

GRAND LEDGE PUBLIC SCHOOLS
Board of Education

Work Session - January 14, 2019

MINUTES

President McKennon called the meeting to order at 6:20 p.m. He waived the Pledge of Allegiance and Roll Call.

PUBLIC COMMENT ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS

District employee Adam Orange, on behalf of GLEA and as the Hayes Middle School Negotiator he thanked the board. He noted he is interested in the plans under the approved bond proposals and working for what is best for our students, staff and district. He went on to discuss the Michigan High School Exchange Program with Lohne German thanking Dr. Metcalf and his office for setting up a tour for the students who were here over the summer, noted there will be 33 students and parents making the trip to Germany this summer including Grand Ledge Mayor Thom Sowle. He presented an American street sign noting with the bond he would be interested in the board's consideration to use the street sign and name one of our new roads Lohne as a tribute to our relationship and the program.

Community member Nick Crofut addressed the board with regard to City Council's meeting tonight where they will discuss marijuana dispensaries within the city limits and expressing his belief this should be a topic of interest for the district as a whole and encouraging members of the board to attend tonight's City Council meeting.

District employee Colleen Price spoke to the board expressing her support of continuing the Beginnergarten and Kindergarten Plus looping program. She noted she is nervous that under the restructuring these programs will be cast aside. She commented that Grand Ledge has created something that other districts should be looking at. She encouraged the board and administration to really look at this program and the benefits it provides to students noting it is something really wonderful for kids and parents.

Superintendent Metcalf addressed Mrs. Price remarking she is a "prenominal" kindergarten teacher. He advised he and the members of his cabinet have had four hours of conversation in the last two meetings regarding the program, unfortunately he still doesn't have any answers. He advised there is another meeting tomorrow with the entire administrative team. I noted he believes in what we have done in the past and it has been positive for our kids. This is still the direction he takes, "what is best for our students, our kids". In closing he noted there is still a lot of conversation but no decision yet.

SCHOOL BOARD RECOGNITION

Superintendent Metcalf took a moment to acknowledge the Board of Education stating,

"First, I want to take a moment to recognize and thank the people who sit at this table. January is School Board Recognition Month and the members of our Board of Education give their time, unselfishly, to service groups, local and state associations and continually monitor local and state politics that will impact all of public education. They do this because the success of our students and our district is important to them. They continually work to move Grand Ledge Public Schools forward for our students, parents, staff and community.

This Board bears responsibility and oversight for an annual budget of approximately \$60 Million Dollars, over 5,200 students, 700 employees, 10 buildings and the entire 120 square miles that makes up the Grand Ledge Public Schools District. It is no small task. It takes dedication and commitment.

So, on behalf of myself, our students, parents, staff and the entire Grand Ledge Public Schools community, I thank you and present you with a small token of appreciation!!!"

ACTION ITEM

- A. APPROVAL OF THE DECEMBER 10, 2018 REGULAR MEETING AND CLOSED SESSION MINUTES
Motion by Mr. Shiflett seconded by Mrs. Mulvenna for the Grand Ledge Public Schools Board of Education to approve the December 10, 2018 Regular Meeting Minutes and the Closed Session Meeting Minutes, as presented.**

Mrs. DuFort noted an error in the December 10 Regular Meeting minutes that it showed her as voting when, in fact, she was not in attendance at the meeting.

Mr. Shiflett revised his motion, and Mrs. Mulvenna seconded to approve the minutes, as amended. The motion carried unanimously.

- B. APPROVAL OF THE PAYMENT OF SINKING FUND INVOICES
Motion by Mrs. DuFort seconded by Mr. Shiflett for the Grand Ledge Public Schools Board of Education to approve the Payment of Sinking Fund Invoices in the amount of \$19,846, as presented.**

Mr. Shiflett provided an explanation of the invoices noting the Board Bond Advisory Committee reviewed all the invoices and approved them to be brought forward for full board approval.

The motion carried unanimously with Mr. Smith abstaining from the vote in accordance with MCL380.4203.

PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS

There was no public comment.

COMMENTS FROM STAFF AND BOARD

Mr. Shiflett thanked the district for the coffee cup.

President McKennon thanked Mr. Orange and Mrs. Price for sharing about what they do noting the board has heard about the German exchange program. He thanked Mr. Crofut for attending and ensuring the board was aware of the council meeting.

Mrs. DuFort thanked Mr. Orange for his work with the German club and the exchange program. She commended him on going above and beyond. She thanked Mrs. Price for sharing her passion regarding Begindergarten and looping noting as an educator, she strongly supports the program. She also thanks Mr. Crofut for coming in and bringing information to the board.

Mrs. Mulvenna congratulate Mr. McKennon, Mrs. DuFort and Mr. Cwayna. She also welcome Jarrod to the board.

Mr. Cwayna thanked Mr. Shiflett for his service as Board President during 2018. He thanked Mr. Orange for this presentation and noted he was fortunate to meet Mrs. Price last year noting he was impressed when he was in the classroom with the knowledge and the whole idea of what the Begindergarten program does – supports students who are not developmentally there yet.

CLOSED SESSION – Property Purchase

Motion by Mr. Shiflett, seconded by Mr. Cwayna for the Grand Ledge Public Schools Board of Education to move into Closed Session for the purpose of discussing the purchase of real property, as per Section 8(d) of the Open Meetings Act, PA 267 of 1976.

ROLL CALL VOTE

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|---------------|------------|--------------|------------|
| Mr. Cwayna | <u>YES</u> | Mr. McKennon | <u>YES</u> |
| Mrs. DuFort | <u>YES</u> | Mr. Shiflett | <u>YES</u> |
| Mrs. Mulvenna | <u>YES</u> | Mr. Smith | <u>YES</u> |

The motion carried unanimously at 6:41p.m.

RECONVENE IN OPEN SESSION

The board reconvened in Open Session at 7:18 p.m.

APPROVE OF THE PURCHASE OF REAL PROPERTY

Motion by Mrs. DuFort, seconded by Mr. Shiflett for the Grand Ledge Public Schools Board of Education to approve the property purchases of 419 Schoolcraft and 504 Green Street within the City of Grand Ledge, as presented, and authorize Superintendent Brian Metcalf to complete the purchase agreement on behalf of the district.

ROLL CALL VOTE

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|---------------|------------|--------------|------------|
| Mrs. DuFort | <u>YES</u> | Mr. Shiflett | <u>YES</u> |
| Mrs. Mulvenna | <u>YES</u> | Mr. Smith | <u>YES</u> |
| Mr. McKennon | <u>YES</u> | Mr. Cwayna | <u>YES</u> |

The motion carried unanimously.

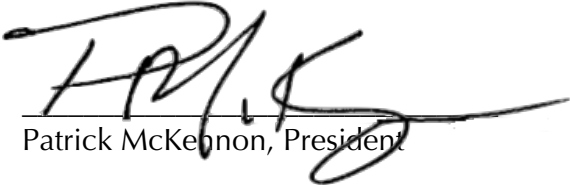
ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 7:20 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted:

Attest:


Ben Cwayna, Secretary


Patrick McKennon, President