

TOWN OF NORWOOD  
School Committee Meeting  
James R. Savage Educational Center  
Wednesday, April 27, 2016

A Public Hearing of the Norwood School Committee was held on Wednesday, April 27, 2016. The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m.

**Committee Members Present:** Mr. James Gormley, Chairman, Ms. Lisa Igoe; Mr. Patrick McDonough, Mrs. Michelle Eysie Mullen and Ms. Myev Bodenhofer.

**Administrators Present:** Mr. James Hayden, Superintendent of Schools; Dr. Alec Wyeth, Assistant Superintendent for Instruction, Curriculum and Assessment; and Ms. Ann Marie Ellis, Director of Finance and Operations.

**FY17 Public Budget Hearing:** At 7:20 p.m. Chairman Gormley opened the FY17 Public Hearing. (There was no one from the public in attendance for the Public Hearing).

Mr. Hayden gave a presentation regarding the final FY17 Budget.

He began by reminding everyone of our wonderful InvenTeam, our State Championship baseball team and many other success stories in the Norwood Public Schools. Mr. Hayden then reminded the Committee of the Strategic Goals:

- Prepare all students to be college or career ready;
- Technology Integration;
- Social Emotional Needs of Students;
- Maximize parent & community relationships to support student learning;
- Facility Improvements & Upgrades.

Mr. Hayden then reviewed the process from first draft to final budget, explaining the changes along the way. He explained how we were able to improve a bleak budget outlook:

- State aide had improved;
- GIC Costs are less than forecasted and \$300,000 was voted to be given to the Schools to assist with Special Education Costs; and
- Out of District Costs were estimated higher than actual.

The Members had an opportunity for questions and comments.

**Adjourn Public Budget Hearing:** Mr. McDonough made a motion to adjourn the FY17 Public Budget Hearing at 7:40 p.m., which was seconded by Mrs. Bodenhofer. The Committee voted unanimously in favor 5-0.

At 7:45 p.m. the Norwood School Committee began the regular meeting.

**Minutes:** Mr. McDonough made a motion to approve the minutes of April 6, 2016, which was seconded by Ms. Igoe. The Committee voted in favor 5-0.

**Correspondence:** Chairman Gormley acknowledged receipt of the following correspondence:

- Division of Open Government Letter;
- Mass Association of School Superintendent Position Papers on:
  - a. Mass 2016 Statement on Charter Schools
  - b. Mass Common Core Repeal Ballot Question
  - c. Recreational Use of Marijuana Initiative Petition.

Mr. Hayden summarized the three position papers and said we might want to discuss these items in further detail at some point.

Also, Mr. Hayden invited the public to the presentation of "Hidden in Plain Sight" on May 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> at the NHS Library. This presentation is an interactive "staged" teenagers bedroom, raising awareness about drugs and alcohol.

Ms. Igoe made a motion to put these items on the website, which was seconded by Mrs. Mullen. The Committee voted unanimously in favor 5-0.

Chairman Gormley also acknowledged receipt of a letter dated April 26, 2016 regarding the title of vacations on the School Calendar from Judith Howard as well as an e-mail that was sent to the School Committee dated April 27, 2016 from Barbara Hopcroft thanking the Committee for their vote regarding the wording on the School Calendar.

Regarding Ms. Howard's request in her letter to have another vote on the wording on the calendar, Mr. McDonough informed that due to Robert's Rules of Law, the Committee would not be able to revote on this item again at this point.

**Warrants:** Chairman Gormley informed that there were warrants to be signed.

**Public Forum:** None.

**Announcements:** None.

**Appearances:** None.

**Reports:** None.

**Superintendent's Report and/or Late Agenda:** School Choice Hearing Moved from May 11, 2016 to May 25, 2016: Mr. Hayden reminded that with the Special Town Meeting and Regular Town Meeting coming up, he suggests cancelling the

May 11<sup>th</sup> meeting and adding placeholder meetings before Town Meeting on May 12<sup>th</sup> and May 16<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 in the Norwood High School Library. The Public Hearing on School Choice will be added to the May 25<sup>th</sup> meeting.

After some discussion, Ms. Igoe made a motion to cancel the School Committee Meeting scheduled for May 11, 2016 and add placeholder meetings on May 9, 2016; May 12, 2016 and May 16, 2016 for 6:30 in the Norwood High School Library before Town Meeting, which was seconded by Mrs. Bodenhofer. The Committee voted unanimously in favor 5-0.

Also, after some discussion, the Committee decided to schedule its School Committee Retreat and Meeting with Glen Kutcher for Wednesday, June 1<sup>st</sup> at 6:00 p.m. at the Savage Educational Center in room 219.

**Policy: None.**

**Budget:** FY17 House Ways and Means Budget: Mr. Hayden review 2017 Local Aid Assessments and FY2017 Local Aid Estimates for Norwood.

FY16 Budget Updates: Ms. Ellis updated the Committee regarding FY16 Budget as a snapshot in time.

**Old Business:** None.

**New Business:** Special Town Meeting Warrant Article: The Members received the Town of Norwood Special Town Meeting Warrant. Special Town Meeting will begin Monday, May 9, 2016. Article 8 is the Building Study.

Post School Committee Meeting for May 12, 2016: (This item was brought up earlier in the meeting.)

**Consent Agenda:** Acceptance of (4) Four Donations:

Mr. Hayden recommended accepting the following donation:

-High School – Hannaford Helps School Programs - \$372.00;

Ms. Igoe made a motion to accept this donation, which was seconded by Mr. McDonough The Committee voted unanimously in favor 5-0.

Mr. Hayden recommended accepting the following donation:

-High School – Bay State Federal Savings Charitable Foundation –  
\$500.00;

Ms. Igoe made a motion to accept this donation to the High School Scholarship Foundation Account, which was seconded by Mr. McDonough. The Committee voted unanimously in favor 5-0.

Mr. Hayden recommended accepting the following two donations:

- High School – Norwood High School PTO - \$7,134.77 for the SAT Review Course; and
- Prescott School – 50 Student Dictionaries for 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade donated by the Norwood Elks.

Mr. McDonough made a motion to approve the last two donations, which was seconded by Ms. Igoe. The Committee voted unanimously in favor 5-0.

**Personnel:** None.

**School Committee Addenda:**

Mrs. Mullen encouraged all parents and students to attend the presentation *“Hidden in Plain Sight”*.

Ms. Igoe also encouraged everyone to attend this presentation. She also reminded that the presentation of *Robin Hood* will be performed on May 5<sup>th</sup> – May 9<sup>th</sup> at the Paul Alberta Performance Center.

Mrs. Bodenhofer encouraged everyone to attend the Family volunteer fair. Also tickets are available of the Teacher of the Year Night.

Mr. McDonough encouraged everyone to support the InvenTeam project as they present and represent Norwood at MIT. Student Government Day on the Town side went very well. Mr. McDonough said he was very pleased with Mr. Bourn’s decision on the graduation issue that the students ultimately have the decision on what will be announced when their name is announced.

Chairman Gormley had none.

**Executive Session:** None.

**Adjournment:** Mr. McDonough made a motion for adjournment at 8:40p.m., which was seconded by Ms. Igoe. The Committee voted unanimously in favor 5-0.

Respectfully Submitted:

Donna G. Doliner, Clerk  
Norwood School Committee

