

4/2/2009 Special Meeting of the Board of Education of the Berlin Central School District, held at the Berlin Jr/Sr High School

Present: Frank Zwack, Julie Darling, Donald French, Elizabeth Miller, Thomas Morelli, Jeffrey Paine, Beverly Stewart

Absent: No one

Also Present: Charlotte Gregory, Cathie Allain, Michelle Colvin, Cyril Grant, Dennis Healy, Scott Hunter, Eileen Leffler, Jennifer Morris, Sandra Owens

Guests included: Beth Bourassa, Doug Dickinson, Diane Paine, John Nash, Jane Halleck, John Greene, Lou Amendolara, Ben Amendolara

President Zwack convened the meeting at 7:00 PM with all seven board members present.

The meeting was immediately turned over to the administration for presentation on the proposed 2009-2010 budget.

Draft #4 of the proposed 2009-2010 budget was presented showing a zero percent tax levy increase.

Discussion on additional staffing cuts, mandatory after school homework time, additional student contact time, fair budget; to taxpayers and students.

Discussion on security and handicap accessibility of the BES building for voting purposes occurred. The Board of Education decided to hold the voting at the Berlin Fire Hall with 4 YES votes (Julie Darling, Liz Miller, Jeffrey Paine, Frank Zwack) and 3 NO votes (Don French, Tom Morelli, Beverly Stewart).

Discussion occurred on the Bus Purchase Resolution, \$100,000 Capital Project Resolution, Excel Capital Improvement Project Resolution, and SEQRA Resolutions occurred.

On motion of Jeffrey Paine, second by Liz Miller, the Board of Education of the Berlin Central School District unanimously approved the following: RESOLVED: That the Board of Education of the Berlin Central School District, hereby agrees to a proposition to the May 19, 2009 budget vote to purchase five school buses (two (2) van-style buses \$82,000; three (3) 65-passenger buses \$306,159) and is further authorized to expend therefore an amount not to exceed \$388,159.00, to 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 said School District shall be issued.

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On motion of Jeffrey Paine, second by Liz Miller, the Board of Education of the Berlin Central School District unanimously approved the following:

WHEREAS, the Board of Education of the Berlin Central School District (the "Board") contemplates undertaking certain activities to improve the Berlin Elementary School, including: making accessibility improvements at the north entrance; restoration of damaged masonry, replacement of a partition in the main electrical room, installation of smoke detectors in storage rooms, and installation of emergency lighting (collectively, the "Improvements"); and

WHEREAS, the Board has reviewed the Improvements and the applicable provisions of the State Environmental Quality Review Act ("SEQRA").

NOW, THEREFORE, it is hereby

RESOLVED, that the Board designates itself as lead agency under SEQRA for the proposed actions of the environmental review of the proposed Improvements and determines that the proposed Improvements constitute Type II actions under SEQRA, and that, as such, no further environmental review is required.

On motion of Jeffrey Paine, second by Liz Miller, the Board of Education of the Berlin Central School District approved the following with 5 YES votes (Julie Darling, Liz Miller, Jeffrey Pain, Beverly Stewart, Frank Zwack) and 2 NO votes (Donald French, Tom Morelli):

WHEREAS, the Board of Education of the Berlin Central School District (the "Board") contemplates undertaking certain activities to improve the Berlin Elementary School, including: providing 3-phase electric service to the building, replacing the existing single-phase electric service with 3-phase service, of an ADA-compliant elevator, making accessibility improvements at location of new elevator, installation of a second boiler for backup capacity, installation of ADA compliant hardware, and incidental improvements (collectively, the "Improvements"); and

WHEREAS, the Board has reviewed the Improvements and the applicable provisions of the State Environmental Quality Review Act ("SEQRA").

NOW, THEREFORE, it is hereby

RESOLVED, that the Board designates itself as lead agency under SEQRA for the proposed actions of the environmental review of the proposed Improvements and determines that the proposed Improvements constitute Type II actions under SEQRA, and that, as such, no further environmental review is required.

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On motion of Jeffrey Paine, second by Julie Darling, the Board of Education of the Berlin Central School District approved the following with 5 YES votes (Julie Darling, Liz Miller, Jeffrey Pain, Beverly Stewart, Frank Zwack) and 2 NO votes (Donald French, Tom Morelli):

RESOLVED: That the Board of Education of the Berlin Central School District, hereby agrees to a proposition to the May 19, 2009 budget vote to replace, reconstruct, and construct ADA accessibility improvements to Berlin Elementary School building, including all original furnishings, equipment, machinery, apparatus, appurtenances, site improvement, and incidental improvements and expenses in connection therewith, and is further authorized to expend therefore an amount not to exceed \$100,000, to 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 said School District may be issued.

On motion of Jeffrey Paine, second by Liz Miller, the Board of Education of the Berlin Central School District defeated the following resolution with 4 NO votes (Julie Darling, Don French, Tom Morelli, Beverly Stewart) and 3 YES votes (Liz Miller, Jeffrey Paine, Frank Zwack):

RESOLVED: That the Board of Education of the Berlin Central School District, hereby agrees to a proposition to the May 19, 2009 budget vote to replace, reconstruct, and construct ADA accessibility improvements to Berlin Elementary School building, including all original furnishings, equipment, machinery, apparatus, appurtenances, site improvement, and incidental improvements and expenses in connection therewith, and is further authorized to expend therefore an amount not to exceed \$1,385,000, to 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 said School District shall be issued.

Calendar of Meetings

April 7 – 6:30 PM – Special Meeting – Superintendent Search Consultant Workshop – Jr/Sr High School

April 21 – 7:00 PM – Regular Meeting – Jr/Sr High School

The meeting was adjourned at 10:55 PM on motion of Liz Miller, second by Jeffrey Paine.

Mary M. Grant, District Clerk