

Albany School Board

Meeting Minutes

December 8, 2009

Present: Board members James Sabina and Colleen Cormack. Also in attendance were Kim Guptill and Carl Nelson. Public: 0

- (1) James Sabina called the meeting to order at 5:10pm.
- (2) **Approval of Minutes (10-13-09) – Colleen Cormack made a motion to approve the minutes. James Sabina seconded the motion. The minutes were approved 2-0-0.**
- (3) **Board Member Comments - none**
- (4) **Signing of Checks and Manifest**
- (5) **Business Affairs** –The board reviewed and asked several clarifying questions about the \$1,263,647 budget which is down overall 11.43% over last year. Carl explained we a total of 13 fewer children we are sending so tuition is down. Special Education services are down because a student moved out of district. Warrant articles were reviewed. Article 6 is a request for \$85,000 for additional special education costs for the current school year (to be removed from the capital reserve fund). Article 7 requests \$15,000 to be placed in the capital reserve fund. The board also discussed pupil transportation as we are in the 4th year of a 5 year contract. James had asked Carl what other transportation options were available and wondered about contracting with Conway for all of our transportation. Carl mentioned Bennett Transportation out of Maine, Don Meader (our current contract) and First Student. Colleen asked when contracts are due to end like this if it is our practice to compare prices and options before renegotiating. Carl said Meader has been the only taker in the last 8 years. **Colleen Cormack made a motion to move the budget forward to a public hearing. James Sabina seconded the motion. The motion passed 2-0-0. James Sabina made a motion to move the warrant articles forward to a public hearing. Colleen Cormack seconded the motion. The motion passed 2-0-0.**
- (6) **Other Business** – Next Albany board meeting will be February 9th at 5:15pm. Colleen requested that we consider beginning the public hearing earlier than last year assuming we will likely not have a long board meeting prior to it. Carl agreed. Colleen mentioned that Dorothy had shown up 5 minutes after the meeting was set to start last year and missed the meeting. She said setting the time earlier would be fair to the public. **Colleen Cormack made a motion to set the budget hearing for February 9, 2010 at 5:30pm. James Sabina seconded the motion. The motion passed 2-0-0.** The School District Meeting will be March 9, 2010 at 7pm at The Albany Town Hall.
- (7) **Colleen Cormack made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 5:35pm. The motion was seconded by James Sabina. The motion passed 2-0-0.**