

# Beekmantown Central School District

## Special Board of Education Meeting

Place: **MS/HS Library**

**March 26, 2013**

### Minutes

#### *Call to Order*

President Leonard King called the meeting to order at 6:17 pm and April Bingel led the pledge of allegiance.

#### *Members Present*

☒ Eric Anderson  
☒ April Bingel  
☒ Cathy Buckley

☒ Leonard King  
☒ Richard LaVigne  
☒ Ed Marin

☒ Debbie Passno  
☐ Pauline Stone  
☒ Steve Trombley

#### *Others Present*

☒ Scott Amo, Superintendent of Schools  
☒ Elaine Dixon, MS Principal (*arrived at 6:20 pm*)  
☒ Mary LaValley Blaine, School Business Executive  
☒ Joanne Menard, District Clerk

### Visitors

#### *Visitors*

Ken Maurer  
Renée Hall  
Stephen LaFlam

Lucy Giroux  
Holly Sims  
Diane Kwartz

Gary Gudz  
Patty LaFlam

#### *2013-2014 Budget Work Session*

### Miscellaneous

- *2013-2014 Budget Work Session*

The Superintendent informed the Board the proposed budget will include the following:

- \$1,065,000 Fund Balance
- Allowable Tax Cap, which is 4.2%
- Same level of extra-curricular activities
- Nominal increase in transportation rather than seek a bus proposition. The bus proposition can be delayed one year.
- Same level of UPK
- Increase in technology due to non-funded mandate for State Testing. In the 2014-2015 school year, districts will be responsible for student testing.

*Elaine Dixon Arrived at 6:20 pm.*

- The district has 18 employees retiring. Eight are instructional, of which, two will not be backfilled. Additionally, one instructional position is slated for a layoff. The non-instructional unit will see 10 retirements with all but two being backfilled.

Board President King stated he does not agree with not purchasing any new buses because the district has been two years without purchasing new buses; however, he would support the Board's wishes. Considerable discussion followed on buses. The Superintendent reiterated that he had studied various data from the Transportation Department and determined the district could delay bus purchases for one more year and will continue assessment of transportation needs. There may be a nominal increase in bus repair costs.

Discussion followed on the technology increase. The School Business Executive stated it was a nominal increase from approximately \$29,000 to \$75,000 with the district receiving some State Aid. The total cost of the unfunded mandate is approximately \$90,000 with \$45,000 coming from the 2013-2014 budget and \$45,000 from the 2014-2015 budget. The Superintendent stated in conversations with the Educational Technology Coordinator, the district does not need more computer labs, but more computers. The reoccurring costs will be the administration of the tests. The EXCEL monies for technology is earmarked to build data closets and broad band.

The Superintendent continued with the following:

- The high school principal's position needs to be filled.
- There are ongoing negotiations with three bargaining units. (Triborough is built into projections.)
- The Governor will release State Aid figures on Thursday.
- Sequestration (Federal Level) – Still unknown. Several employees are included in the Title and IDEA programs and not the district budget.
- Seeking from the Board a salary for the high school principal so the position can be posted and advertised.
- CV-TEC participation for 2013-2014 is not firm yet.

Discussion next followed on CV-TEC students and the qualifications to attend the programs. Discussion ensued on the CV-TEC model for English and math.

Discussion followed on the fund balance which will be used for the 2013-2014 budget and having no remaining fund balance to apply to the 2014-2015 budget. The district needs to look at sustainable reductions which will reoccur from year to year as opposed to one time freezes.

The Board next discussed the outdoor track and whether to include repairs in the 2013-2014 budget. Board Member Steve Trombley commented that the Operations Committee was looking to have the track repaired with funds from the 2012-2013 budget.

Board Member Richard LaVigne inquired how the district was addressing APPR issues out of the Special Education Department. The Superintendent stated there is flexibility to disperse more APPR to administrators. Board Member Richard LaVigne asked for a guarantee that APPR's would be done. The Superintendent stated yes and has not included additional staffing in the 2013-2014 proposed budget for APPR mandates.

Board Member Ed Marin requested to give the community an opportunity to support full UPK by placing a separate line item on the ballot. Board Member April Bingel stated when she was at the State Conference, funding for full day UPK would be given to districts on an as needed basis through grant opportunities. The district might be able to apply for this grant. Considerable discussion followed on UPK. Ed Marin made a motion to visit the possibility of including full day UPK on the ballot. The motion died for lack of a second.

*Notice of Annual  
District Election,  
Budget Vote, &  
Proposition for  
Decrease in Term  
of Office for Board  
Member*

It was moved by Steve Trombley, seconded by Richard LaVigne and carried, that the Board of Education adopt the following Notice of Annual District Election, Budget Vote, & Proposition for Decrease in Term of Office for Board Members:

*NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Board of Education of the Beekmantown Central School District, Clinton County, New York will hold a public hearing on the 2013-2014 budget on **Tuesday, May 14, 2013 at 7:00 pm** in the high school auditorium.*

*A copy of the statement of the amount of money which will be required to fund the School District's budget for 2013-2014, exclusive of public monies, may be obtained by any resident or taxpayer of the District during business hours beginning **May 7, 2013** at any school building, the district office, West Chazy Library, and the school district website.*

*NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Annual District Election of qualified voters of the Beekmantown Central School District of the Towns of Beekmantown, Plattsburgh, Chazy and Altona, will be held in the middle school gymnasium on **May 21, 2013 between the hours of 11:00 am and 8:00 pm** at which time the polls will be opened to vote by voting ballot or machine upon the following propositions:*

I. *To approve the proposed 2013-2014 school budget, and to authorize the requisite portion therefore to be raised by taxation on the taxable property of the District.*

II. *To elect three (3) members to the Board of Education. The top two (2) candidates receiving the highest number of votes will fill the expired terms of Richard LaVigne and Steve Trombley for 5-year terms (7/1/13 to 6/30/18). The 3<sup>rd</sup> highest number of votes will fill the unexpired term of Karen Armstrong commencing 5/21/13 – 6/30/15.*

III. *BE IT RESOLVED that the term of office of board members hereafter elected shall be decreased from five (5) years to three (3) years; however, one or more of the vacancies to be filled during each of the three years next succeeding the adoption of this proposition, shall be for three or four years only in order that, as nearly as possible, an equal number of board members shall be elected to the board of education each year.*

*NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that qualified voters may apply for absentee ballots at the district clerk's office. The District Clerk must receive applications for absentee ballots by at least seven days prior to the vote if the ballot is to be mailed to the voter; on or prior to **May 21, 2013** if the ballot is to be delivered personally to the voter. A list of persons to whom absentee ballots have been issued will be available for inspection in the district clerk's office between 7:30 am – 4:00 pm during each of the five days prior to the election, except Sundays.*

*The Board of Education has ongoing registration. Any person who is not already registered to vote, upon proving that he or she is entitled to vote may register at the district clerk's office until **May 14 2013**. No person will be entitled to vote whose name does not appear on the School District Register or who has not registered with the Clinton County Board of Registration to vote at the general election. The register containing the names of qualified voters will be available for inspection in the Clerk's office during the hours of 7:30 am – 4:00 pm on each of the five days prior to the day of the election, except Sundays.*

*NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that petitions nominating candidates for the office of school board member must be filed in the district clerk's office no later than **5:00 pm on April 22, 2013**. Each petition shall be signed by at least 31 voters of the District, and must state the name and residence of the candidate.*

*AND FURTHER NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a qualified voter is a citizen of the United States, at least 18 years old, a resident of the school district for a period of 30 days next preceding the annual district election. The School District may require all persons offering to vote to provide one form of proof of residency pursuant to Education Law 2018-c. Such form may include a driver's license, a non-driver identification card, a utility bill, or a voter registration card. Upon offer of proof of residency, the School District may also require all persons offering to vote to provide their signature, printed name and address.*

### **Appointments**

#### *Spring Athletic Appointment*

It was moved by Richard LaVigne, seconded by Eric Anderson and unanimously carried, that upon recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education approves the following spring athletic position for the 2012-2013 school year as indicated:

Assignment	Name	Based on 2010-11 Rate
Track & Field – Assistant (Mixed)	Turner, Cheryl	\$2,889

### **Financial**

#### *Donations*

It was moved by Debbie Passno, seconded by Eric Anderson and roll-call voted, that upon recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education accepts the non-cash donation from the Cumberland Head Elementary PTO of playground equipment at a value of \$22,171.57 (includes delivery and holding fees) for the Cumberland Head Elementary School.

The roll-call vote was as follows:

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Eric Anderson	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Leonard King	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Debbie Passno
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> April Bingel	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Richard LaVigne	<input type="checkbox"/> Pauline Stone
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Cathy Buckley	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ed Marin	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Steve Trombley

It was moved by Debbie Passno, seconded by Richard LaVigne and roll-call voted, that upon recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education accepts the cash donation from the Cumberland Head Elementary PTO in the amount of \$2,941.00 for playground equipment at Cumberland Head Elementary School and approve amending the district budget.

The roll-call vote was as follows:

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Eric Anderson	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Leonard King	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Debbie Passno
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> April Bingel	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Richard LaVigne	<input type="checkbox"/> Pauline Stone
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Cathy Buckley	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ed Marin	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Steve Trombley

*Clerk Pro-Tem*

**Clerk Pro-Tem**

It was moved by Eric Anderson, seconded by Cathy Buckley and unanimously carried, that Leonard King be and is hereby appointed as Clerk Pro-tem for this meeting.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Joanne Menard, District Clerk

*Executive Session  
(to discuss  
collective  
bargaining  
negotiations with  
the BTA and  
BSSSA)*

**Executive Session**

It was moved by Richard LaVigne, seconded by Debbie Passno and unanimously carried, that the Board enter executive session to discuss collective bargaining negotiations with the Beekmantown Teachers' Association and the Beekmantown Support Staff Supervisors' Association. Time 8:15 pm.

It was moved by Cathy Buckley, seconded by Richard LaVigne and unanimously carried, that the Board return to regular session. Time 9:30 pm.

*Adjournment*

**Adjournment**

It was moved by Richard LaVigne, seconded by Cathy Buckley and unanimously carried, that the meeting be adjourned. Time 9:31 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Leonard King, Clerk Pro-tem