Craybas: Move the Board of Education appoint Dr. Kevin Smith to the position of Superintendent of Schools commencing on February 1, 2012 pending successful completion of negotiations for his compensation package.
Seconded by S. Carlsen
Motion Carried Unanimously

3. **Approval of Minutes**
A. *October 20, 2011 – Special Meeting*
B. *October 20, 2011 – Regular Meeting*
C. *October 24, 2011 – Special Meeting – 6 PM*
D. *October 24, 2011 – Special Meeting – 7:30 PM*
E. *October 26, 2011 – Special Meeting – 6 PM*
F. *October 26, 2011 – Special Meeting – 7:30 PM*
G. *October 27, 2011 – Special Meeting – 6 PM*

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TOWN OF BETHEL
TOWN CLERK

- H. **October 27, 2011 – Special Meeting – 7:30 PM**
- I. **November 3, 2011 – Special Meeting**

Motion by S. Carlsen: Move approve the following minutes:
October 20, 2011 – Special Meeting
October 20, 2011 – Regular Meeting as corrected
October 24, 2011 – Special Meeting – 6 PM
October 24, 2011 – Special Meeting – 7:30 PM
October 26, 2011 – Special Meeting – 6 PM
October 26, 2011 – Special Meeting – 7:30 PM
October 27, 2011 – Special Meeting – 6 PM
October 27, 2011 – Special Meeting – 7:30 PM
November 3, 2011 – Special Meeting
Seconded by W. Duff
Motion Carried Unanimously

4. Correspondence

- Letter from Dr. Chesley to legislators regarding Public Act 11-179, *An Act Concerning Education Issues*, Section 10- ROTC.
- Letter from Michael McLachlan, State Senator, to Senator Boucher regarding Public Act 11-179, *An Act Concerning Education Issues*, Section 10- ROTC.

5. Board Recognition

A. Recognition of Board members

Dr. Chesley and Mr. Craybas, Board Chairman, thanked retiring Board members Michael Duff and Janice Chrzescijanek for their time and service to the Board of Education.

Gifts to the School System:

<u>School</u>	<u>Gift</u>	<u>Donor</u>
Bethel Middle School	\$1,000 to support Lego Robotics Teams	Mr. John Hardiman, Boehringer Ingelheim Pharmaceuticals

6. Audience Participation

Mr. Knickerbocker, First Selectman, congratulated Dr. Smith on his appointment, expressed his appreciation for the outstanding leadership of Dr. Gary Chesley

over the past 13 years, and thanked the Board for their work on the Superintendent search.

Cynthia McCorkindale, 19 Elgin Ave., asked to confirm the receipt of her email to the Board Chair regarding the SEEC complaint she filed against Dr. Chesley and accompanying other issues. Ms. McCorkindale asked if the Board considered her issues worthy of discussion and possible action.

Jen Larsen, 128 Grassy Plain St., spoke about working as a PTO officer with Dr. Chesley over the last 12 years and her appreciation for the opportunities he created for the students in preparation for college. Mrs. Larsen looks forward to working with Dr. Smith in his new position as Superintendent.

7. Hiring Policy of Board members of the Board of Education

**Motion by M. Duff: Move that members of the Board of Education shall not, work for, apply for, interview for employment with the Bethel Board of Education or the Bethel School District while being a member of the Bethel Board of Education and until such time wherein one year has elapsed being a member of the Bethel Board of education.
Seconded by W Duff**

**Motion by W. Duff: Move to amend the motion that the time elapsed not be one year but three (3) months.
Seconded by S. Carlsen**

Mr. Craybas stated there will be no discussion on the amended motion for the following reasons:

"It is not in order because it conflicts with the Board's Bylaw 9312 for amending Board Bylaws. This motion asks the Board to amend Bylaw 9230, Conflict of Interest, without advanced consideration by the Board's Policy Committee. Since there is no circumstance requiring immediate action by the full Board, normal handling of this matter by our policy committee is deemed to be appropriate. The Board's historical practice says revisions and additions to the Board's Bylaws have always started out in the Board's policy committee, as evidenced by the work that this policy committee did and was charged to do on behalf of the Board on these same Bylaws, 9270, 9212, and 9314 in March of this year. The full Board accepted the updates to all three bylaws without comment and without amendment. Today's proposed amendment will be thoroughly reviewed and discussed in a public session by the Policy Committee as a subsequent meeting and will receive careful consideration of its merits. The Policy Committee will make its recommendations to the full Board after its review of the proposed amendment. The Board will then follow our own Bylaw 9312 which we are in violation of tonight if we let this move to vote."

**Motion by S. Carlsen: Move to overrule the decision of the Chairman.
Seconded by W Duff**

The Board discussed whether or not the motion was in violation of Bylaw 9312.

**Motion by S. Clayton: Move to call the question.
Seconded by M. O'Brien**

S. Carlsen stated that Mr. Clayton and Mrs. Renner should recuse themselves because he feels this motion is a conflict of interest for them.

Mr. Clayton said he will not recuse himself because at any point anyone of the Board members could be an employee in a public school.

**Motion by S. Clayton: Move to call the question.
Seconded by M. O'Brien
AYE: J. Chrzescijanek, S. Clayton, L. Craybas, K. Lacey, M. O'Brien,
R. Renner
NAY: S. Carlsen, M. Duff, W. Duff
Motion Carried**

**Motion by S. Carlsen: Move to overrule the decision of the Chairman.
Seconded by W. Duff
AYE: S. Carlsen, M. Duff, W. Duff
NAY: J. Chrzescijanek, S. Clayton, L. Craybas, K. Lacey, M. O'Brien,
R. Renner
Motion Carried**

Dr. Chesley clarified for the Board they then needed to vote on the original motion as amended at this point

Motion as amended by W. Duff: Move that members of the Board of Education shall not, work for, apply for, interview for employment with the Bethel Board of Education or the Bethel School District while being a member of the Bethel Board of Education and until such time wherein three (3) months has elapsed being a member of the Bethel Board of education.

Seconded by S. Carlsen

AYE: S. Carlsen, M. Duff, W. Duff

NAY: J. Chrzescijanek, S. Clayton, L. Craybas, K. Lacey, M. O'Brien, R. Renner

Motion Failed

Motion by L. Craybas: Move that M. Duff's motion as amended be remanded to the Policy Committee.

Seconded by W. Duff

Motion Carried Unanimously

8. **Reports to the Board**

A. Policy

1. First Reading

a. Safe School Climate Plan – Regulation 5131.911

Dr. Jordan, Associate Superintendent, presented the State mandated plan as devised by Bethel staff. The plan needs Board approval at the next Board meeting. The plan is not a policy but a regulation that needs Board approval. The plan has to be in place by July 2012. Dr. Jordan stated 75% of the plan is in place now. Dr. Jordan asked to Board to send any questions or comments about the plan to her. The plan will be reviewed at the next Policy Subcommittee meeting on December 1, 2011.

B. Curriculum

1. Project Lead the Way

Mrs. Sheila Gambino, BMS Computer Teacher, and BMS students presented and explained the benefits of the program and gave a more global picture of how different modules, like Introduction to Engineering and Biomedical Engineering fit into the high school curriculum.

C. Finance

1. 5-Year Capital Plan

Motion by M. Duff: Move to accept 5-Year Capital Plan as amended and refined.

Seconded by K. Lacey

Motion Carried Unanimously

2. Extension of Contract and Bid waiver for purchase of Trash/Refuse Services

Mrs. Yonsky, Director of Fiscal Services, reviewed the details of the contract extension and the savings over the next few years.

Motion by L. Craybas: Move the Board of Education waives the bid process for the purchase of trash/refuse collection services for the district and accepts a price reduction for this year and next year and extended the contract for an additional three years with LoPresti & Sons for the amount stated in Mrs. Yonsky's memorandum dated November 17, 2011 and authorized the Director of Fiscal Services to finalize and sign the new agreement.

Seconded by S. Carlsen

Motion Carried Unanimously

S. Carlsen requests the Policy Committee review policies 9221 – Filing of Vacancies and 9222 – Resignation and Removal of Office.

Mr. Craybas requested S. Carlsen put his issues with these policies and the rationale for the revisions requested in writing for the policy committee to fully understand the issues being identified.

9. Recommended Executive Session

CT General Statutes 1-210(b)(9)

1. Personnel Negotiations

a) Paraprofessional contract

Board Members Present: S. Carlsen, J. Chrzescijanek, L. Craybas, S. Clayton, M. Duff, W. Duff, K. Lacey, M. O'Brien, R. Renner

Board Members Absent: None

Administrators: G. Chesley, J. Jordan, T. Yonsky

Motion by S. Clayton: Move to enter into Executive Session at 8:37 p.m.

Seconded by W. Duff

Motion Carried Unanimously

Motion by S. Clayton: Move that the Board of Education come out of Executive Session at 9:15 p.m.

Seconded by K. Lacey

Motion Carried Unanimously

Motion by L. Craybas: Move that the Board of Education approve the Paraprofessional Contract as presented by Mrs. Yonsky, Director of Fiscal Services.

Seconded by S. Carlsen

Motion Carried Unanimously

Motion by L. Craybas: Move that the Board of Education approve the contract of Dr. Kevin Smith as Superintendent in the yearly salary of \$165,000 with a 6% annuity.

Seconded by S. Carlsen

AYE: S. Carlsen, J. Chrzescijanek, L. Craybas, S. Clayton, M. Duff,

K. Lacey, M. O'Brien, R. Renner

NAY: W. Duff

Motion Carried

8. Adjourn

Motion by W. Duff: Move to adjourn at 9:17 p.m.

Seconded by R. Renner

Motion Carried Unanimously

Respectfully submitted,

Susan Paré
Board Recorder