

The Grinnell-Newburg Board of Education met in Regular Session on November 6, 2013, at 6:00 p.m. in the City Council Chambers, 927 4th Avenue, 2nd Floor, Grinnell, Iowa 50112.

Members Present: Jeff Smith, Barbara Brown, Kirsten Fisher, Jeff Knobloch, Claire Moisan, Jonathan Nance, and Carol Wilhelm. Also in attendance at the table: Superintendent Todd Abrahamson, Business Manager and Board Secretary Lisa Johnson

Members Absent: none

Administrators Present: none

1. Call to Order and Roll Call

President Smith called the regular meeting to order at 6:04 p.m. Board Secretary Lisa Johnson called roll. Seven members were in attendance.

Motion by Brown, seconded by Nance to go into closed session at 6:05 p.m. Motion carried 7-0.

Closed session per Iowa Code 21.5(1)(c) and 21.5(1)(j) to discuss with counsel the R & C Industries, Inc. Condemnation Appeal and possible settlement options for final purchase where premature disclosure could prejudice the District's position and affect the outcome of the price.

Motion by Knobloch, seconded by Brown to go out of closed session at 6:30 p.m. Motion carried 7-0.

2. Fiduciary

Superintendent Abrahamson discussed the PPEL dollars for the bundling of items that lasts more than one year. There was discussion on non-instructional software.

3. Approval of Consent Agenda

Motion by Brown, seconded by Moisan to approve the consent agenda.

President Smith read the following amended item to the consent agenda:

3. Approval of Consent Agenda

D. Personnel:

1. Offering: Thomas Brinkman: Volunteer coach high school wrestling

A. Approve/Amend Agenda

- B. Minutes: Regular board meeting 10/23/13

C. Claims and Accounts

D. Personnel:

1. Offering: Ben McFarland: Volunteer coach middle school wrestling

E. Contract upgrade: Esther Ware: Standard to Specialized Para-Educator

Motion by Knobloch, seconded by Moisan to approve the amendment to the consent agenda. Motion carried 7-0.

4. Communications from the Public

None to report.

5. Communication and Reports

A. Board

The board discussed the building tours from Tuesday, November 5. Overall the buildings on the Tuesday tour appeared well maintained, clean, rooms appear small, but organized, and clear of issues. Superintendent Abrahamson said the tours allowed the public to see the inner workings of the HVAC system, issues with the windows, and much of the equipment does not have replacement parts. The tours created an understanding of education due to the padded rooms and what the cost is for bringing buildings up to code. The public needs to be kept informed of the progress regarding the building project.

The policy committee met in Monday, November 4, and the academic committee met prior to the board meeting.

B. Superintendent

Superintendent Abrahamson updated the school board on the sewer gas at the high school. He has not received any more complaints within the last week. Superintendent Abrahamson informed the board he was contacted by Modern Builders regarding outstanding bills from the 2005 addition-building project. OPN was the architect and Septagon was the contractor for the 2005 building project. Superintendent Abrahamson discussed this issue with Lawyer Brian Gruhn. Per Gruhn, a certificate of completion usually closes out any liens.

6. Old Business - None

7. New Business

A. R & C Industries, Inc. Property

Motion by Brown, seconded by Knobloch to purchase R & C Industries, Inc. Property at a cost of \$540,000. Six voted yes, one voted no, (Wilhelm), motion carried 6-1.

B. High School trip to Spain, June 2015

Motion by Brown, seconded by Wilhelm to approve the High School Trip to Spain, June, 2015. Motion carried 7-0.

C. Level I and Level II Investigators

Motion by Moisan, seconded by Fisher to approve the Level I and Level II Investigators. Julie Bisher is the Level I Investigator, Dan Keller is the Level II Investigator. When there is a Level II investigation, the school attorney is also involved in the process. Motion carried 7-0.

D. Ladders to Learning – Supplemental Educational Services

Motion by Fisher, seconded by Wilhelm to approve the Ladder to Learning – Supplemental Educational Services. Motion carried 7-0.

8. Suggestions for next agenda

The board had the following suggestions regarding presentations to the school board: student group – FFA; reading follow-up by teachers; technology uses in the buildings; MAP testing; and pre-SAT/ACT testing.

9. Decision Points

No discussion.

10. Adjournment

Motion by Moisan, seconded by Knobloch to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried 7-0. Meeting adjourned at 7:15 p.m.

Board Calendar:

Regular Board Meeting 6:00 p.m., November 20, 2013