

MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL WOODBRIDG BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING

Monday, January 7, 2019
District Office Conference Room

CALL TO ORDER: Ms. Hamilton, Chair called the meeting to order (6:01 PM).

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Ms. Margaret Hamilton, Chair, Ms. Claire Coleman (6:07 PM), Dr. Steve Fleischman (via telephone) Ms. Maegan Genovese, Secretary; Dr. Todd Jokl, Garrett Luciani and Ms. Lynn Piascyk.

STAFF: Mr. Robert Gilbert, Superintendent and Marsha DeGennaro, Clerk of the Board.

MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC: Stephen Sedor, Board Counsel.

Superintendent Gilbert noted that Bercham and Moses had a conflict of interest as part of the residency hearing process and recommended Mr. Sedor. Mr. Sedor reviewed the various options available for conducting a residency hearing. Under Connecticut General Statue 10-186, the full board of education may (A) conduct the hearing, (B) designate a subcommittee of the board composed of three board members to conduct the hearing, or (C) establish a local impartial hearing officer, not affiliated with the board of education, to conduct the hearing. The hearing is conducted in accordance with the provisions of sections 4-176e to 4-180a, inclusive, and section 4-181a and is a formal legal proceeding under due process. Generally, these types of hearings can be time intensive, board member impartiality/ objectivity may be a challenge in a small community and scheduling within the specified time constraints can be a daunting task. It was also noted that independent hearing officers specialize in this area of the law and are selected from a pool based on availability.

MOTION #1 – APPOINT HEARING OFFICER

Move that we delegate to the Superintendent the authority to appoint an independent hearing officer to conduct a resident hearing and/or hearings on behalf of the Board pursuant to Connecticut General Statutes Section 10-186.

Dr. Jokl

Second by Mr. Luciani

UNANIMOUS

MOTION TO ADJOURN: (6:14 PM)

Dr. Jokl

Second by Ms. Genovese

UNANIMOUS

Recorded by Marsha DeGennaro, Clerk of the Board