

### Minutes for School District Meeting 2013

The legal voters of the town of Peacham met at the Peacham Congregational Church in Peacham, on Tuesday, March 4, 2014 at 10:00 AM.

Reverend Robert Potter welcomed the Peacham residents and guests to the Peacham Congregational Church and community meeting house. Reverend Potter expressed his appreciation to the community for their continued support of this historic and essential gathering place. He thanked everyone for their past and continued support for the building.

John Marshall spoke specifically about the church's steeple repair project.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Tim McKay asked for a moment of silence to remember those who passed away this past year.

Tim McKay invited everyone to the potluck lunch put on by the Women's Fellowship. He then summed up the ground rules for the meeting, the main topic being the necessity for respect for each other throughout the meeting.

Article 1 To elect a Moderator to conduct and govern the meeting.

Bob Fuehrer nominated Tim McKay for Moderator for the ensuing year. John Marshall seconded. Dick Browne moved to close nominations. Motion seconded by Diana Senturia. There being no further nominations a voice vote was taken. McKay elected.

Article 2 To elect a School Director for a term of three years. Sam Kempton nominated Wynne Browne. Janet St. Onge nominated Molly Willard. Rick Scholes moved to close nominations. John Marshall seconded. A voice vote was taken to close nominations. Nominations closed. Moderator called for a paper ballot. Moderator asked both candidates to stand and introduce themselves. The result of the paper ballot was: a total of 121 votes cast. 61 votes were need for election. Molly Willard received 75 votes. Wynne Browne received 46 votes. Molly Willard elected.

Article 3 To elect a School District Clerk/Treasurer.

John Marshall nominated Stan Fickes. Diana Senturia seconded. There being no further nominations, John Marshall moved to close the nominations. Rick Scholes seconded. A voice vote closed nominations. A voice vote was taken to elect Stan Fickes as School Clerk/Treasurer. Stan Fickes was elected.

Article 4 To hear a Report of the Board.

Bruce McLean asked a procedural question about what will happen when School Board member, Jenny Mackenzie, takes a one year sabbatical. What will become the makeup of the Board and how will that be addressed? Wynne Browne responded that the Board will appoint someone to fulfill the term until the next election at which time the position will be open.

Wynne Browne reported for the current Board of School Directors and introduced Judy Ross, the school principal. She also introduced Hannah and Tom Galinat. Hannah is the schools' new second and third grade teacher and Tom is the school's 21<sup>st</sup> Century Grant Program Coordinator. Wynne reported and discussed specific budget line items regarding revenues, expenses, and tax calculation matters. Wynne stated that school expenses have increased due to tuitioning out costs, school maintenance, teachers' and CCSU staff salaries, some CCSU accounting adjustments, and the State's per pupil educational calculations. Wynne took a moment to thank Matt Kiley for volunteering his time and expertise as a lighting consultant in administering the Evergreen Loan which will reduce energy expenses at the school. Additional school maintenance projects are anticipated, particularly with the heating and ventilation system.

Cost comparison sheets were distributed comparing current and past years' budget figures. Statistical results indicated that the overall cost over four years for the cost of the school was up 4.1%. An additional sheet comparing surrounding town school costs with Peacham's was presented. Results showed

that Peacham's per pupil cost were well within the average. Mark Clough added that the student census figures of Peacham need to increase, especially by attracting younger families to town.

Discussion was held regarding the impact of this year's tax rate, the cost of legal fees, the status and implications of school district consolidation, the quantity of financial information in this year's report, and other matters. Josette Lyders thanked Wynne Browne for her contributions to the school.

Article 5 Shall the voters of the Peacham School District vote to adopt an expenditure budget as presented for the school year ending June 30, 2015 including an appropriation of a sum of money for the support of schools with provisions for current expenses, capital improvement, a deficit if any, and for other lawful purposes?

Wynne Browne explained that the wording of Article 6 would only authorize a transfer, not spending, and therefore the total school budget figure in this article should increase by \$6000 to allow the school board to spend money transferred to the Capital Fund.

Kathy Corcoran moved that the Town approve a total school budget of \$1,696,552. Matt Kiley seconded. Voice vote taken. Article 5 was approved.

Article 6 Shall the voters of the Peacham School District approve the transfer of \$6,000 to the Capital Fund?

Charlie Browne moved that the voters approve the transfer of \$6,000 to the Capital Fund. Rick Scholes seconded. There being no discussion Article 6 passed by a voice vote.

Article 7 Shall the voters of the Peacham School District authorize its Board of Directors to borrow money to pay its lawful debts and expenses for the fiscal year which ends June 30, 2015 in an amount not to exceed 90% of the anticipated collection of taxes and receipts of other funds to be used for those purposes?

Kathy Corcoran moved the article. John Marshall seconded. A voice vote was taken and Article 7 passed.

Article 8 To transact any other non-binding business that may legally come before the meeting.

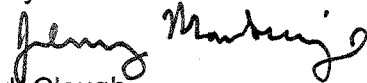
Kathy Corcoran moved to adjourn. Jerry Senturia seconded. A voice vote adjourned the meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 11:48 AM.


The foregoing is approved and attested by:

Peacham School Directors

Jenny Mackenzie

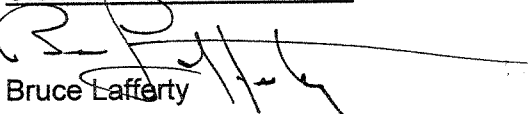
  
Mark Clough

Molly Willard

  
Moderator

  
Timothy McKay

Clerk to the School District

  
Bruce Lafferty