

SOMERSWORTH SCHOOL BOARD

August 11, 2015

Somersworth City Hall

7:00 pm

1. **CALL TO ORDER - ROLL CALL - PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** Austin called the meeting to order at 7:00pm upon call of the roll the following members were present: Rivers, Gibson, Paradis, Austin, Pepin, Brennan and Bolduc. Absent: Hiller and Philpott
2. **COMMENTS BY VISITORS:** Sharon Lampros stated that she would like to thank the Somersworth Prevention Coalition and the Police Department for their work on the national night out. There was a lot of community support and we had a terrific turnout and we are building relationships with the community. Thank you to everyone involved. Andy Lucier stated that the schools are coming along and they will be ready on September 2nd. He stated that you may see some construction going on at the middle school, Maplewood and the high school with the security upgrades as we will be going to swipe cards as part of the program that was approved last year. He stated that they are looking forward to another happy year.
3. **CONSENT CALENDAR:**
 - 3.1 **Removal of items from the consent calendar:** None
 - 3.2 **Approval of Consent Calendar:** A motion made by Paradis seconded by Joanne Pepin to approve the consent calendar as presented. VOTE: motion passed, unanimously. Approved were:
 - June 23 2015-Minutes of the Somersworth School Board Meeting
 - July 28 2015- Minutes of the Somersworth School Board Retreat
 - Letter from Virginia Barry regarding I am College Bound campaign
4. **ANNOUNCEMENTS:** Supt. Mosca stated that she would like to introduce Eris Hersey as the principal of Idlehurst and Liza Cocco as the Assistant Principal of Idlehurst. She stated that she would like to thank Mark Rideout the chair of the Somersworth Prevention Coalition for a successful event at National Night Out. She stated that she would like to remind parents that if you are new to the city to get the kids registered as soon as possible. Austin stated that he received correspondence regrettably from Rene Philpott and he read the following letter: "It is with deep regret and genuine sadness that I must resign from my position on the Somersworth School Board effective immediately. This decision has been a difficult one to make as I have thoroughly enjoyed this role and working with each of you to provide our students with the highest quality education possible. My intent was to continue in this role, and I was looking forward to being able to dedicate more time to it following my planned retirement in November. Unfortunately, I have been diagnosed with a disease which will require me to focus much of my time and physical energy on the treatment process. Hopefully, once treatment is complete, I will be able to volunteer once again in some capacity. Sincerely, Rene Philpott". A motion made by Joanne Pepin seconded by Paradis to accept with deep regret the resignation of Rene Philpott and wish her well. VOTE: motion passed, unanimously.
5. **DISCUSSION ITEMS:**
 - 5.1 **BOARD REPORTS:**

Building, Grounds & Transportation: Rivers stated that they met on the 22nd of July and the focus of the meeting was to get updates from Banwell on the CTC renovation project. He stated that they worked for a couple of hours going through minor details as things are constantly evolving. He stated that the school bus routes have been posted on the SAU 56 website under the news alerts. He stated that there is an RFQ for the construction manager to assist in the renovation project going forward and it was put out August 5th. He stated that this is for a construction manager at risk versus a straight construction manager. He stated that there is a mandatory walk through August 20th at 8:00am and the proposals have to be in by August 31st at 2:00pm. He stated that once the conceptual design is put together we will have a presentation for you. The next meeting is on Monday at the SAU at 10:30. He stated that they will be going over the CIP

that is due to the city manager in September. Gibson asked him to expand on the explanation of the construction manager at risk. Rivers stated that the CMAR assumes a great deal of risk. The guaranteed maximum price is not an essential part but the two go hand in hand. He stated that they will assist the architect and they will be risking money to be constructing the project otherwise we assume the risk. He stated they will make sure the contracts are signed. Gibson stated that they are like a general contractor versus a traditional project manager. If they are assuming the risk of the financials is it going to cost us more. D'Agostino stated that the CMAR hires all the subcontractors and takes on the liability to make sure that the project gets done and they take the risk to make sure the construction is based on the architects design. She stated that it is the same process we did with Idlehurst. Austin asked if they take the risk of financial overruns. D'Agostino stated that as part of the process is for them to give us a guaranteed maximum price not to exceed. Austin stated then what are they at risk for. Supt. Mosca stated that she doesn't think that there is a real difference. Gibson stated that when someone adds at risk there is usually a monetary value associated with it. Supt. Mosca stated that is not the case, if the GMP is less we return money and if the GMP is more it is the construction management firm that eats the difference. Bolduc stated that construction manager is what he has heard all along and now we are adding the at risk on it, the committee needs to hear more. Rivers stated that a construction manager at risk is a project specific delivery method for medium to large capital projects that provides technical assistance to the designer during the design phase, has a cost capping feature and allows construction to happen before the design documents are 100% complete. The CMAR contracts directly with the subcontractors, fabricators and material suppliers. D'Agostino stated that the term is industry standard and is the same as we did for Idlehurst. Gibson stated that when Idlehurst was discussed he doesn't remember the term construction manager at risk being brought up in the discussion versus a traditional construction manager structure for public project. Bolduc stated that if we are going to change the name we need a reason for doing it, why confuse people just leave it alone. Rivers stated that we will get Banwell's help in explaining this. **Curriculum and Activities:** Paradis stated that she would like to request we look at the idea of community service as a requirement, she has talked to everyone and they all seem on board. Austin asked her to forward on any data she has.

Policy Committee: None

5.2 City Council Update: Marty Pepin stated that they have a meeting on the 17th and there is an ordinance regarding passing items to and from vehicles and you do have fundraisers and this goes for roadways in Somersworth. If anyone hands anything from a vehicle to the side of the road the fine could be up to \$500. He stated that they extended the American ambulance contract for another three years, they are doing a great job and they look forward to serving the city. Gibson stated that we have enough laws and this is an infringement on people's rights.

5.3 Student Representative Report-TBA: Joanne Pepin stated that in reference to the student representative she would suggest having a two, a regular representative and a backup if there is a conflict so we always have one here. Lampros stated that it is up to who volunteers and who is willing to make the commitment and having two might help.

5.4 NEASC Report: Supt. Mosca stated that in the packet is the NEASC report which is a synopsis of the three day visit in March. She stated that it takes a look at the seven standards and they looked for evidence in the high school and CTC. She stated they have given us commendations and recommendations. Lampros stated that the next step is the committee of public and secondary schools receives the report and rating criteria of the seven standards and reviews it and sends it to the commission to make a recommendation on the status of our accreditation. She stated that they don't meet until the middle of October so she doesn't expect the results until early November. She stated that we will be recognized for things that we do well and she agrees with what is in the report.

She stated that they had concerns that we can meet educational needs with a tax cap and significant financial constraints here. She stated that she doesn't expect any surprises and they already know the recommendations and they have already started on them and are creating an action plan to accomplish them. Gibson stated that it was interesting that three or four recommendations say find a way to find more money.

6. ACTION ITEM:

6.1 GBAA-Sexual Harassment-Employee/Staff and GBAAA-Confidential Student Information: A motion made by Gibson seconded by Brennan to accept the policies as presented. VOTE: Motion passed, unanimously.

7. NEW BUSINESS: Supt. Mosca stated that they continue to move forward with the cooperative city and school services and she has worked with Bob and Scott and Back Bay to create an agreement for IT. She stated that the SAU will be a flat cost and there will be a slight increase on the Somersworth side due to the shift in positions at the SAU and the elimination of a technology integrator. She stated that this agreement allows for a non-appropriation clause and we can opt out and it allows us to terminate if we need to do so. She stated that it has been wonderful working with Back Bay. Supt. Mosca went over the notes from the school board retreat that took place on July 28th 2015. (See attached).

8. OLD BUSINESS

8.1 Vision 20/20 Committee: Paradis stated that at the last meeting they talked about goodschools.com and a way to get the word out through newsletters to let everyone know. She stated that they talked about the city and school collaboration and Tim Metevier and the building trades teacher are working together. She stated that they have a huge chart of organizations in the city and sending out letters to all as a vision 20/20 team to see how we can help them get the word out. She stated that the palm cards should be ready by next meeting. She stated that Jennie Holmes has started a community newsletter with different events that are happening. She stated that they are looking at revitalizing the Somersworth Monopoly game. She stated that the next meeting is on August 27th at 5:00pm either at the Old Rail or Leaven.

8.2 Budget: None

9. FUTURE MEETING DATES/SUGGESTED AGENDA ITEMS:

- August 20 2015- Rollinsford School Board Meeting
- August 25 2015- Somersworth School Board Meeting

10. CLOSING COMMENTS

10.1 Visitors: D'Agostino stated that the food service contract is in its last year and they are in the process of creating an RFP to go out to bid for food service and it should be out by Friday.

10.2 Board Members: Gibson stated that he would like to thank all the people involved in the NEASC visit, it was a tremendous demand in time and from reading it and looking at the recommendations the only complaint was that we are poor in money but not poor in people. He stated that he understands what the vision 20/20 is trying to do but the rule of thumb is that for every 25 bad comments you get one good comment. He stated that we need to push the realtors and other people who are part of sites like this. He commends them for the time and effort they have put in. He stated that over the last couple of meetings for all his attempts to be informed he seems to be uninformed about a number of things and it is upsetting to find out things that he felt he was fairly knowledgeable about and he hears all the time about the 30,000 feet and he is not supposed to be in the weeds but he while he is still here he will be looking for frogs. He stated that the building trades program and to find out the way that is structured now he thought he was well informed on that. He stated that when we get reports from committees if we change something or something is being done differently he wishes it would be clarified. He stated that he doesn't want to confuse issues but when he doesn't understand something he is going to keep asking questions. He wished everyone good luck in getting ready for the opening of school and there is a lot to do to get ready and he thanked everyone for their time and

effort. Bolduc stated that he would like to see an agenda item regarding discussing titles that are applied to administrators at the schools in order to have a general discussion. He stated that the budget and revenue committee has not met and he thinks that they should meet as there are things that we can talk about. He stated that he has concerns about the building trades program and would like to have an adhoc committee to discuss. He asked if the meetings are being televised on channel 22. Austin stated no, channel 95. Bolduc asked if there is a way to advertise that on channel 22 to go to channel 95. He stated that he has heard about all the things we can do on channel 95 and from what he sees he doesn't like it. We could do videos about the education at the schools, or interviews with teachers and administrators. Let's make use of that channel. Rivers stated that he would like to thank everyone who helped with national night out; we had a good turnout so many thanks for that. Paradis congratulated Liza and Eris and wished the good luck. She stated that as a follow up to Bob, the palm cards are going to the real estate agents. She stated that it was wonderful to work with Rene and she is sad to see her go and it was a pleasure to work with you. Joanne Pepin stated that she commends Sharon and the high school team, to see the commendations the high school team has a lot to be proud of. She stated that the national night out was a great success, thank you to dana for this work representing us and to Sharon who was a great cook, and reverend Rideout was outstanding. She stated that the kids she got to talk to were excited to see how positive they were and she didn't hear a negative comment. She was very impressed with the smoke house and how it might save someone's life. She stated that she was excited to hear that the Somersworth Monopoly was going to be revitalized, she recently played the old one and it brought back memories and she will be the first to buy when they are ready. She thanked Rene for sitting beside her and getting to know her, she was citizen of the year and it was well deserved and she has done remarkable work and she can't wait until she feels better so she can volunteer again. She stated that it will be hard to replace her but she asked every citizen to think about it because we need the seat filled in order to have diverse ideas. She stated that the city and the school work together and we disagree but we always respect each other and it makes Somersworth better. Brennan stated that she would like to thank Rene and hope she feels better. She stated that she was at the parent's sports meeting tonight and she had to leave early and Mr. Mommsen was the key note speaker and he was fantastic. Austin stated that he would like to congratulate Liza and Eris and welcome to the administrative team. He stated that he had the opportunity to be at the Noble Pines on Saturday for the rededication of the ball park and it was a beautiful day and the group that collaborated did a wonderful job. He stated that it went off without a hitch and he had a wonderful time. He stated that the community was well represented, congratulations to everyone who worked on rebuilding the field. He stated that the fall elections will be in November with a filing period in September and he encourages everyone to consider whether you want to serve on the board. He stated that the job may appear thankless but in the six years that he has served he has felt a lot of pride in the work they have been able to do and the accomplishments that they made and it has a lot to do with the people behind the scenes but the board has something to do with that too. He stated that they work hard and challenges come up but we deal with it but we are here because we keep in mind the needs of the students. He stated that if you would like to contribute think about filling one of the seats. It is an important endeavor even if you choose not to fill an elected position there are also committees to volunteer.

- 11. NON-PUBLIC:** A motion made by Joanne Pepin seconded by Paradis to exit into nonpublic session in accordance with Chapter 91-A: 3 II (a) Student Issue (b) Personnel and (e) Negotiations. VOTE: motion passed, unanimously. Entered into nonpublic session at 8:10pm. A motion made by Paradis seconded by Brennan to exit out of nonpublic session. VOTE: motion passed, unanimously. Exited nonpublic session at 8:46.

A motion made by Joanne Pepin seconded by Paradis to accept with regret the

resignation of Lindsay Dube. VOTE: motion passed, unanimously.

A motion made by Paradis seconded by Brennan to accept with regret the resignation of Melissa Jean. VOTE: motion passed, unanimously.

A motion made by Brennan seconded by Paradis to accept the nomination of Sharlene Olson. VOTE: motion passed, unanimously.

12. ADJOURNMENT: A motion made by Paradis seconded by Brennan to adjourn. The meeting adjourned at 8:48pm.

Katie Krauss
Board Secretary

Pending Board Approval

Somersworth School Board Retreat Notes

July 28, 2015

ACCOMPLISHMENTS FOR 14-15:

Renovation for CTC city dollars secured by Council

Fast track for CTC renovation

Passed a budget that was 1.9 million shy with the return of 800,000 by the council through money from city as well as an override of the cap

Continued to build positive relationship with Council

Started to work on Cooperative Services both city and school

Shared student data Prek-Grade 12

NEASC visit and report

OPPORTUNITIES FOR 15-16:

Explore math program elementary schools

CTC Renovation project continues

Academic work-competencies, professional partnerships, imperatives

Explore Elementary configuration

Cooperative Services City and School

PRIORITIES FOR 2015-2016:

CTC renovation/ Board review of all programs

Budget 2016-2017

Programs (Math) and Elementary structure

Imperatives