

1 **GILMANTON SCHOOL BOARD REGULAR MEETING**

2 **WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 6, 2013**

3 **GILMANTON SCHOOL SCIENCE ROOM**

4 Board Members Present: Renee Kordas, Frank Weeks, Michael Hatch, Ella Jo Regan, and
5 Malcolm MacLeod

6 Administrators Present: Superintendent Fauci, Principal Locke, Business Administrator Donna
7 Clairmont.

8 **CALL TO ORDER:**

9 Board Chair Renee Kordas called the School Board Meeting to order at 6:01P.M.

10 **PREPARATION FOR THE DELIBERATIVE SESSION:**

11 Weather: Superintendent Fauci stated that in anticipation of the storm, he and Business
12 Administrator Donna Clairmont have consulted Attorney Barbara Loughman, who said the
13 moderator calls off the meeting. Therefore, for this Saturday's Deliberative Session, Mark Sisti
14 would make the call, though he had hesitation whether he has the authority to call off the
15 meeting. After speaking with Attorney Loughman, Mark Sisti called Superintendent Fauci and
16 arranged to speak Friday afternoon regarding rescheduling. If he chooses to call it off, the
17 meeting will be rescheduled for 6:00 PM Monday evening. Superintendent Fauci also arranged
18 for notification to be posted. A sign will be posted on the front door and on the marquis.
19 Additionally, Karen Boutwell will post it on the website and Vice Principal Bergeron will post
20 the cancellation on WMUR. Sending out a Connect Ed message was contemplated, but messages
21 would only go out to parents and staff and we do not want to exclude anyone by only contacting
22 those on Connect Ed. As long Mark Sisti follows the guidelines outlined in RSA 40:14, II he has
23 the authority to call it off as late as 8 AM Saturday morning. *(In the event a weather emergency
24 occurs on or before the date of a Deliberative Session or voting day of a meeting in a town,
25 which the moderator reasonably believes may cause the roads to be hazardous or unsafe, the
26 moderator may, up to 2 hours prior to the meeting to another reasonable date, place, and time
27 certain. The date originally scheduled shall continue to be deemed the Deliberative Session or
28 voting day of the meeting for purposes of satisfying statutory meeting date requirements;
29 provided, that in towns or districts that have adopted RSA 40:13, the postponement shall not
30 delay the Deliberative Session more than 72 hours. The moderator shall employ whatever means
31 are available to inform citizens of the postponement and the rescheduled Deliberative Session or
32 voting day.)* Board Chair Renee Kordas asked if the town would be amenable to having the
33 cancellation posted on their website. Superintendent Fauci said they are willing to post the
34 cancellation on their site and Vice Principal Bergeron will contact them to make arrangements.
35 Business Administrator Donna Clairmont also alerted Brian Forst of the Budget Committee
36 regarding the potential delay. Board Chair Renee Kordas asked that a sign be posted on the back
37 door as well. Superintendent Fauci said these arrangements were made in advance in the event
38 school is cancelled.

39 Blizzard Bags were briefly discussed.

40 March Meeting: The March 12th Board meeting will be rescheduled due to the voting scheduled
41 that same night. The new Board meeting date will be March 19, 2013 at 6 PM and this will be
42 the first meeting for the newly elected Board members.

43 Barbara Loughman: Superintendent Fauci spoke with Ms. Loughman about the need for her to
44 attend the Deliberative Session especially since this is the first session. He noted it is quite
45 common for attorneys to attend Deliberative Sessions. Frank Weeks asked if it would cost
46 money and Superintendent Fauci said there would be a cost. Ella Jo Regan said that at the town
47 Deliberative Session, they arranged to be able to contact the lawyer by phone. Superintendent
48 Fauci asked if the town had a lawyer on call or if they cold-called her. Ella Jo Regan was not
49 sure. Superintendent Fauci said that Attorney Loughman may not even be able to arrange for
50 someone to attend due to the amount of Deliberative Sessions occurring this time of year. Ella Jo
51 Regan asked what kind of things we would need to consult a lawyer for. Superintendent Fauci
52 said we have RSAs, amendments, and other unforeseen issues townspeople may question and
53 Mike Hatch said he would rather be safe than sorry. Board Chair Renee Kordas said that the
54 town budget was easier than the school budget, so precautions would not be a bad idea. Principal
55 Locke said Attorney Loughman always attends the deliberative meeting in Alton and she was
56 utilized about every 20 minutes or so for the duration of the meeting. Ella Jo Regan stated she
57 wants someone very qualified and well versed in SB2 regulations. The Board was in consensus
58 that they want representation at the meeting.

59 Business Administrator Donna Clairmont stated she understands the meeting format to be that
60 the moderator reads through all the warrant articles, they are moved, seconded, then, discussion
61 is opened. If there is none, it is placed on the ballot. Ella Jo Regan asked what happens if warrant
62 article are brought about by petition. Principal Locke said the petitions are voted on as well.

63 Superintendent Fauci stated there will be a School Board meeting after the Deliberative Session.
64 If the meeting takes place on Saturday as scheduled, the Board will meet immediately following
65 the meeting. If the meeting is held on Monday, then the Board will just meet on Tuesday at the
66 regular Board meeting.

67 Warrant Articles: The Moderator reads the article then a member of the Board makes a motion.

68 Article 2: Mike Hatch motions, Board Chair Renee Kordas seconds.

69 Article 3: Mike Hatch motions, Frank Weeks seconds.

70 Article IV: Ella Jo Regan motions, Board Chair Renee Kordas seconds.

71 Article V: Frank Weeks motions, Ella Jo Regan seconds.

72 Article VI: Malcolm McLeod motions, Mike Hatch seconds.

73 Article VII: Mike Hatch motions, Malcolm McLeod seconds.

74 Article VIII: Board Chair Renee Kordas motions, Frank Weeks seconds.

75 Article IX: Mike Hatch motions, Board Chair Renee Kordas seconds.

76 Article X: Mike Hatch motions, Malcolm McLeod seconds.

77 Article XI: Ella Jo Regan motions, Frank Weeks seconds.

78 Article XII: Malcolm McLeod motions, Board Chair Renee Kordas seconds.

79 Article XIII: Board Chair Renee Kordas motions, Ella Jo Regan seconds.

80 The current budget is \$9,710,500 not including the warrant articles. This is \$27,000 more than
81 the amount recommended by the Budget Committee. Business Administrator Donna Clairmont
82 suggested the Board make an amendment to the Budget Committee's number. Ella Jo Regan
83 asked where the cuts came from. Business Administrator stated that \$20,700 was cut from the
84 library salary, and \$7,000 out of field trips. Board Chair Renee Kordas asked the Board whether
85 they want to accept the Budget Committee's recommendation or if they would like to stand by
86 the Board's original recommendations. Ella Jo Regan clarified that the cut from the library stems
87 from the retirement of the librarian, which is what we were expecting anyway. However she
88 stated she felt the field trips are vital. Board Chair Renee Kordas said she heard loud and clear
89 from the public last year that they want to keep field trips. The Board decided to keep the \$7000
90 for field trips, bringing the total to \$9,689,792. Board Chair Renee Kordas asked if we can find a
91 librarian for the amount we will have with the recommended decrease. Principal Locke said the
92 reason for keeping Martha Clement's salary in the budget was to safeguard the budget in case
93 she rescinded her retirement and that it would have been returned to the general fund if her
94 retirement was not rescinded. Business Administrator Donna Clairmont said the Budget
95 Committee, as a result of the Deliberative Session, will have a meeting to see if they will stay
96 with their recommendations. Superintendent Fauci asked the Board how they want to address
97 questions if the default budget is to pass rather than the proposed budget. What will education at
98 Gilmanton School look like? What is going to be cut? Business Administrator Donna Clairmont
99 suggested Superintendent Fauci speak to the resulting cuts by referencing the list handed out at
100 the December meeting. Ella Jo Regan suggested having more possible cut items than those that
101 just equal the actual amount. That way, we are not held to the exact items. Mike Hatch said that
102 we armed the Budget Committee with cuts, which he said was not wise because it fell back on
103 the Board because the Board said it could happen. Superintendent Fauci suggested noting we
104 don't know where the large classes are going to be. Therefore three grades could potentially be
105 affected. The other piece discussed is that if it came to large classes, are we going to shuffle
106 people around and, if so, what will that look like. Either way it would have an effect somewhere.
107 Malcolm McLeod said that by having large classes early on, certain educational concerns may be
108 missed, may worsen the longer they are not addressed, and may require more extensive services
109 later on. Ella Jo Regan also stated that the school is at capacity, so there will come a time when
110 arrangements need to be made to accommodate our growing population. Therefore, the public
111 needs to be informed about the basic needs of the school.

112 Business Administrator Donna Clairmont referred the Board to the newest packet, which will be
113 handed out at the Deliberative Session. It is the same as the one handed out at the public meeting.
114 The change is basically the format of the packet.

115 Ella Jo Regan asked about noting the tax impact for each item. Business Administrator Donna
116 Clairmont said she put the tax impact in the general fund. She said she will create a sheet for
117 each warrant article which will be ready for the deliberative meeting.

118 The proposed budget was posted on Monday January 28

119 **ADJOURNMENT:**

120 **On a motion made by Mike Hatch, seconded by Ella Jo Regan, the Board unanimously**
121 **voted to adjourn at 6:52 PM.**

122 Respectfully,

123 Renee Kordas, Chairperson