

April 5, 2017

A regular meeting of the Board of Education of South Huntington Union Free School District was held on Wednesday, April 5, 2017, in Conference Room B of the Administration Building, 60 Weston Street, Huntington Station, New York.

**Present:**      **Board Members:**

President

Vice President

Mr. Kaden

Mr. Ciappetta

Mrs. Brieff

Mrs. Carey

Mrs. DeGaetano

Mrs. LaCara

**Staff:**

Superintendent of Schools

Asst. Supt. for Business & District Operations

Deputy Superintendent

Asst. Supt. for Instruction & Curriculum

Interim Personnel Administrator

District Clerk

Dr. Bennardo

Dr. Centamore

Ms. Harris

Dr. Bloom

Mr. Fallon

Mrs. McLean

**Absent:**      Board Member

Mr. Nitkewicz

**Call to Order:**      Mr. Kaden opened the meeting at 7:37 p.m. and led the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Public Hearing on Smart Schools Investment Plan:**      Dr. Bennardo provided an explanation of the need for the public hearing for the Smart Schools Investment Plan. It was a requirement of the State Education Department, and at the next meeting, April 19, 2017, the approval of the plan will be placed on the agenda for the Board's consideration. The purchases made through the Smart Schools Investment Plan were targeted. The District was in receipt of the money from the first submission, \$295,000, and it was a more comfortable process moving forward knowing the time factor involved for reimbursement.

Dr. Bloom stated that the purchases include interactive white boards that will replace current boards that are 8 to 10 years old; ChromeBooks to support the District's 1:1 initiative in Grades 6-9 and VAP classes at the high school; and two digital planetariums to replace the one that has been used for the past ten years. Additionally, the private schools in the District also receive the benefit of the plan. Dr. Bloom shared that after the Investment Plan approval on April 19, 2017, purchases can be made, and the reimbursement from the State should be provided within 6 to 8 months.

Mrs. Brieff shared that she was very pleased the planetariums will be purchased through this Plan. Dr. Bennardo added that the Plan addresses infrastructure, which is an ongoing priority of the District.

Mr. Kaden questioned the connectivity speed of 600Mb vs. 400Mb vs. 300Mb and whether the State will approve the submission if the District does

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not show progress of moving forward to the 600Mb. Dr. Bloom responded that slow progress toward the 600Mb must to be demonstrated under the Plan's requirements.

Mr. Kaden asked the Board if there were any questions; he then asked the audience if there were any questions. None were posed, and the public hearing concluded.

**2017/2018 Budget  
Work Session:**

Dr. Bennardo began the budget work session by stating that he understands the NYS educational budget runs were being printed this evening, and he hoped communication of additional state aid would be released. He added that the District had endured difficult times with tough choices in years past, and was able to move forward and finally be in a position to enhance programs and reserves. Dr. Bennardo explained that in previous years, budget transfers were an acceptable philosophy. However, Dr. Centamore, as the Business Official, was not comfortable with this practice, and has taken tremendous pains and time to review every budget code. This was important to know as several codes appear as inflated, and others reflect a decrease—the bottom line was that the funding of the codes was done this year in a more realistic manner with the expectation that budget transfers would be minimized. Dr. Centamore stated that he wanted the codes to be as accurate as possible. Dr. Bennardo shared that the roll-over from one year to the next of the budget codes with “left-over funds” provided a carry-over to the following budget.

Dr. Centamore provided a review of the State budget codes as follows, and subsequently went into depth with each code.

1000 Code – General Support – 9.25%  
 2000 Code – Instruction – 56.50%  
 5000 Code – Transportation – 5.98%  
 7000 Code – Community Service – 0.02%  
 9000 Code – Undistributed – 28.25%

Dr. Centamore reviewed the 1000 code and provided an explanation of the increase with the Treasurer's and Purchasing codes whereby staff were shifted to reflect a more realistic picture, and the central postage was placed into the Purchasing code. Dr. Centamore also added that with Plant Operations and Maintenance of Plant codes, trend code adjustments were made with the need for a new truck and tractor.

**The 1000 code reflected an increase of \$626,771 for a grand total of \$15,020,654 representing a 4.35% increase.**

A review of the 2000 code reflected personnel was 95% of the code, with the contractual code as 4%, and equipment at 1%. The special education code was examined, and Dr. Bennardo shared that the District's special education program is well-known throughout Long Island as one of the best, and because of its excellent reputation, parents of children who require special

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**2017/2018 Budget  
Work Session:**

education services often chose to buy their home(s) in South Huntington Schools. Dr. Bennardo credited “really good CSE work” for this. The special education contractual code increase of \$215,415 was due to the services provided to students who attend private schools within the district, such as St. Anthony’s High School, Long Island School for the Gifted, the Gersh Academy as examples. Mrs. Harris explained that there were 109 students receiving special education services at St. Anthony’s High School alone.

Regarding the increase of 41.49%, \$322,550, with the Tuition BOCES Occupational Education, Dr. Centamore explained that this was a “trend adjustment,” and funding was secured from another budget code. Similarly, Psychological Services reflected a decrease of -4.54%, -\$33,908, due to shifting of staff from one code to another.

**The 2000 code reflected an increase of \$2,685,091, for a grand total of \$91,777,469 representing a 3.01% increase.**

Dr. Centamore spoke to the 5000 Transportation code in which two propane buses were proposed, which will garner fuel-savings. Dr. Bennardo reported that the District had a hybrid of contractual and our own fleet of buses. Typically out-of-district bus runs were handled contractually, which provided savings, and internal bus runs were handled by our own fleet of buses. Dr. Centamore credited Mr. Mike Trelfa, Transportation Supervisor, in doing a great job with Huntington Coach; Dr. Centamore also shared that Mr. Trelfa’s expertise was obvious from his start with South Huntington. More efficiency was gained from Day 1, and now more of our vehicle maintenance was completed in-house rather than out-sourced. Routes were examined, streamlined, reducing the need for contractual assistance, thus increased savings. Discussion ensued to the purchase of propane buses, and the fueling of same. Mr. Trelfa spoke to the fact that after the District obtained 10-12 propane buses, a 1,000 gallon tank would be delivered to the Transportation Office; the District’s responsibility would be for the the cement platform and electric to operate the tank. Dr. Bennardo added that this type of purchase was possible now with the State’s more liberal view of the use of reserves. Again, Dr. Bennardo added that only two buses would be purchased. Mr. Ciappetta questioned whether students who were transported to private schools could also be transported with in-house students. This subject had been discussed at a conference recently attended with several Board members and Dr. Bennardo, and the idea could be looked into further.

**The 5000 code reflected an increase of \$1,096,773, for a grand total of \$9,717,827 representing a 12.72% increase.**

**A review of the 7000 code, the Teen Center, reflected a proposed budget of \$26,700, the same as for this year, no increase whatsoever.**

The 9000 code was reviewed, Benefits & Debt Service. Dr. Centamore

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Work Session:**

shared that cost decreases in unemployment and the Teacher Retirement System helped to offset the increase in cost to Healthcare. Dr. Centamore added that the Teacher Retirement System was tied to a five-year span with the stock market. With the stock market improving, the cost associated with the TRS has declined. Discussion ensued regarding Healthcare as a mid-year adjustment was required. Should the State provide additional state-aid, the first recommendation would be to increase the Transfer to Capital (capital improvements/projects), however, the second recommendation would be to use the state aid for Healthcare. Dr. Centamore continued with a review of the borrowing costs for capital projects. Last year's budget contained a transfer of one million dollars to this Transfer to Capital code; with the revenue being low, the recommendation for the 2017/2018 budget was \$700,000. Again, if additional state aid was received, the recommendation would be for the first \$300,000 to be utilized to increase the \$700,000 to one million dollars.

**The 9000 code reflected a decrease of -\$975,058, for a grand total of \$46,870,058 representing a decrease of -2.08%.**

The final budget/expenditure worksheet, with the Governor's current proposal, reflected the following for the 2017/2018 budget:

**Taxation (Levy Cap): \$11,183,534; increase of \$1,562,362**

**State Aid: \$34,732,963; an increase of \$1,195,161**

**Reserves (ERS): \$1,000,000; no increase/decrease**

**Appr. Fund Balance: \$4,900,000; no increase/decrease**

**Other: \$8,727,400; a decrease of \$-\$217,699**

**Total Revenues: \$161,543,897; an increase of \$2,539,824**

**Expenditures: \$162,437,650; an increase of \$3,433,577**

**Revenue Gap: -\$893,753**

**(Recommendation for the use of additional reserves)**

**BUDGET: \$162,437,650; AN INCREASE OF \$3,433,577—2.16%**

Dr. Bennardo shared that this was the fourth year of a sub-two percent budget. Mr. Kaden asked if more state aid was received, why not apply it against the revenue gap? Dr. Bennardo responded that it was possible, it had been a prudent number to start with. With no other questions or concerns presented, the budget work session concluded.

**Adoption of  
Agenda:**

Motion by Mrs. Carey, seconded by Mrs. Brieff, be it Resolved that the revised agenda be adopted.  
Motion carried unanimously.

**Motion on Minutes  
through Schedule  
of Bills (Warrants):**

Motion by Mrs. LaCara, seconded by Mrs. Carey, be it Resolved that the Board of Education of the South Huntington Union Free School District approve the following items:

**Minutes:**

Minutes of Board meeting held on March 1, 2017.

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<b>Schedule of Investment Accounts:</b>	Schedule of Investment Accounts, as of February 2017, copy made part of these legal minutes, p. 1421.
<b>Treasurer's Report:</b>	Treasurer's Report, February 2017, copy made part of these legal minutes, p. 1422.
<b>Monthly Trial Balance and Bank Reconciliation:</b>	Monthly Trial Balance and Bank Reconciliation, February 2017, copy made part of these legal minutes, pp. 1423-1442.
<b>Monthly Collateral Reconciliation:</b>	Monthly Collateral Reconciliation, as of February 2017, copy made part of these legal minutes, p. 1443.
<b>Revenue Status Report, General Fund:</b>	Revenue Status Report, General Fund, for February 2017, copy made part of these legal minutes, p. 1444.
<b>Revenue Status Report, School Lunch Fund:</b>	Revenue Status Report, School Lunch Fund, February 2017, copy made part of these legal minutes, p. 1445.
<b>Revenue Status Report, Special Aid Fund:</b>	Revenue Status Report, Special Aid Fund, February 2017, copy made part of these legal minutes, p. 1446.
<b>Revenue Status Report, Capital Fund:</b>	Revenue Status Report, Capital Fund, February 2017, copy made part of these legal minutes, p. 1447.
<b>Budget Status Report (Expenditures) General Fund:</b>	Budget Status Report (Expenditures), General Fund, for February 2017, copy made part of these legal minutes, pp. 1448-1455.
<b>Budget Status Report (Expenditures) School Lunch Fund:</b>	Budget Status Report (Expenditures), School Lunch Fund, for February 2017, copy made part of these legal minutes, p. 1456.
<b>Budget Status Report (Expenditures) Special Aid Fund:</b>	Budget Status Report (Expenditures), Special Aid Fund, for February 2017, copy made part of these legal minutes, p. 1457-1458.

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**Budget Status Report (Expenditures) Capital Fund:** Budget Status Report (Expenditures), Capital Fund, for February 2017, copy made part of these legal minutes, p. 1459.

**Budgetary Transfer Report:** Budgetary Transfer Report, for February 2017, copies made part of these legal minutes, p. 1460.

**Tax Levy Schedule:** Tax Levy Schedule, February 2017, copy made part of these legal minutes, p. 1461.

**Library Tax Levy:** Library Tax Levy, February 2017, copy made part of these legal minutes, p. 1461.

**Extraclassroom Activity Fund Report:** Extraclassroom Activity Fund Report, February 2017, copy made part of these legal minutes, pp. 1462-1468.

<b>Schedule of Bills (Warrants):</b>	<u>Schedule of Bills (Warrants)</u>		
	General (A)	Schedule 84	\$1,874,076.00
	School Lunch (C)	Schedule 39	\$35,189.01
	Special Aid (F)	Schedule 34	\$40,035.00

Approved – Weekly Packet of March 24, 2017

	General (A)	Schedule 81	\$330,118.75
		82	\$274,611.56
		83	\$19,490.06
	School Lunch (C)	V079	(\$470.36)
		V082	(\$661.86)
		V082	(\$38,980.12)
		Schedule 38	\$2,966.79
	Special Aid (F)	Schedule 33	\$128,488.62

Approved – Weekly Packet of March 17, 2017

	General (A)	Schedule 79	\$1,789,531.03
		Dental 80	\$11,666.67
	School Lunch (C)	Schedule 37	\$48,114.03
	Special Aid (F)	Schedule 32	\$79,804.76

**Vote on Minutes through Schedule of Bills (Warrants):** Mr. Kaden asked for any additional comments or questions on the above items, and then called for a vote on the motion.  
Motion carried unanimously.

**Approval of Field Trip Request:** Motion by Mrs. Brieff, seconded by Mrs. LaCara, be it Resolved that the Board of Education of the South Huntington Union Free School District hereby approves the DECA field trip on April 16-30, 2017, to Anaheim Convention Center in Anaheim, California for three DECA students and one chaperone.  
Motion carried unanimously.

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**Approval of Joint  
Municipal  
Cooperative  
Bidding Program  
CoSer 612:**

Motion by Mrs. Carey, seconded by Mrs. DeGaetano:

WHEREAS, various educational and municipal corporations located within the State of New York desire to bid jointly for generally needed services and standardized supply and equipment items; and

WHEREAS, the South Huntington Union Free School District, an educational/municipal corporation (hereinafter the “Participant”) is desirous of selectively participating with other educational and/or municipal corporations in the State of New York in joint bidding in the areas mentioned above pursuant to General Municipal Law §119-o and Education Law Section 1950; and

WHEREAS, the Participant is a municipality within the meaning of General Municipal Law §119-n and is eligible to participate in the Board of Cooperative Educational Services, First Supervisory District of Suffolk County (hereinafter Eastern Suffolk BOCES) Joint Municipal Cooperative Bidding Program (hereinafter the “Program”) in the areas mentioned above; and

WHEREAS, the Participant acknowledges receipt of the Program description inclusive of Eastern Suffolk BOCES’ standard bid packet and the general conditions relating to said Program; and

WHEREAS, with respect to all activities conducted by the Program, the Participant wishes to delegate to Eastern Suffolk BOCES the responsibility for drafting of bid specifications, advertising for bids, accepting and opening bides, tabulating bids, awarding the bids, and reporting the results to the Participant.

BE IT RESOLVED that the Participant hereby appoints Eastern Suffolk BOCES to represent it and to act as the lead agent in all matters related to the Program as described above; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Participant hereby authorizes Eastern Suffolk BOCES to place all legal advertisements for any required cooperative bidding in Newsday, which is designated as the official newspaper for the Program; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a Participant Meeting shall be held annually consisting of a representative from each Program Participant. Notice of the meeting shall be given to each representative at least five (5) days prior to such meeting; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that an Advisory Committee will be formed consisting of five to ten representatives of Program Participants for a term of three (3) years as authorized by General Municipal Law §119-o.2.j.

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**Approval of Joint  
Municipal  
Cooperative  
Bidding Program  
CoSer 612:**

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this Agreement shall be for a term of one (1) year as authorized by General Municipal Law §119-o.2.j.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that payment to Eastern Suffolk BOCES will be an annual fee as determined annually by Eastern Suffolk BOCES to act as the lead agent for the Program.  
Motion carried unanimously.

**Approval of Travel  
Conference  
Request:**

Motion by Mrs. Carey, seconded by Mrs. Brieff, be it Resolved that the Board of Education of the South Huntington Union Free School District hereby approves the Travel Conference Request of Mrs. Buhse in the amount of \$2,463.40 for attendance at the one-week "School Nutrition Association Conference" for School Lunch Directors and industry personnel in Atlanta, Georgia, a copy made part of these legal minutes, pp. 1469-1470.  
Motion carried unanimously.

Mrs. Brieff stated that the District was indeed very fortunate to have Mrs. Buhse working on its behalf. Mr. Ciappetta asked if the conference was funded through the School Lunch fund; Dr. Centamore responded that it was being funded in that manner.

**Approval of  
Donation from  
Wildcat Booster  
Club:**

Motion by Mrs. Carey, seconded by Mrs. DeGaetano, be it Resolved that the Board of Education of the South Huntington Union Free School District hereby approves the donation from the Wildcat Booster Club to the District for a 10 x 20 custom tent with leg weights for the Girls Track team; a manual scoreboard, bow net, quick set and protective screen net for the Girls Softball team; two (2) rebounders for the Girls Lacrosse team; and a total replacement of the championship banners hung in the North Gymnasium, with a total value of \$17,990.  
Motion carried unanimously.

Dr. Bennardo shared that the District had great relationships with various support organizations, and the Wildcat Booster Club was a fine example, and he thanked Mrs. O'Toole, President of the Wildcat Booster Club, for this generous donation. Mrs. O'Toole responded that the Booster Club was pleased to make the donation. Mr. Kaden asked that a communication of appreciation be forwarded to the Booster Club accordingly.

**Approval of  
Donation from  
Roslyn Savings  
Bank:**

Motion by Mrs. LaCara, seconded by Mr. Ciappetta, be it Resolved that the Board of Education of the South Huntington Union Free School District hereby approves the donation of \$1,500 from the Roslyn Savings Bank to be used specifically for the Project Excel Program.  
Motion carried unanimously.

**Donation from  
Family Residences  
and Essential  
Enterprises, Inc.**

Motion by Mr. Ciappetta, seconded by Mrs. LaCara, be it Resolved that the Board of Education of the South Huntington Union Free School District hereby approves the donation of \$1,000 from the Family Residences and Essential Enterprises, Inc., used specifically for the Project Excel Program.  
Motion carried unanimously.



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**Recommendations  
for Placement by  
CSE/CPSE:**

Motion by Mrs. Carey, seconded by Mrs. DeGaetano, be it Resolved that the Board of Education of the South Huntington School District, having reviewed minutes of the Committee on Special Education dated March 2, 3, 13, 2017, and the Committee on Preschool Special Education dated February 28, March 3, 6, 8, 13, 16, 2017, is satisfied that the procedures of Chapter 853 of the Education Law were followed and accepts the recommendations for placement set forth, copies made part of these legal minutes, pp. 1471-1497.  
Motion carried unanimously.

**Personnel:**

Motion by Mrs. Brieff, seconded by Mrs. DeGaetano, be it Resolved that the Board of Education of the South Huntington School District, having reviewed the recommendations of the Chief School Administrator, is satisfied that the provisions of Section 3012 of Education Law were followed, and thereby accepts those recommendations as set forth in schedules made part of these legal minutes, pp. 1498-1506, and authorizes implementation thereof:

Schedule 6: Summer School Appointments (Instructional)

Schedule 7: Temporary Replacement Appointments (Instructional)

Schedule 9: Coaching/Extracurricular Appointments (Instructional)

Schedule 11: Terminations (Instructional)

Schedule 12: Leaves of Absence; Ext. of Sick Leave

Schedule 15: Appointments (Non-Instructional)

Schedule 16: Terminations (Non-Instructional)

Schedule 20: Re-Appointments (Non-Instructional)

Schedule 22: Substitute Employee appointments (Inst./Non-Inst.)

Motion carried unanimously.

**Information and  
Reports:**

Information and Reports

1. Letter from Principal Murphy to Parent/Guardian re Student Scheduling
2. Letter from Principal Murphy to Parent/Guardian re Student Dress Code
3. Letter from Dr. Bennardo to Students in L.I. Volleyball All-Tournament Team
4. Letter from Dr. Bennardo to Participants in STEM Diversity Fair
5. Letter from Dr. Bennardo to Omar Ramos re L.I. Science/Engineering Fair Success
6. Letter from Dr. Bennardo to WWHS Students of the Month for February 2017
7. Letter from Dr. Bennardo to Mr. Perkins re Project Excel Event at Oheka Castle
8. SHTA Minutes of Executive Board Meeting, March 27, 2017
9. Personnel Postings
10. The Long Islander (2)
11. NYSIR Legal Digest, Spring 2017

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Information Sent to Board Week Ending March 24, 2017

1. Invitation to the Maplewood Spring Gala on April 6, 2017
2. Personnel Postings
3. Letter to Cast and Crew of “Bye Bye Birdie” from Dr. Bennardo
4. Thank You Letter to Performers at ASSET Annual Meeting from Dr. Bennardo
5. Board & Administrator, March 2017
6. Facilities Committee Agenda for Meeting of March 28, 2017
7. Audit Committee Minutes from Meeting of March 22, 2017
8. Water Testing Letter to Parents/Guardians from Dr. Bennardo

Information Sent to Board Week Ending March 17, 2017

1. Letter to Mr. Kaden and Fellow Board Members from WS BOCES Board President Peter Wunsch and Chief Operating Officer Michael Flynn re Annual Board Meeting on April 4, 2017, with Documents for Review
2. Letter from M. Flynn, WS BOCES, re Notice of Annual Meeting
3. Audit Committee Agenda for Meeting on March 22, 2017
4. Letter to Participants of February Black History Night from Dr. Bennardo
5. Letter to Marching Band Members re St. Patrick’s Day Parade from Dr. Bennardo
6. Letter of Congratulations to Post-Season Athletes from Dr. Bennardo
7. Letter to Top 12 Scholastic Graduates from Dr. Bennardo
8. Parent Mailing from Principal Smith re Assessment and Regents Dates
9. Parent Mailing from Principal Toto re English and Math Testing Dates
10. Parent Mailing from Principal Toto re Parent Orientation Program April 4, 2017
11. Personnel Postings (3)
12. SHTA Minutes of Executive Board Meeting from March 13, 2017
13. The Long-Islander (3)

**Committee Updates:**

Mr. Ciappetta reported on the Facilities Committee meeting held on March 28, 2017, which, he said, was a very productive meeting. In the current year’s budget was one million dollars committed to the upkeep and maintenance of our facilities. Consensus was reached on the projects this funding would address, such as continued work on the Walt Whitman High School’s canopy. The under part of the canopy requires work and the new quote was less than it had been previously. At Stimson, work will be done in front of the forum removing the structure that exists and adding a paw print painting on the floor; additional lobby work will also be completed. At the high school, the State just approved the Student Services project; the bidding process will commence. Mr. Ciappetta stated that the Committee took a tour around the district, and at Silas Wood and Maplewood, it was determined that safety lighting was required for both buildings. Mr. Ciappetta also stated that the Committee was addressing the repair of the Teen Center’s cooling tower. Also mentioned was the Sunrise Assisted Living Center’s offer of \$100,000 to spruce up the Teen Center and provide greater curb appeal, dependent upon the Town of Huntington’s Board approval for Sunrise Assisted Living Center moving forward. Mr. Ciappetta also revealed the plans for the refurbishment of Conference Room B, with an

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architectural picture of the enhancements, and air-conditioning would also be installed. Additionally, Mr. Ciappetta shared that a staff faculty room would be built where employees can have their lunch, rather than eat at their work stations. At the meeting there had also been discussion on water heaters, hopefully installing two this year for two different elementary buildings. Mr. Kaden added that there was an obligation to encumber the money to address these projects.

**Comments from  
Board Members  
and Staff:**

Mrs. DeGaetano shared how much she enjoyed the high school musical, Aida, over the previous weekend. Several Board and Cabinet members concurred with Mrs. DeGaetano's comments.

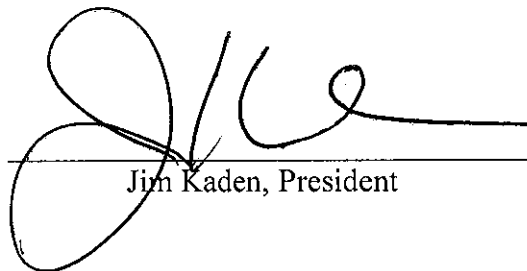
**Voice of the  
Residents:**

Visitors were invited to participate.

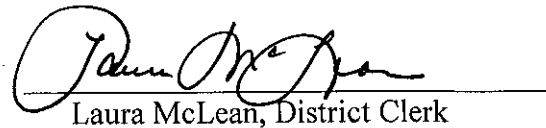
**Adjournment:**

Motion by Mrs. Carey, seconded by Mrs. LaCara, be it Resolved that the meeting be adjourned.  
Motion carried unanimously.

The meeting was declared adjourned at 8:53 p.m.



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Jim Kaden, President



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Laura McLean, District Clerk

Attachments made part of these legal minutes, pages 1421 through 1506.