

**DENNIS-YARMOUTH REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT**  
**Minutes of a School Committee Meeting**  
Monday, June 17, 2019

**APPROVED**

9-9-19

A Dennis-Yarmouth Regional School Committee meeting was held on Monday, June 17, 2019, at the Station Avenue Elementary School in South Yarmouth, Massachusetts.

Members Present: Jeni Landers, Chairperson; Joseph Tierney, Vice Chairperson; Andrea St. Germain, Secretary (arrived 6:20); Brian Carey, Treasurer; James Dykeman, Jr., Brian Sullivan, and Phillip Morris

Members Absent: Tainan Nunes, Student Representative to the School Committee

Others Present: Carol Woodbury, Superintendent of Schools; Ken Jenks, Assistant Superintendent of Business and Administrative Services; Eileen Whalen, Recording Secretary to the School Committee; Carole Eichner, Director of Early Education; Leila Maxwell, Director of STEM Instruction; Sherry Santini, Director of Humanities & the Arts; Maria Lopes, Director of Pupil Services; Tim Blake, NH Wixon School Principal; Tracy Post, Yarmouth Board of Selectmen; Christopher Flanagan, Dennis Board of Selectmen; Kristen Young; Vida Morris

At 6:00 p.m., Jeni Landers, Chairperson, called the meeting to order.

On a motion by Joseph Tierney, seconded by James Dykeman, and carried by roll call vote 6-0, it was VOTED: To enter into Executive Session and return to Public Session, to discuss strategy with respect to collective bargaining or litigation if an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the bargaining or litigation position of the public body and the chair so declares. (DYEA Contract, Yarmouth Lawsuit).

Jeni Landers – yes  
Joseph Tierney – yes  
Brian Carey – yes  
James Dykeman, Jr. – yes  
Brian Sullivan – yes  
Phillip Morris – yes  
Andrea St. Germain – did not vote

At 7:00 p.m., Jeni Landers, Chairperson, reopened the public session.

**Reports**

DYRSD School Committee Student Representative Tainan Nunes – The student representative was not present, therefore there was no report.

School Committee Liaisons – B. Carey, Dennis; J. Tierney, Yarmouth

Dennis – Brian Carey referenced the Dennis Board of Selectmen letter which was included in the packet regarding the MSBA extension.

Yarmouth– Joseph Tierney said that the lawsuit was dismissed and that the 14 page decision was very interesting.

**School Committee Business**

## DYRSD

Regional Agreement: The Regional Agreement subcommittee has not met recently. Carol Woodbury discussed the possibility of town meeting; Dennis and Yarmouth have to be the same. Anything different from the current regional agreement has to be voted in town meeting; we only have the current regional agreement to guide us. She said that there have been cases where districts have voted a one-year change to a regional agreement. Brian Sullivan was concerned about the cost of holding a special town meeting. Discussion followed regarding procedures. Jeni Landers said that the subcommittee will continue working.

### FY20 Budget:

Ken Jenks showed a PowerPoint presentation; the numbers have not changed. The towns each adopted different assessments and that is the problem. He mentioned the senate budget; minimum required contribution, detailed state formula; the net effect of both is layered in. He reviewed six different options. He discussed potential staff reductions, both certified and non-certified; and the Excess and Deficiency fund.

Joe Tierney discussed the options; he felt Option 5 was the best. He is not in favor of reducing staff. This option results in an increase to Dennis of \$311,166; they would have to hold a town meeting to approve this. Brian Sullivan expressed concern that the Senate money may not come through. Discussion followed regarding a district-wide meeting; a majority vote constitutes approval. Brian Carey said that the current regional agreement is a legally binding contract until the school committee chooses something different. He was in favor of Option 4. He discussed using \$200,000 from E & D and asking the superintendent and assistant superintendent to find another \$200,000 for a net cut of \$400,000. He said that this is not a motion; just a discussion. James Dykeman also favors Option 4; we have to live with what's in place. Andrea St. Germain asked Ken Jenks if Option 4 reflects the current Regional Agreement; he said yes. Phil Morris is in favor of foundation enrollment with no cuts. Joseph Tierney asked about the likelihood of using the Senate money; Ken Jenks said the track record from the prior 5 years shows it to be a legitimate risk.

The following motion was brought by Brian Carey, seconded by James Dykeman, and defeated by roll call vote 4-3:

Move that the School Committee adopt an FY20 budget of \$61,601,508 using the Senate Budget with the following assessments: Dennis (29.5686%) with an operating assessment of \$15,784,761, Debt Service of \$507,971, for a total of \$16,292,732 and Yarmouth (70.4314%) with an operating assessment of \$34,826,233, Debt Service of \$323,679, for a total of \$35,149,912.

Phillip Morris – no  
Brian Sullivan – no  
James Dykeman – yes  
Brian Carey – yes  
Andrea St. Germain – no  
Joseph Tierney – no  
Jeni Landers – yes

The following motion was brought by Joseph Tierney, seconded by Brian Sullivan:

Move that the School Committee adopt an FY20 budget of 62,001,508 using the Senate Budget with the following assessments: Dennis \$16,232,285, Debt Service of \$507,971, for a total of \$16,491,782 and Yarmouth \$34,778,710, Debt Service of \$232,679, for a total of \$35,102,389.

Andrea St. Germain moved to amend the previous motion by deducting \$200,000 from the budget total; the amended motion was seconded by Phillip Morris.



## DYRSD

Move that the School Committee adopt an FY20 budget of 62,001,508 using the Senate Budget with the following assessments: Dennis \$16,232,285, Debt Service of \$507,971, for a total of \$16,740,256 and Yarmouth \$34,778,710, Debt Service of \$232,679, for a total of \$35,102,389.

The amended motion was defeated by roll call vote 4-3.

Phillip Morris – no  
Brian Sullivan – no  
James Dykeman – yes  
Brian Carey – yes  
Andrea St. Germain – no  
Joseph Tierney – no  
Jeni Landers – yes

The following motion was brought by Andrea St. Germain, seconded by Brian Carey, and defeated by roll call vote 4-3:

Move that the School Committee reduce the FY20 budget by \$200,000 by deducting it from the Excess and Deficiency account and adopt an FY20 budget of 61,601,508 using the Senate Budget with the following assessments: Dennis \$15,784,761, Debt Service of \$507,971, for a total of \$16,292,732 and Yarmouth \$34,826,233, Debt Service of \$323,679, for a total of \$35,149,912.

Phillip Morris – yes  
Brian Sullivan – no  
James Dykeman – yes  
Brian Carey – yes  
Andrea St. Germain – yes  
Joseph Tierney – no  
Jeni Landers – no

On a motion by Joseph Tierney, seconded by Andrea St. Germain, and passed by roll call vote 5-2 it was:

VOTED: Move that the School Committee adopt an FY20 budget of 62,001,508 using the Senate Budget with the following assessments: Dennis \$16,294,977, Debt Service of \$507,971, for a total of \$16,802,948 and Yarmouth \$34,916,018, Debt Service of \$323,679, for a total of \$35,239,697.

Phillip Morris – yes  
Brian Sullivan – yes  
James Dykeman – no  
Brian Carey – no  
Andrea St. Germain – yes  
Joseph Tierney – yes  
Jeni Landers – yes

MSBA Extension Request: Jeni Landers said they won't know if Yarmouth is appealing.

On a motion by Phil Morris, seconded by Andrea St. Germain, and carried unanimously, it was

## **DYRSD**

VOTED: To request a 30 day extension from the Massachusetts School Building Authority regarding funding for the new joint regional middle school building.

Discussion continued regarding the proposed new school; could it be built anyway? Yes, the school could move forward without the \$44 million dollar reimbursement.

### **FY20 Trash Removal Contract Recommendation**

On a motion by Brian Carey, seconded by James Dykeman, and carried unanimously, it was

VOTED: To award a contract to Cavossa Disposal Corporation for \$59,204 for supplying trash collection and removal needs to our Schools and Central Office in the Dennis-Yarmouth Regional School District.

### **Bills, Requisitions, and Payroll**

Bills, requisitions, and payroll were signed by the School Committee.

### **Calendar**

The calendar was reviewed; the next school committee meeting will be Monday, July 15, 2019 at Station Avenue Elementary School.

### **Public Comment Period**

Vida Morris referred to a letter regarding the proposed regional agreement.

### **Items Distributed at the Meeting**

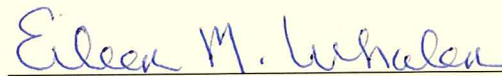
Letter from Dennis Board of Selectmen re MSBA Extension  
Memo-FY20 Trash Removal Contract Recommendation  
Dennis-Yarmouth FY20 Budget PowerPoint Presentation

### **Adjournment**

At 8:57 p.m., on a motion by Brian Carey, seconded by Andrea St. Germain, and carried 7-0, it was:

VOTED: To adjourn the meeting.

Minutes recorded and prepared by,



Eileen M. Whalen, Assistant Secretary