

Minutes – Business Meeting – Board of Education – New Paltz Central High School – May 21, 2014 – 7:00 PM

**CALL MEETING TO ORDER**

CALL TO ORDER

Meeting was called to order at 5:55 PM by Stephen Bagley, Board President. Maria C. Rice was appointed District Clerk Pro-Tempore for the Executive Session portion of the meeting.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Stephen Bagley  
Brian Cournoyer  
Dominick Profaci  
Ruth Quinn  
Patrick Rausch  
Timothy Rogers  
Julie Tresco

QUORUM CHECK

ALSO PRESENT: Maria Rice, Superintendent of Schools  
Richard Linden, Assistant Superintendent for Business  
Michelle Martoni, Assistant Superintendent for Educational Programs  
Richard Wisenthal, Middle School Principal (left at 6:15 PM)  
Barbara Clinton, High School Principal (left at 6:15 PM)

**ROLL CALL** The roll was called as reflected above.

ROLL CALL

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Motion made by Tim Rogers and seconded by Brian Cournoyer that the Board of Education move into Executive Session at 5:55 PM for the purpose of discussing the school history of particular students in accordance with their FERPA rights, discussing proposed, pending or current litigation, discussing the employment history of a particular person and corporation, and discussing collective negotiations pursuant to Article 14 of the Civil Service Law.

Out of Executive Session:

Motion made by Ruth Quinn and seconded by Dominick Profaci that the Board return to Public Session at 7:02 PM.  
Motion carried 7 - 0 with members voting.

**CALL TO ORDER**

CALL TO ORDER

The Public Meeting was called to order at 7:11 PM by Stephen Bagley, Board President. Alberta Pedro was appointed District Clerk Pro-Tempore for the public meeting.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Stephen Bagley  
Brian Cournoyer  
Dominick Profaci  
Ruth Quinn  
Patrick Rausch  
Timothy Rogers  
Julie Tresco

QUORUM CHECK

ALSO PRESENT: Maria Rice, Superintendent of Schools  
Michelle Martoni, Assistant Superintendent for Educational Programs  
Richard Linden, Assistant Superintendent for Business  
Jo-Anne Dobbins, Director of Pupil Personnel Services  
Kathleen Clark, Coordinator K-5 Pupil Personnel Services  
Antonia Woody, Director of Athletics  
Mike Robinson, Director of Food Services  
Richard Wisenthal, Middle School Principal  
Debra Hogencamp, Duzine Elementary Principal  
Jackie Sinatra, Lenape Elementary Principal  
Dusti Callo, District Clerk  
Members of the Public and Press

**ROLL CALL** The roll was called as reflected above.

ROLL CALL

**PLEDGE TO THE FLAG  
AGENDA CHANGES**

**PLEDGE  
AGENDA CHANGES**

Motion was made by Ruth Quinn and seconded by Brian Cournoyer to accept the following agenda changes:

**NEW BUSINESS**

**CHANGE** Current New Business Agenda Item 13.7 to add the following information:

**13.7 Request for Approval to Accept the Results of the Election/Budget Vote Held on May 20, 2014**

RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the New Paltz Central School District accept the voting results of the election held on May 20, 2014 as follows:

Proposition #1

“Shall the Board of Education of the New Paltz Central School District be authorized to expend \$53,900,000 which will be required for school district purposes for the year July 1, 2014 through June 30, 2015 (The Budget), and to levy the necessary tax therefor?”

YES: 1175

NO: 435

Proposition #2

“Shall the Board of Education of the New Paltz Central School District, Ulster County, New York, be authorized to purchase three 65-passenger or larger school buses at a cost of \$115,000 each, for a maximum estimated cost of \$345,000; and three 20-passenger or smaller school buses at a cost of \$46,667 each, for a maximum estimated cost of \$140,000; for an aggregate maximum estimated cost of \$485,000; and that the sum of \$485,000, or so much thereof as may be necessary, shall be raised by the levy of a tax upon the taxable property of said School District and collected in annual installments, as provided by Section 416 of the Education Law, and, in anticipation of such tax, obligations of the District shall be issued?”

YES: 1039

NO: 548

Candidates

Votes

Stephen Bagley

450

Steven Greenfield

853

Patrick Rausch

671

Aimee Hemminger

966

**NEW BUSINESS**

**ADD ITEM**

**13.8 Request for Approval to Create New Position**

Recommendation – that the New Paltz Central Schools Board of Education, upon the recommendation of Maria C. Rice, Superintendent, does hereby create a 1.0 FTE Computer Teacher Aide position.

Motion passed 7 to 0 with 7 members voting.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

- Code of Conduct
  - Public Comments-None
  
- District Safety Plan
  - Antonia Woody,  
*Director of Physical Education, Health, Athletics and School Health Services*
  - Public Comments-None

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

None

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

**SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORTS & DISCUSSION ITEMS**

**SUPT REPORT**

➤ **SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORTS**

- Superintendent Rice reported on her participation in a committee on public education
- Director of Athletics, Antonia Woody reported on students competing in track and field sectional championships and students competing at the State Golf Tournament
- New York State 3-8 Assessments and Impact of Refusals - M. Martoni, R. Wiesenthal, J. Sinatra
- Superintendent Rice requested the board make a motion regarding the New York State filed tests and the lack of having any positive impact on student learning or benefit to the students.  
A motion was made by Ruth Quinn and seconded by Brian Cournoyer that the New Paltz Central School District will pursue the idea of not administering the State field tests.  
Motion carried 7 to 0 with 7 members voting.

**BOARD COMMUNICATIONS**

**BOARD COMMUNICATION**

- Proposed Resolution On Housing Projects And K-12 Public Education Spending

**NEW PALTZ CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD OF EDUCATION  
RESOLUTION ON HOUSING PROJECTS AND K-12 PUBLIC EDUCATION SPENDING**

**WHEREAS**, the New Paltz Central School District's Board of Education ("Board") is committed to maintaining the fiscal health of the New Paltz Central School District ("District") and recognizes excellent fiscal planning as a key factor in attaining the District's educational goals and priorities; and

**WHEREAS**, commercial real estate developer Wilmorite has proposed to build residential units for students and faculty – Park Point – with 756 bedrooms in the Town of New Paltz; and

**WHEREAS**, SUNY New Paltz is constructing a new approximately 223-bed student residence hall that would move roughly 182 existing students from triple rooms into the new residence hall to increase the size of the residential population on campus by about 41 students; and

**WHEREAS**, Wilmorite's proposed project plus the new dorm represents 797 new bedrooms; and

**WHEREAS**, adding 797 people to New Paltz' population of approximately 14,000 amounts to an increase of 5.7%; and

**WHEREAS**, SUNY New Paltz President Don Christian and others at the College have stated SUNY New Paltz has neither the capacity nor intention to grow undergraduate enrollments; and

**WHEREAS**, without increased demand for housing from the college to offset 797 new bedrooms, families with K-12 school-aged children attracted to the District's reputation for achievement can be expected to absorb some of the additional housing supply; and

**WHEREAS**, New Paltz is Ulster County's top-performing District and in 2013 the New Paltz High School ranked within the top 23% in the Northeast region in the Washington Post survey of America's Most Challenging High Schools; and

**WHEREAS**, various studies indicate that, on average, 14% of residents generated from new housing supply are K-12 school-aged children; and

**WHEREAS**, in a year without a notable increase in housing supply, there were 34 more students in District buildings in October 2013 versus one year earlier; and

**WHEREAS**, a new student or small additions of students to the District's headcount may be absorbed and served using existing resources without materially adding to costs;

**WHEREAS**, students with special education needs or larger influxes of new students may require significantly more funding; and

**WHEREAS**, public education is to be inclusive for all students and that sentiment is highlighted in our District's Mission Statement; and

**WHEREAS**, there were 2,211 students in District buildings in June 2013 and the 2013 – 2014 budget was \$52,250,000 or approximately \$23,000 per child; and

**WHEREAS**, State Aid for the District was \$12,755,000 or 24% of the 2013 – 2014 budget so local taxpayers funded nearly \$18,000 of the \$23,000 cost per child average; and

**WHEREAS**, increasing Town-wide housing supply by 797 bedrooms, as referenced above, where 14% on average will contain K-12 children translates to 112 additional students for the District; and

**WHEREAS**, using the \$23,000 per child average and 112 students would require a budget increase of \$2.6 million; and

**WHEREAS**, a housing development assessed at \$50,470,129 using the District's 2013 – 2014 New Paltz tax rate would have generated \$1 million in tax revenue for the schools; and

**WHEREAS**, this \$1 million in revenue would fall well short of the \$2.6 million cost to add 112 additional students; and

**WHEREAS**, on April 9, 2014, the Ulster County Industrial Development Agency ("UCIDA") approved a 25-year payment-in-lieu-of-tax ("PILOT") arrangement where our District would receive approximately \$313,200 for the 696 bedroom student portion of Wilmorite's proposed housing project of 756 bedrooms; and

**WHEREAS**, the 2011 New York State property tax cap legislation prevents districts that receive additional revenue from PILOTs from using these revenues to increase the school budget even when there may be additional costs to the district such as housing projects which add students; and

**WHEREAS**, districts have no other mechanism for increasing the budget to cover these additional costs other than a 60% supermajority vote of the voting public to exceed the tax cap; and

**WHEREAS**, barring a 60% supermajority vote, districts would be forced to absorb these additional costs which could result in program cuts and increased student-to-teacher ratios to offset additional costs of additional students resulting from new housing;

**BE IT RESOLVED** that the New Paltz Central School District Board of Education declares its opposition to any PILOT agreements that result in a reduction of real property taxes versus full taxation based on a full market value assessment determined by the New Paltz assessor's office; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that that New Paltz Central School District Board of Education calls on the UCIDA to recognize the District's position that PILOT agreements have an adverse impact on school districts due to the Tax Levy Limit formula.

Following board discussion regarding a proposed resolution concerning housing projects, the Board of Education has agreed to the following next steps:

1. The Board of Education will send a letter to the President of SUNY New Paltz, along with a copy of the approved resolution, requesting his review and feedback. Mr. Rogers offered to draft the letter for the Board's review at the next meeting scheduled for June 4, 2014 (see agenda item note below).
2. The Board of Education will also send a similar letter to the County Executive.
3. A meeting will be scheduled with Mr. Timothy Rogers, Mr. Richard Linden, Attorney Margo May, Joe Scott, and the Chair of the Ulster County IDA to discuss the impact of the proposed housing project on the school district.
4. The Board of Education requested Superintendent Rice contact SUNY New Paltz President Dr. Christian to advise him of the letter being prepared for his review and feedback. The letter will outline the concerns of the school district and request his reaction.

**\*Reminder add agenda item for June 4, 2014 meeting:**

The Board of Education will collaboratively review/revise/approve a letter to the President of SUNY New Paltz and the County Executive regarding the Housing Project.

**MINUTES OF MEETING**

MINUTES

Motion made by Ruth Quinn and seconded by Dominick Profaci that the Board of Education approve the following resolution:

BE IT RESOLVED that the New Paltz Central Schools Board of Education accept the minutes of the Regular Business Meeting of May 7, 2014.

Motion carried 7 to 0 with 7 members voting.

**FINANCIAL REPORTS**

FINANCIAL REPORTS

Motion made by Patrick Rausch and seconded by Steve Bagley that the April 2014 Treasurer's Report be approved.

Motion carried 7 to 0 with 7 members voting.

**PERSONNEL (CONSENT AGENDA)**

PERSONNEL

Motion made by Patrick Rausch and seconded by Dominick Profaci that the Board of Education approve the following personnel (consent agenda) resolutions: 11.1 through 11.6 and 11.8 through 11.9

**11.1 Non-Instructional Appointments**

Recommendation - that the New Paltz Central Schools Board of Education, upon the recommendation of Maria C. Rice, Superintendent of Schools, does hereby appoint the following:

Name	Title	Effective Date	Salary	Hours
Lisa Haynes	Sub. Clerical	4/28/2014	\$12.00/hr	as needed
Jill Aube	Sub. Clerical	4/28/2014	\$12.00/hr	as needed
Kevin Nash	Sub. School Bus Driver	5/9/2014	\$20.00/hr	as needed
Barry Slaton	Sub. School Bus Driver	5/19/2014	\$20.00/hr	as needed
Diane Almodoval	Sub. School Nurse	4/30/2014	\$100/day	as needed

**11.2 Abolish Non-Instructional Position**

Recommendation - that the New Paltz Central Schools Board of Education, upon the recommendation of Maria C. Rice, Superintendent of Schools, does hereby abolish the following non-instructional position and is hereby directed to provide written notice to the employee whose position is being abolished with further notice regarding recall rights, if any:

Title	Effective Date
1.0 FTE Teacher Aide	5/09/2014

**11.3 Increase Hours for Non- Instructional Position**

Recommendation – that the New Paltz Central Schools Board of Education, upon the recommendation of Maria C. Rice, Superintendent, does hereby increase hours for the following non-instructional employee:

Name	Position	Effective Date	Increase
Andrea Zapatoski	School Monitor	5/5/2014	3.0 hrs per day to 4.0 hrs per day

**11.4 Administrative Summer School Appointment**

Recommendation that the New Paltz Central Schools Board of Education, upon the recommendation of Maria C. Rice, Superintendent, does hereby appoint the following administrative employee at a salary of \$6,500, effective July 1, 2014 - August 15, 2014.

Name	Title
Meryle Lederer	Summer School Principal

**11.5 Instructional Appointment-Substitutes**

Recommendation that the New Paltz Central School District Board of Education, upon the recommendation of Maria C. Rice, Superintendent of Schools, does hereby appoint the following substitute teachers with remuneration as per rates established at the July 3, 2013 Organizational Meeting:

Name	Effective Dates
Cheng Cheng	5/22/14 – 6/30/14
Beth Honsaker	5/22/14 – 6/30/14
Evan Jenkins	5/22/14 – 6/30/14
Brittany Spoor	5/22/14 – 6/30/14

Mitchell Yanik 5/22/14 – 6/30/14

**11.6 Instructional Leave of Absence - Extension**

Recommendation that the New Paltz Central Schools Board of Education, upon the recommendation of Maria C. Rice, Superintendent of Schools, does hereby approve an extended unpaid leave of absence for the following instructional employee:

<b>Name</b>	<b>Title</b>	<b>Original Effective Dates</b>	<b>Extension</b>
Nicole Sullivan	Music Teacher	2/1/14 – 6/30/14	9/1/14 – 2/1/15 (unpaid)

**11.7 Instructional Resignation for Purposes of Retirement**

Motion made by Brian Cournoyer and seconded by Patrick Rausch that the Board of Education approve the following personnel (consent agenda) resolution, with regret:

Recommendation that the New Paltz Central School District Board of Education, upon the recommendation of Maria Rice, Superintendent of Schools, does hereby accept the resignation of the following instructional employee for the purpose of retirement:

BE IT RESOLVED that the board hereby accept the resignation of **Social Studies Teacher, Susan Pereira**, effective at the close of business on June 30, 2014 as set forth in a letter presented to the Board of Education Clerk on **April 15, 2014**.

The board wished Ms. Pereira good luck and thanked her for her years of service.

Motion passed 7 to 0 with 7 members voting.

**11.8 Instructional Resignation**

Recommendation that the New Paltz Central School District Board of Education, upon the recommendation of Maria Rice, Superintendent of Schools, does hereby accept the resignation of the following instructional employee:

BE IT RESOLVED that the board hereby accepts the resignation of **Part-time Teacher, Jingjing Xu**, effective at the close of business on June 30, 2014 as set forth in a letter presented to the Board of Education Clerk on **May 6, 2014**.

**11.9 Summer CSE Evaluations/Meetings**

Recommendation that the New Paltz Central School Board of Education upon the recommendation of Maria Rice, Superintendent of Schools, does hereby appoint, as needed, the following employees effective July 1, 2014 – August 31, 2014.

<b><u>Name</u></b>	<b><u>Title</u></b>
Suzanne Bergstein	CSE Meetings/Special Ed. Teacher
Erin Bulson	CSE Meetings/Special Ed. Teacher
Stacie Erceg	CSE Meetings/Special Ed. Teacher
Lisa Hasbrouck	CSE Meetings/Special Ed. Teacher
Denise Hoyt	CSE Meetings/Special Ed. Teacher
Brandi Keyser	CSE Meetings/Special Ed. Teacher
Rebecca Masters	CSE Meetings/Special Ed. Teacher
Amanda Rivero	CSE Meetings/Special Ed. Teacher
Susan Sherburne	CSE Meetings/Special Ed. Teacher
Carol Ucci	CSE Meetings/Special Ed. Teacher
Barbara Weiner	CSE Meetings/Special Ed. Teacher
Rachel Busher	CSE Meetings/Regular Educator
Matthew Elkin	CSE Meetings/Regular Educator
Laura Faure	CSE Meetings/Regular Educator
Melissa Giordano	CSE Meetings/Regular Educator
Janice Hoffer	CSE Meetings/Regular Educator
Heather Hopper	CSE Meetings/Regular Educator
Ann Macur	CSE Meetings/Regular Educator
Daniel Monheit	CSE Meetings/Regular Educator
Michelle Olson	CSE Meetings/Regular Educator
Meredith Oppenheimer	CSE Meetings/Regular Educator
Iva Profaci	CSE Meetings/Regular Educator
Mary Jo Serrao	CSE Meetings/Regular Educator
Elaine Thomas	CSE Meetings/Regular Educator

Cindy Valdina CSE Meetings/Certified Occupational Therapy Assistant

Justin Finnegan CSE Meetings Speech/Language  
Lara Savelson CSE Meetings Speech/Language

Meri Lederer CSE Meetings/Social Worker  
Renee Reynolds CSE Meetings/Social Worker  
Lisa Watkins CSE Meetings/Social Worker

Rheam Deans CSE Meetings/Psychologist  
Mary Kay Fiore CSE Meetings/Psychologist

Maria Meoli CSE Meetings/Nurse

Motion to approve Items 11.1 through 11.6 and 11.8 through 11.9 passed 7 to 0 with 7 members voting.

**OLD BUSINESS**

**OLD BUSINESS**

**NEW BUSINESS**

**NEW BUSINESS**

Motion made by Ruth Quinn and seconded by Steve Bagley that the Board of Education approve the following resolution:

**13.1 Request for Approval of Committee on Special Education Recommendations and Student Placements**

Recommendation - that the following resolution be approved: BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the New Paltz Central School District approve the Committee on Special Education (CSE) and Committee on Pre-School Special Education (CPSE) recommendations and student placements: 12833, 12173, 12447, 12720, 11173, 11522, 12312, 12706, 12984, 12578, 12708, 12698, 12444, 12471, 12912,10628, 8154, 12338, 10804, 10735, 10738, 12921, 10754, 13567, 10910, 9301, 9219, 9634, 9638, 9505, 10650, 12016, 8177, 8191, 8171, 8816, 12875,9531, 12931, 8161, 10292, 8813, 10984, 12174, 8276, 10936, 8270, 12378, 12826, 12782, 12677, 13219, 12136, 11398, 12665, 11412, 13233, 13731, 13720, 13620, 13171, 13760, 11319, 12441.

Motion carried 7 to 0 with 7 members voting.

**13.2 Request for Approval of Transfer from Capital Reserve Fund**

Motion made by Ruth Quinn and seconded by Steve Bagley that the Board of Education approve the following resolution: Recommendation – that the New Paltz Central Schools Board of Education, upon the recommendation of Maria C. Rice, Superintendent of Schools, does hereby approve the following:

**WHEREAS** on May 21, 2013 the voters of the New Paltz Central School District approved the expenditure of up to \$500,000 for a Safety and Security Project and,

**WHEREAS** the voters approved expending up to \$500,000 from the Capital Reserve Fund for this purpose,

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Board of Education authorize the transfer of \$500,000 from the Capital Reserve Fund to the Capital Fund for the purposes of funding the Safety and Security Project.

Motion carried 7 to 0 with 7 members voting.

**13.3 Request for Award of Bid for Diesel Fuel**

Motion made by Steve Bagley and seconded by Ruth Quinn that the Board of Education approve the following resolution:

Recommendation – that the New Paltz Central Schools Board of Education, upon the recommendation of Maria C. Rice, Superintendent, approve the following:

BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education award the Diesel Fuel Bid to Heritagenergy Inc., Company for marketer differential prices of \$0.02 for Premium Diesel and \$0.15 for Kerosene.

Motion carried 7 to 7 with 7 members voting.

**13.4 Request for Approval to Create New Position**

Motion made by Ruth Quinn and seconded by Dominick Profaci that the Board of Education approve the following resolution:

Recommendation – that the New Paltz Central Schools Board of Education, upon the recommendation of Maria C. Rice, Superintendent, does hereby create a 1.0 FTE School Psychologist position.

Motion carried 7 to 0 with 7 members voting.

**13.5 Request for Approval of Donation**

Motion made by Patrick Rausch and seconded by Dominick Profaci that the Board of Education approve the following resolution:

Recommendation – that the New Paltz Central Schools Board of Education, upon the recommendation of Maria C. Rice, Superintendent, does hereby accept the following donation:

BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education accept the donation to the New Paltz Central Schools for 4 yards of topsoil from Mark Maseo. The board further directs the District Clerk to send a letter of thanks to Mark Maseo for his donation.

Motion carried 7 to 0 with 7 members voting.

**13.6 Request for Approval to Accept the Results of the Election/Budget Vote Held on May 20, 2014**  
*(See Agenda Changes)*

**13.7 Request for Approval of Settlement Agreement**

Motion made by Patrick Rausch and seconded by Steve Bagley that the Board of Education approve the following resolution:

Recommendation – that the New Paltz Central Schools Board of Education, upon the recommendation of Maria C. Rice, Superintendent, does hereby approve the following:

BE IT RESOLVED that the Board hereby approves a Settlement Agreement in the matter of Student No. 10650 dated May 21, 2014; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Superintendent of Schools shall be authorized to sign such Settlement Agreement on the District's behalf.

Motion carried 7 to 0 with 0 members voting.

**OTHER DISCUSSION**

OTHER DISCUSSION

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

PUBLIC COMMENTS

None

**ADJOURN**

ADJOURN

Motion made by Brian Cournoyer and seconded by Patrick Rausch that the Board of Education meeting adjourn at 9:00 PM. Motion carried 7 to 0 with 7 members voting.

Respectfully submitted,

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Alberta Pedro  
District Clerk Pro-Tempore