



TOLLAND BOARD OF EDUCATION
Hicks Municipal Center
Council Chambers
Tolland, CT 06084

SPECIAL MEETING

7:30 PM

VISION STATEMENT

To represent education at its best, preparing each student for an ever-changing society, and becoming a full community of learning where excellence is achieved through each individual's success.

2018-2019 GOALS

- *Support and encourage specialized programs that can serve as alternatives to outplacement*
- *Support and encourage the development of tuition programs*
- *Support the implementation of Mastery Learning and Responsive Education initiatives*
- *Support and encourage Curriculum Development, and Teaching & Learning best practice*
- *Engage in the Strategic Prevention Framework*
- *Engage the Superintendent to explore and research shared service opportunities*
- *Engage Town, State, and Federal officials to discuss and advocate for education*
- *Foster the continued development of instructional technology*

AGENDA November 6, 2019

A. CALL TO ORDER, PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

B. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- October 23, 2019

C. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION (2 minute limit)

The members of the Tolland Board of Education welcome members of the public to share their thoughts and ideas at this time. When appropriate to do so, members of the Board and the administration may respond to comments during "Points of Information". However, in

consideration of those in attendance and in an effort to proceed in a timely manner, follow-up discussion may need to take place outside of the meeting setting.

D. CORRESPONDENCE

E. POINTS OF INFORMATION

F. STUDENT REPRESENTATIVES' REPORT – Fisher Thompson and Alexandra Costa

G. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

- G.1 Monthly Financial Report
- G.2 Science Curriculum Presentation (no attachment)
- G.3 Transportation
- G.4 Indigenous People Day (discussion – no attachment)
- G.5 2020 Board of Education Meeting Dates

H. COMMITTEE & LIAISON REPORTS

I. CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT

J. BOARD ACTION

K. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION (2-minute limit)

Comments must be limited to items on this agenda.

L. POINTS OF INFORMATION

Town Council Meeting Minutes – October 22, 2019

M. FUTURE

N. NEW BUSINESS

O. ADJOURNMENT

TOLLAND BOARD OF EDUCATION

Hicks Municipal Center
Council Chambers
Tolland, CT 06084

REGULAR MEETING – October 23, 2019

Members Present: Ms. Colleen Yudichak, Chair; Ms. Karen Moran, Vice Chair; Ms. Michelle Harrold, Secretary; Mr. Sam Adlerstein, Ms. Kate Howard-Bender, Ms. Jane Pasini, Ms. Christina Plourd, and Mr. Bob Pagoni

Members Absent: Jeff Schroeder

Administrators Present: Dr. Walter Willett, Superintendent of Schools

A. CALL TO ORDER, PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Ms. Yudichak called the meeting to order at 7:31p.m. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

B. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- October 10, 2019
- October 16, 2019 Special Meeting

Mr. Pagoni motioned to adopt the minutes of the October 10th and October 16th meetings. Mr. Adlerstein seconded the motion. Changes: Mr. Schroeder was in attendance at the October 16th special meeting. All were in favor. Motion carried.

C. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION -

Lou Luba, 1160 Tolland Stage Road, commented that as a currently sitting Town Council member he was informed this morning of a potential change of meeting dates proposed by the Superintendent. Specifically, this is in regard to moving a budget discussion from November 27th to November 6th and Mr. Luba would like to know if this is accurate. If so, he has some grave concerns regarding this because the items to be discussed include not only the school budget but also the approval of the teachers' contract. His concern is that it seems to him, as a Town Council member, to be an apparent attempt to circumvent the system where one would have a Town Council, as well as a Board of Education, that would not be addressing it after discussing it on November 27th. The Town Council had its last meeting just last night, and now having the budget meeting moved to November 6th, it deprives the Town Council of the ability to address any issues and also seems to be an attempt to circumvent the situation by having the current outgoing Board reviewing and possibly voting on a budget and approving a contract without providing incoming members of the Board and Town Council the ability to address this before it is approved. Mr. Luba is looking for guidance from the Board and Superintendent Willett if this is accurate and if so, Mr. Luba has grave concerns. He added that it is disturbing and disingenuous to have a meeting moved up three weeks for apparently no reason. It appears to be that it is an attempt to have a favorable Board vote on an issue and forcing it upon the new Board and Town Council.

Liz Costa, 54 Josiah Lane, thanked Mr. Schroeder, Ms. Pasini, Mr. Pagoni, Mr. Adlerstein, and Ms. Yudichak for their service. It was wonderful to see everyone gel together despite the differences in the political parties. She appreciates that everyone came together for the purpose of education. Everyone brought something special to the table and it is appreciated.

Kenny Trice, 53 Doe Run, thanked everyone. Their job has been very rough over the past two years. As a resident of the Town, he is appreciative of all the hours and time they have spent. He noted those retiring, Mr. Adlerstein, Ms. Pasini, Mr. Pagoni, and Ms. Yudichak and thanked them for all they have done. Whether people know it or not, behind the scenes, the Board members do a lot. Regardless of what decisions are made, a lot of time is put in and on behalf of everyone he thanks them.

Patrick Doyle, 8 Lake View Drive Ext., commented that he is here tonight with many former members of the Board to congratulate everyone on a successful term and deliver thanks to the few remaining of the cohort that served when they did. He thanked Mr. Adlerstein, Ms. Yudichak, Mr. Schroeder, Ms. Harrold, and Ms. Moran. He is proud of the work that was done in a bipartisan nature and the partnership they were able to establish with the Town Council. Those who have never served on the Board cannot truly understand the meaning of the thankless job. He encouraged people to get involved and extended his thanks for the opportunity to work alongside the members and to ensure they thought about what was best for Tolland residents and Tolland students.

Steve Clark, 29 Meadowood Road, commented that having sat on the Board with many of the current members for ten years, or part of that time, he wished to quote from Charles Dickens' *A Tale of Two Cities*, "It was the best of times it was the worst of times." He noted that this is representative of how things have gone over the years. It was fantastic to see the fruition of efforts while at other times it was frustrating. He appreciates everything that the members have done and to those coming in, he hopes they will continue to show bipartisan support and continue to do what is best for the children of Tolland and that the Tolland educational system will be as strong as it has been in the past. He thanked the members for their service.

D. CORRESPONDENCE - none

E. POINTS OF INFORMATION

Dr. Willett explained and reviewed the reasoning regarding the proposed change of dates in the narrative of item G.6.

Ms. Harrold added that it is not that the Board is trying not to be transparent – it is just the process.

Ms. Moran motioned to swap items G4 and G5 with items G6 and G7. This makes G4- Possible Date Change – November 13 to November 6, 2019, G5 - BOE Goal Setting Pre-Discussion, G6 - TEA Contract, and G7 – Tolland Administrative Society Contract. Further, Ms. Moran motioned to add an executive session to the agenda for the purpose of discussion negotiations, strategies, and contracts. Mr. Pagoni seconded the motion. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Ms. Yudichak read a prepared statement reflecting on her last five years on the Board (attachment E1) and thanked everyone.

Dr. Willett commented that the job of the Chair is a difficult one but Ms. Yudichak did it well.

F. STUDENT REPRESENTATIVES' REPORT – Fisher Thompson & Alexandra Costa

- DECA fall leadership conference, University of New Haven; three students were finalists in the Shark Tank portion

- Spirit Week is underway; there has been a lot of engagement and spirit from the students
- Pep Rally – October 25th; an assembly will be held on October 24th regarding the event
- Football Game – October 25th
- Autumn Harvest Homecoming – October 26th, 7-10 p.m.

G. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

G.1. Recognition of Board Members

- Legislative Representatives
- Superintendent

Dr. Willett recognized the following outgoing BOE members:

- Sam Adlerstein 2013-2019
- Bob Pagoni 2003-2019
- Jane Pasini 2017-2019
- Jeff Schroeder 2015-2019
- Colleen Yudichak 2014-2019

Dr. Willett thanked the members for everything they have done. He added that there is no greater service that can be done in a town or community than to serve on any of its boards or public service opportunities.

Ms. Moran noted that the members listed have gift bags in front of them. Each bag contains a golden apple engraved with the member's name and years of service. She thanked everyone. It is hard work and some call it a thankless job but she has personally had people thank her. The members have provided a great service to the Tolland community and she appreciates all of the work they have done together at the desk.

Ms. Moran introduced Representative Tim Ackert and Representative Pat Wilson Phineas who are in attendance tonight to honor the outgoing Board members.

Representative Wilson Phineas thanked everyone. She explained that many people do not understand how difficult public service can be but some know and appreciate it greatly. The most gratifying thing is the respect of your colleagues.

Representative Ackert commented that he does not know of any other board of education that had to go through what this one did over the last summer with having a school that needed to be replaced while balancing so many other things. It is a laudable cause that the Board stepped up to, took on, and is getting done. Representative Ackert noted that the most precious thing that anyone can give of themselves is their time. It is priceless. He thanked everyone and added that they are the caliber of people who will have another venture in some manner. The residents of Tolland thank them all for what they have done and what they have given.

Citations were presented to the outgoing Board members

Mr. Pagoni commented that he was asked over sixteen years ago, by the Democrats, if he would run for office. He responded that he was a Republican and a military guy. They responded not to worry. He took them up on the request and found the time even though he works a lot and is frequently out of the country. He directed his statement to those who will be elected and congratulated them. He is glad they found the time as it does take a lot of time away from family. He encouraged them to read the state laws which dictate what to do and reflected on how he managed his time to serve. Mr. Pagoni explained that when he was elected there was a lot of bipartisanship the first two years. After that, each chair has done an excellent job of bipartisan leadership. The nine of them do their homework, study the same laws, talk with people, and try to represent what is best for the children of the community. It is important to listen to the Board members – the experts. They do a lot of volunteer work. Mr. Pagoni acknowledged others in attendance and noted that he appreciates the engagement and encouragement provided by so many. He spoke in reference to Mr. Luba and commented that in the entire time he has been on the Board there has never been any type of conspiracy or hidden agendas. If so, he would know about it. Lastly, Dr. Willett works every day for everyone in the community and is the best thing to happen to Tolland and the Board. Every day people should be grateful that he works for Tolland. He is worth every penny and a lot more. Mr. Pagoni encouraged the new Board members to support Dr. Willett and provide him with a curriculum coordinator.

Mr. Adlerstein thanked Mr. Pagoni and Ms. Yudichak for saying so much so eloquently and is in agreement with them. He spoke in regard to the theme of service and noted that it is worth it. At some point you say if I want to talk about something and want to vent about something, then I want to do something about it and step up. It has been a privilege to be on the Board and likely would not have done it for six years if it was not for the people at the table. He thanked Dr. Willett for what is done in the schools under his leadership and has been inspired by those who sat on the Board in the past. He added that work is not done behind the scenes. They come to the table to listen to each other and while it may look messy, it should be. The work is being done in public. He thanked everyone for their service and added that it has been a privilege to work with Dr. Willett.

Ms. Pasini thanked everyone for working with her and the public for being gracious and electing her. While it has been probably two of the hardest years of her life, it has been worth it and she has learned a lot. The work has been well done for the town and she added that there is a lot more work to do. Ms. Pasini hopes that whoever is elected puts partisanship behind them and thinks of what is best for the town, the students, and the seniors and that they use the entire town as their vision.

Dr. Willett thanked everyone for their service and kind words. He is grateful to work in Tolland and with the Board members who have accomplished a tremendous amount. The Board has moved the district forward in a number of ways and he is deeply thankful to have had the time to work with everyone.

- G.2. Curriculum Math Presentation – Jen Webster (no enclosure)
Dr. Willett introduced Jen Webster, the K-12 Math Supervisor.

Ms. Webster reviewed the Tolland Public Schools Math Overview Presentation.

Highlights included:

- building capacity and exploring math; events
- math intervention – overview and statistics
- curriculum updates – Math in Focus (K-8); THS
 - Reflex data; IXL data

Dr. Willett thanked Ms. Webster for the presentation and complimented her on the amazing job she has done for the district.

Ms. Plourd inquired about the motivation behind the math presentation this evening. Mr. Adlerstein responded that this is the Board's job and he has missed these types of presentations. Ms. Plourd commented that she wished that this presentation was made two years ago. Ms. Yudichak echoed Mr. Adlerstein's comment in that this is what the Board is supposed to be doing. This is the problem in the community – that people think there is an agenda where there isn't one. It is what the Board is supposed to be doing. Ms. Plourd commented that she brought up two years ago that a student told her that she needed help with math at THS. Ms. Plourd added that she heard things in the community and revisited this a couple of times during her tenure and the presentation was done on the last day of their term. She commented that this is about perception. Dr. Willett commented that the presentation on mathematics was just that. He has been expressing concern with respect to RTI and SRBI resources not being available at the high school for a long time and recommended solutions that were cut in the .84% budget. Multiple presentations were held including community and curriculum nights. Anyone could have availed themselves of these opportunities over the past couple of years. To turn the presentation this evening into anything other than what it was is concerning to him and surprising. Ms. Harrold commented that multiple people think there is an ulterior motive but it is really just timing and it is frustrating. Mr. Adlerstein reiterated that the Board does not meet outside of the room other than at committee meetings. Discussions take place at the table.

G.3. Recognition of TPS Students and Staff (no enclosure)

Dr. Willett recognized the awesome TMS Physical Education teachers Tanya McDermott and Mike Radlbeck who won the Outstanding Performance Lab Recognition.

Dr. Willett recognized and thanked Abby Kassman-Harned who helped get the Farm to School initiative going and recognized in Tolland.

Dr. Willett recognized Facilities Director Peter Sztaba who did an amazing job getting the Birch Grove buildings off to a new start and Mr. Christopher Keithan who has been doing a wonderful job with being flexible with physical education in the modules.

G.4. Possible Date Change – November 13 to November 6, 2019

Dr. Willett reviewed the attachment formerly identified as item G.6.

A discussion regarding ratifying the teachers' contract took place. Dr. Willet explained that the Town Council has the final approval and the sooner the contract is ratified, the sooner it can be discussed. The current request is to hold the two November meetings on November 6th and 13th. This would also make it possible to potentially avoid scheduling a

special meeting if something were to come up. It was noted that the Birch Grove Building project is on a strict schedule.

Ms. Plourd inquired if a special meeting could be scheduled for November 6th and then the dates for the new Board would not need to be altered. She commented that the emergency is in regard to Birch Grove, not the teachers' contracts. Ms. Harrold explained that three years ago the teachers' contracts were discussed in executive session and voted on that evening. She believes the same can be done tonight if they follow precedent. Ms. Plourd responded that the frustration and perception problem is that the Board will receive a contract tonight and be expected to vote on it. Mr. Adlerstein commented that the frustration is that the Board has spent so much time being defensive and he does not understand why this is something that is being discussed.

Mr. Pagoni commented that the Town Council has the final say on the contract. Dr. Willett and the attorneys are the experts and work with the negotiations committee to come up with recommendations. The Board then approves it or not and sends it to the Town Council for its approval, or not. One would want the people who are the experts right now, who have been involved in this to address this rather than waiting until the first meeting when there are brand new people who are still trying to learn. Doing so would not be doing them or the community any favors. It is the current Board's responsibility to see this all the way through. If the new Board members do not want it, they can work with the Town Council which can choose not to approve it. That said, the Town Council needs to be careful as there will be arbitration expenses. Dr. Willett noted that the negotiations committee went through a thorough process. Ms. Plourd inquired about the second reading. She added that this is not about her opposing the teachers' contracts. She wants them to get their raises and be supported. What this comes down to is she is being forced into a position to essentially rubber stamp, vote on this right now and tying the hands of the next Town Council and Board of Education into whatever the contractual increases are. Ms. Harrold noted that the contract has been ratified by the union. Dr. Willett noted that this is being presented now but the Board does not have to do anything with it but it makes sense to have the negotiations committee present it to the Board. If the Board waits until November 13th, the Board could lose some or all of its negotiations committee. The Town Council has the ability to reject it if it chooses to do so but nothing can be discussed until it is ratified by the Board. A group including attorneys and professionals worked hard to get the best deal they could for Tolland. Typically strategy and negotiations are presented in executive session and will be discussed this evening. All of this is typical and regular practice. Dr. Willett added that he is fearful of how this is being portrayed as it could cause divisiveness. His professional opinion is that if this is rejected they may find themselves in arbitration with a deal that is less favorable. That said, the Board can decide how it wants to proceed.

Ms. Harrold, as chair of the negotiations committee, commented that they worked very hard to come up with the contract they will present tonight. They spent a lot of time talking in mediation for hours and this is the best contract they could bring back to the Board for the community.

Dr. Willett noted that the TEA ratified the contract on October 10th. Tonight is the first opportunity that it could be presented to the Board.

Ms. Harrold noted that tonight the only question is if the Board is going to approve the contract which has been ratified by the union. If it is approved it will go to the Town Council. If it is rejected, it goes to arbitration. Mr. Pagoni added that it would be unprofessional to leave this to the new Board. Ms. Yudichak commented that it sends a bad message to the teachers and administrators. Dr. Willett explained that another reason he proposed a meeting on November 6th was so the negotiations committee would be available if needed.

Mr. Adlerstein motioned to move the November 13th BOE meeting to November 6th at 7:30PM and move item G4 to action item J1.

Mr. Adlerstein rescinded his motion.

Mr. Adlerstein motioned to hold a Board of Education meeting on November 6th and cancel the Board of Education meeting scheduled for November 27th. Ms. Howard-Bender seconded the motion. All were in favor. Motion carried.

G.5. BOE Goal Setting Pre-Discussion (no enclosure)

Dr. Willett explained that around this time of year, the Board begins to develop its goals and recommended scheduling a session for goal setting. The Board is reminded they been invited to the Vision Mission Process being held on November 25th. EdAdvance and the CT Center for School Change will be working with the district as well.

Ms. Moran motioned to go into executive session to discuss negotiation and contracts.

Ms. Howard-Bender seconded the motion.

Ms. Moran rescinded the motion.

Ms. Moran motioned to add an executive session to the agenda for the purpose of discussing negotiations, strategies, and contracts. Ms. Howard-Bender seconded the motion. All were in favor. Motion carried.

The agenda is now as follows:

- Item M, Executive Session
- Item N, TEA Contract
- Item O, Tolland Administrative Society Contract
- Item P, Future Agenda Items
- Item Q, New Business
- Item R, Adjournment

H. COMMITTEE AND LIAISON REPORTS

Negotiations – currently negotiating with the nurses

I. CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT - none

J. BOARD ACTION

J.1 Possible Date Change – November 13 to November 6, 2019

Mr. Adlerstein motioned to hold a Board of Education meeting on November 6th and cancel the Board of Education meeting scheduled for November 27th. Ms. Pasini seconded the motion. All were in favor. Motion carried.

K. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Jacob Marie, 32 Stewart Drive, thanked everyone for their service. They do a lot for the town and he appreciates it. He urged the Board to refrain from voting on the contracts until after the election. He does not want to accuse anyone of anything, he has faith, and he has heard a lot of good points and understands the arguments; however, given how consequential the actions are, it is important that the new Board has a chance to opine on them. He understands that the Town Council has the final decision but the Board still has a role. As a candidate and potential member of the Board, he understands that it is a big job and it will be a busy month regardless of what happens with the contracts but he is ready for the challenge. Because this vote is so consequential, the incoming Board should have a voice on it.

Liz Costa, 54 Josiah Lane, thanked the Board for having Ms. Webster present this evening. Ms. Costa had the opportunity to attend the budget workshop and spoke with Ms. Webster last week. Ms. Costa would like to see the ELA and Science supervisors present as well. Ms. Costa noted that she wholeheartedly disagrees with Mr. Marie. No one knows the contracts better than Ms. Harrold and the negotiations committee and the contract needs to be voted upon or at least reviewed. The new Board will need time just to "drink from the fire hose" and understand what is going. She thanked the Board.

Carl Rossow, 8 Hillcrest Drive, requested that that Board members use the microphones as it is often difficult with his hearing aids to hear what they are saying so as they go into further sessions he would appreciate, under the ADA, that they abide by this. In regard to what he is hearing tonight, he thinks this Board has to make its decision. He noted that he is a candidate and would be in the dark. This Board has worked unanimously to come to where it is today not to defer this to the Town Council. It has to be done. If the Board wants to approve this contract, it is the Board's decision – it has done the work. He says, "go ahead" and is all for it. He commented that the Board members have done a great job and thanked them.

Kate Vallo, 80 Tolland Green, shared a historical perspective. She has gone from being a quiet observer to a more active participant at BOE and Town Council meetings. The processes boards go through are complicated and it is a common practice to finish the work of one board before turning over to a new board. She hopes that politics does not disrupt this. Further, she has had the pleasure of seeing many presentations on a wide range of topics and truly appreciates them. She was excited to see this evening's presentation because it has been a while since something like this was done due to the Birch Grove situation and budgetary concerns putting the Board into survival mode. It is great to have the reassurance that they can get back to the work that is really important. Ms. Vallo noted that Ms. Webster brought up Notice and Wonder facts. It was important for her, Ms. Vallo, as an educator to hear a leader talking about this. It is meaningful for students of all ages. Lastly, words cannot express her thanks and gratitude to all of the members of the Board.

L. POINTS OF INFORMATION

- Town Council Meeting Minutes – October 8, 2019

Ms. Howard-Bender requested that the item of changing the name of Columbus Day to Indigenous People's Day be added as a future agenda item.

Mr. Pagoni recapped what he said earlier regarding the contract. The Board members are the experts and put the package together. It would be remiss to hand it to new people who will be overwhelmed as it is and there will not be anyone to champion for the contract.

Ms. Harrold explained that they have reviewed the timeline and why the contract is being presented tonight. When they negotiate they are privy to a lot of information about Tolland and the surrounding districts. All of this is taken into consideration as well as arbitration. The consequences of delaying this and it not being passed is arbitration which is going to cost the district \$75K just to arbitrate it and Tolland is probably not in a position to win so they will end up losing more all around. She noted that she is offended as the Chair to hear a few people say to forget it and let the next Board deal with it when it is available to be presented to the Board.

Ms. Moran added that this is the second round of contracts for her since she has served on the negotiations committee. It is a lot of work and in her opinion it would be irresponsible to delay it at this point. It would be a huge risk to incur any additional costs and would be disrespectful to the process, the teachers, and the administrators.

Mr. Adlerstein commented that over the past two years there has been a pattern that there is the work the Board does and then some perception that is created that gets a life of its own. While he does not read social media, he hears about it and commented that this is something the next Board and Town Council will need to work on. Something is going on that is not healthy for Tolland. It is a detriment to the good processes and getting things done for the good of the Town. Some repair work needs to be done.

M. EXECUTIVE SESSION

Ms. Harrold motioned to go into executive session at 9:58 p.m. for the purpose of discussing negotiations, strategies, and contracts and invited Dr. Willett to attend. Mr. Pagoni seconded the motion. All were in favor. Motion carried.

The Board exited executive session at 10:59 p.m.

N. TEA CONTRACT

Ms. Howard-Bender motioned to accept the TEA contract. Ms. Pasini seconded the motion. All were in favor. Motion carried.

O. TOLLAND ADMINISTRATIVE SOCIETY CONTRACT

Mr. Pagoni motioned to accept the Tolland Administrative Society contract. Ms. Howard-Bender seconded the motion. All were in favor. Motion carried.

P. FUTURE

- Dr. Willett will create programs for the Board members annually (this includes school tours)
- Pathways
- 21st Century Learning
- Strategic Prevention Framework
- Mental Health Services

- Budget
- Regionalization
- Birch Grove Update
- Organization of a Vision Mission – the next session will be November 25th and Dr. Willett would like some Board representatives to be a part of this; Board members will reach out to Dr. Willett to express interest
- Recognition of Board members
- Setting of graduation date
- Community Budget Workshops
- Discuss changing the name of Columbus Day to Indigenous People's Day

Q. NEW BUSINESS – none

R. ADJOURNMENT

Ms. Harrold motioned to adjourn the meeting at 11:04 P.M. Mr. Adlerstein seconded the motion. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Lisa Pascuzzi
Clerk

Over the last few months I have had mixed feelings about tonight. I have given up so much time away from my family to serve those who elected me to the BoE. I may not have accomplished all the things my kids wanted like extended summers and no homework. I am excited for the next chapter of my life. Now I will be able to spend more time with my family, although, I am sure I will stay involved with our community in other ways.

Five years ago, Sam Alderstein reached out to me. Sam let me know there was a republican seat open. I first thought, "I have no experience", but realized of course I do. I want to recognize how Sam reached out across party lines. If it was not for Sam I would not have been on this journey, Thank you Sam.

After that I learn the process on how to be appointed. I want to thank the Republican party for giving me the opportunity. Then I ran for two terms.

With overwhelming support from our community, and of course, my family I was elected. It was humbling and such an honor to know the community trusted me enough to serve for their children.

Over the last 5 years there have been many highlights that I have been a part of, and of course, disappointments and tragedies along the way.

When I became chair two years ago, there was doubt by some whether I would advocate for the schools or go another way. I knew then, this was going to be my first challenge. Proving those wrong that had doubts. After a rocky start with leadership, Karen and I got in sync with understanding each other's views and we worked through them. That is what leadership does. You work together and compromise. I never thought of us a chair and vice chair but actual partners working towards the same goals. These are just titles nothing more than that.

I wanted to list a few highlights I have been a part of:

- Hiring the superintendent was the biggest highlight. When the meeting was over, Bob Pagoni said to me, "this will be the biggest vote I will have made". Bob you were right. I want to add, it was the best thing the board did. I hope the community realizes how lucky we are to have him. Dr. Willett you are an amazing man that is compassionate and has the best interest for every student.
- Implementing the Leap program. This was unbelievable to me. It was not just about the savings, but being able to educate Tolland students right in district and enabling these students to be with their peers instead of being outplaced.
- Adding a Business Academy at the HS. This can pave a way for students that want to pursue a career in business or in finance. The other reason, this offering may be attracting more people to town. It maybe off to a slow start, but like anything else you need to take a chance in order to be successful. Having this elective and other great ones such as art, music, tech classes, culinary and many others give those an opportunity to explore in what they may want to do for their future career and shape them into being a more well-rounded student for the future.
- Working hard on RTI/SRBI intervention programs for students who are struggling with academics in math or reading. If we do not serve these students, they will be at risk of falling even further behind.
- Rebuilding a new school for Birch Grove...special thanks to Senator Champaign, State Representative Ackert and Wilson Pheanious, and Dr. Willett, along with many employees on the town and BoE side that have spent thousands of hours working hard on this massive project.
- I have had the opportunity to be part of hiring outstanding principals and assistant principals to help our schools be stronger.
- New technology for 6th graders -I hope someday all the students will have computers in their hands. But this is a great start.
- Implementing Mastery based learning

- I have seen over 1000 students graduate
- I have been able to sign over 400 diplomas and over 400 middle school promotion certificates had my name on it. Wow what a privilege this was. I am so proud of every student that has graduated from Tolland schools.

I do want to give recognition also to the teachers, paraprofessionals, administration and guidance counselors these men and women probably spend more time with our children and they give their best every day even with conditions such as working in modules at BG, class sizes above 25, curriculum changes and dealing with more mandates from the state.

I feel very lucky to have served with this outstanding board and past boards, we have amazing student reps and impressive students and athletes.

Most importantly thank you for all those that have supported me along the way. My goal has always been to listen, keep emotions low, advocate for every student and be bi-partisan. This community cannot move forward without listening and working together. I am very hopeful that whoever is elected for TC and BoE in November, that they will have learned from past mistakes. This is what we teach our children -- learn from your mistakes and try to do better next time. We also teach our kids to respect each other, work together, help and listen to each other and try your best. I think we should use the same lessons we teach our children and apply them to each other. We are supposed to be their role models.

Lastly whoever is elected and sit's in these chairs be proud of that, advocate for ALL students and staff that should be your goal every time you enter this room. Don't worry about party agendas that you belong to, be bold, and stand up for what is right.

Colleen Yudichak

Board of Education-Chair



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OFFICE OF THE
SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

Walter Willett, Ph.D.
Superintendent

TO: Board of Education

FROM: Mark S. McLaughlin, Tolland Public Schools Business Director

RE: Monthly Financial Report for October 2019

Date: November 4, 2019

CC: Walter Willett, Ph.D. Superintendent of Schools

G.1

Please find attached the financial report for the FY 2019-2020 fiscal year. The month of October 2019 is the 4th month of the 2019-2020 fiscal year. The attached report is only a temporary financial snapshot identifying four months of FY 19-20 year. As with any financial report that is generated, not all purchase orders have been created, not all materials purchased and not all staff hired. This year's financial attachment is provided in an object format to clearly show the adopted budget and the YTD expenditures. This summary report provides the essential groups of accounts so the BOE can better understand the functional areas of the budget. The object line items follow the reporting format required by the State Dept. of Education. The line items show the approved budget, 4 months of expenses, encumbrances and available balances as generated through the financial software.

This report identifies many line items such as salaries, health insurance, FICA/Medicaid & Social Security, retirements, legal and audit services, utilities, tuition, transportation, textbooks, professional services etc. have not all been encumbered or spent. This is normal for this time of year. The budget balance of \$1.3 million will be converted to encumbrances or expenditures over the next several of months.

The attached October 2019 financial report shows an available balance of \$1,364,991 or 3.41% of the BOE's current budget. As previously stated, this amount will reduce over the next several months. This available balance is a normal occurrence. Currently, the timing of budget spending for student needs and expense patterns are cyclical in nature. Health Insurances are booked after teachers return to school, substitute expenses start in September, special education student tuitions will continue to increase, utility transfer to the town is now complete, transportation routes have been fully booked and instructional supplies will be spent as needed for the balance of the year. Some line items cannot be encumbered and will generally have available balances such as substitutes, overtime, course reimbursement, consultants, unemployment compensation, workers compensation, and severance.

As part of the UISF agreement, the BOE transferred the energy budget to the town. The town pays the invoices based on the BOE funding and any residual balance that remains in the form of cost savings will remain in the BOE UISF reserve account.

In a typical year, the budget is built 18-20 months from implementation, based on the best know data and assumptions from the town, state of Ct, grants, interest rates, market conditions, contacts, negotiations, Department of Ed. mandates, and professional services etc.

The Budget for FY 19-20 was approved for \$39,975,605 only .84% higher than the previous year. The BOE is anticipating spending the allocated budget by year-end in accordance with CGS 10-222. Any balances that remain, as in the past, may be returned to the town or the BOE will request the balance be transferred to the Educational Reserve Fund after final approval by the auditors. Starting this year, the educational reserve threshold has increased to 2%. It is anticipated that the district will receive the first excess cost payment in February 2020 from the state. The second payment is due in May 2020.

The FY 20-21 budget cycle is underway. The Capital Improvement Plan is the first step in the planning process. The Superintendent has presented a Capital Improvements Plan to the BOE at the October 2019 meeting. The plan was then forwarded to the town.

The initial Budget Development for FY20-21 takes place in November and December. According to the budget calendar, the Superintendent will be presenting his budget during the January BOE meeting.

Tolland Public Schools

MM OBJ A Expenditure Report Summary (by OBJ - ??)

From Date: 10/1/2019

To Date: 10/31/2019

Fiscal Year: 2019-2020

☐ Subtotal by Collapse Mask

☒ Include pre encumbrance

☐ Print accounts with zero balance

☒ Filter Encumbrance Detail by Date Range

☐ Exclude Inactive Accounts with zero balance

Account Number	Description	GL Budget	Range To Date	YTD	Balance	Encumbrance	Budget Balance	% Bud
0100.0000.110.00.000.1	Salaries	\$22,383,307.09	\$1,785,356.28	\$5,693,995.86	\$16,689,311.23	\$16,372,453.89	\$316,857.34	1.42%
0100.0000.120.00.000.1	Substitutes	\$437,670.00	\$35,871.91	\$54,137.08	\$383,532.92	\$15,800.00	\$367,732.92	84.02%
0100.0000.130.00.000.1	Overtime	\$176,358.00	\$16,946.05	\$105,485.17	\$70,872.83	\$0.00	\$70,872.83	40.19%
0100.0000.150.00.000.1	Stipends	\$346,129.94	\$19,390.81	\$37,975.57	\$308,154.37	\$445,877.64	(\$137,723.27)	-39.79%
0100.0000.190.00.000.1	Pension/Severance	\$195,561.00	\$0.00	\$21,290.61	\$174,270.39	\$99,471.00	\$74,799.39	38.25%
0100.0000.200.00.000.1	Employee Benefits	\$567,750.00	\$1,687.52	\$287,094.11	\$280,655.89	\$242,625.00	\$38,030.89	6.70%
0100.0000.210.00.000.1	Health/Life/Disabl Ins	\$4,851,629.94	\$396,233.00	\$2,140,429.50	\$2,711,200.44	\$2,704,203.30	\$6,997.14	0.14%
0100.0000.220.00.000.1	FICA/MED/Soc Sec	\$693,223.97	\$51,455.78	\$162,039.65	\$531,184.32	\$427,073.78	\$104,110.54	15.02%
0100.0000.240.00.000.1	Retirement (ICMA)	\$251,884.43	\$21,309.59	\$67,126.57	\$184,757.86	\$166,447.33	\$18,310.53	7.27%
0100.0000.250.00.000.1	Course Reimbursement-Degree Ch	\$20,000.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$20,000.00	\$0.00	\$20,000.00	100.00%
0100.0000.260.00.000.1	Unemployment Compensation	\$56,681.00	\$4,297.00	\$4,297.00	\$52,384.00	\$28,353.00	\$24,031.00	42.40%
0100.0000.270.00.000.1	Workers' Compensation	\$265,612.00	\$0.00	\$135,231.50	\$130,380.50	\$135,231.50	(\$4,851.00)	-1.83%
0100.0000.300.00.000.1	Purch Prof & Tech Svcs	\$48,675.50	\$0.00	\$22,323.48	\$26,352.02	\$1,739.63	\$24,612.39	50.56%
0100.0000.310.00.000.1	Benefits Consultant Services	\$57,000.00	\$0.00	\$7,583.34	\$49,416.66	\$47,916.70	\$1,499.96	2.63%
0100.0000.320.00.000.1	Prof Educ Svcs	\$239,271.00	\$12,927.23	\$25,547.93	\$213,723.07	\$92,060.89	\$121,662.18	50.85%
0100.0000.330.00.000.1	Professional Tech Svcs	\$34,482.00	\$1,764.40	\$7,817.71	\$26,664.29	\$6,375.35	\$20,288.94	58.84%
0100.0000.340.00.000.1	Legal/Audit/Consult Svcs	\$153,343.00	\$45,369.33	\$105,376.80	\$47,966.20	\$37,220.27	\$10,745.93	7.01%
0100.0000.350.00.000.1	Tech Services	\$502,876.00	\$71,149.52	\$295,445.03	\$207,430.97	\$55,310.43	\$152,120.54	30.25%
0100.0000.410.00.000.1	Sewer/Water	\$34,762.00	\$34,762.00	\$34,762.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	0.00%
0100.0000.420.00.000.1	Cleaning/Rubbish Services	\$135,080.00	\$11,285.62	\$21,019.98	\$114,060.02	\$57,084.46	\$56,975.56	42.18%
0100.0000.430.00.000.1	Repair and Maint Svcs (Facili	\$259,450.00	\$26,631.93	\$46,963.48	\$212,486.52	\$21,484.50	\$191,002.02	73.62%
0100.0000.440.00.000.1	Rentals	\$165,256.00	\$15,649.59	\$47,646.77	\$117,609.23	\$120,507.55	(\$2,898.32)	-1.75%
0100.0000.510.00.000.1	Student Transp Svcs	\$2,862,041.00	\$45,706.79	\$158,575.64	\$2,703,465.36	\$2,772,722.01	(\$69,256.65)	-2.42%
0100.0000.520.00.000.1	Property/Liability Insurance	\$202,427.10	\$0.00	\$113,808.51	\$88,618.59	\$91,501.00	(\$2,882.41)	-1.42%
0100.0000.530.00.000.1	Telephone/ Postage	\$57,905.00	\$3,536.41	\$14,888.84	\$43,016.16	\$34,515.08	\$8,501.08	14.68%
0100.0000.540.00.000.1	Advertising	\$18,000.00	\$150.00	\$1,999.29	\$16,000.71	\$0.00	\$16,000.71	88.89%
0100.0000.550.00.000.1	Printing and Binding	\$18,405.00	\$0.00	\$2,933.72	\$15,471.28	\$889.16	\$14,582.12	79.23%
0100.0000.560.00.000.1	Tuition Educ Agency	\$2,163,282.00	\$209,603.56	\$783,165.56	\$1,380,116.44	\$2,002,259.98	(\$622,143.54)	-28.76%
0100.0000.580.00.000.1	Travel and Conference	\$33,942.00	\$9,487.60	\$23,386.93	\$10,555.07	\$26,018.16	(\$15,463.09)	-45.56%
0100.0000.590.00.000.1	Public Officers & State Troope	\$92,994.00	\$5,976.50	\$9,967.46	\$83,026.54	\$61,920.06	\$21,106.48	22.70%
0100.0000.600.00.000.1	General Supplies	\$191,452.00	\$5,821.78	\$18,864.21	\$172,587.79	\$42,783.60	\$129,804.19	67.80%
0100.0000.610.00.000.1	Instr Supplies/Mat'ls	\$367,242.00	\$33,044.00	\$77,461.38	\$289,780.62	\$104,882.24	\$184,898.38	50.35%
0100.0000.620.00.000.1	Energy	\$1,621,810.00	\$1,441,447.61	\$1,448,685.28	\$173,124.72	\$170,259.72	\$2,865.00	0.18%
0100.0000.640.00.000.1	Textbooks	\$127,861.70	\$3,888.09	\$20,796.03	\$107,065.67	\$20,303.44	\$86,762.23	67.86%
0100.0000.650.00.000.1	Films and Videos Supl	\$550.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$550.00	\$500.00	\$50.00	9.09%
0100.0000.660.00.000.1	Computer Software	\$81,677.72	\$2,994.80	\$39,733.80	\$41,943.92	\$3,955.00	\$37,988.92	46.51%
0100.0000.690.00.000.1	Misc Supplies	\$55,286.00	\$4,964.06	\$11,585.48	\$43,700.52	\$17,156.63	\$26,543.89	48.01%
0100.0000.730.00.000.1	Equip Instruct - New	\$150,208.00	\$36,934.24	\$53,886.09	\$96,321.91	\$32,963.04	\$63,358.87	42.18%
0100.0000.760.00.000.1	Equip - Spec Ed - Instr - New	\$1,590.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,590.00	\$0.00	\$1,590.00	100.00%
0100.0000.810.00.000.1	Dues and Fees	\$52,929.00	\$2,927.74	\$41,560.18	\$11,368.82	\$5,860.75	\$5,508.07	10.41%
Grand Total:		\$39,975,605.39	\$4,358,570.74	\$12,144,887.54	\$27,830,717.85	\$26,465,726.09	\$1,364,991.76	3.41%

End of Report

SUPERINTENDENT'S AGENDA ITEM BACKGROUND

ITEM: Transportation

ITEM SUBMITTED BY: Walter Willett, Ph.D., Superintendent

FOR BOE MEETING: November 6, 2019

ITEM SUMMARY:

First student and the Tolland Public Schools have contracted for approximately twenty years. Due to this relationship, First Student has offered a three year transportation agreement that includes the following:

- An effective increase of 6.4% Year 1 (with the reduction of one vehicle)
- An effective increase of 0% Year 2 (with the reduction of an additional vehicle)
- A reduction in the average age of fleet vehicles from 11 years (current) to 5.7 year one, 6.6 year two, and 5.9 year three as buses are replaced in the fleet.
- A new management office/trailer with removal of old trailer and set up of new.
- A combined route reduction savings of \$138,164 over the first two years

OPTION	CONSIDERATION
A.Refer to FFC	Due to the BOE turnover, it may take some time to establish the FFC and an initial meeting. A proposal was only recently acquired by First Student after a period of negotiation and information sharing. A review involving FFC outside of the BOE may result in the need to go out to bid due to timeline.
B.Vote to pursue contract with First Student	Terms of an effective increase of 6.4% in year one, a flat increase in year 2, and a 3% in year three are favorable.
C. Go out to bid	Go out to bid.

FINANCIAL SUMMARY:

Tolland Public Schools		Year 1 Increase	Year 2 Increase	Year 3 Increase
		9.50%	3.00%	3.00%
	Current	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3
Big Bus	# of Routes	25	24	23
	# of Days (periods)	181	182	182
	Daily Rate	343.49	376.12	387.40
	Annual cost	1,554,292	1,633,865	1,612,746
Route Reduction Savings included in annual cost		(68,078)	(70,119)	
Type A Vehicles	Annual cost	62,172	68,078	70,119
Wheel Chairs Type A	Annual cost	248,687	272,311	280,478
Vans	Annual cost	222,731	243,894	251,214
Summer school	Annual cost	14,427	15,797	16,271
Late Runs	Annual cost	31,612	34,614	35,650
Pre K	Annual cost	30,075	32,935	33,919
Total Annual cost		2,163,996	2,301,494	2,300,397
				2,369,401
Daily Rate Increase		9.50%	3.00%	3.00%
Effective Increase		6.4%	0.0%	3.0%

An independent consulting firm reported in a December 21, 2018 meeting that first year increases for transportation contracts are in the ten to twenty percent range. These are driven by the need to compensate bus drivers at a higher level, and negotiated contracts that include 401k plans to make the jobs more competitive and to retain workers.

BOARD ATTORNEY REVIEW:

Contract updated during period of one year extension.

BOE ACTION DESIRED:

Motion to move item G3 to J2 for action. Second. Discussion. Vote.

Possible Motions:

1. Motion to endorse the Superintendent to seek a three year transportation agreement with First Student under the conditions and prices identified in item G3.
2. Motion to refer to the FFC committee [Note: this may result in the need to go out to bid and could result in a more costly agreement].
3. Motion to take no action, and refer to the new board [Note: this may result in the need to go out to bid and could result in a more costly agreement].

SUPPORTING MATERIALS ATTACHED:

No attachment.

SUPERINTENDENT'S AGENDA ITEM BACKGROUND

ITEM: Board of Education 2020 Meeting Dates

ITEM SUBMITTED BY: Walter Willett, Ph.D., Superintendent

FOR BOE MEETING: November 6, 2019

ITEM SUMMARY:

January 15
January 29
February 12
February 26
March 11
March 25
April 8
April 22
May 13
May 27
June 10
June 24
July 8 *
July 22
August 12 *
August 26
September 9
September 23
October 14
October 28
November 11- Veteran's day
November 18 – Moved from November 25 due to Thanksgiving break
December 9
December 16 - Moved From December 23 due to winter break

*Meetings followed by an asterisk have previously been cancelled
Meetings are held at Hicks Municipal Center, Council Chambers.

FINANCIAL SUMMARY:

N/A

BOARD ATTORNEY REVIEW:

BOE ACTION DESIRED:

Review dates. Potential Motions:

1. Motion to move item G5 to J1 for action. Second. Discussion. Vote
2. Motion to approve the Board of Education 2020 Meeting dates. Second. Discussion. Vote

SUPPORTING MATERIALS ATTACHED:

2020 - BOE Proposed Meeting dates



TOLLAND BOARD OF EDUCATION 2020 MEETING DATES

Meetings are held at Hicks Municipal Center, Council Chambers.

January 15
January 29
February 12
February 26
March 11
March 25
April 8
April 22
May 13
May 27
June 10
June 24
July 8 *
July 22
August 12 *
August 26
September 9
September 23
October 14
October 28
November 11- Veteran's day
November 18 – Moved from November 25 due to Thanksgiving break
December 9
December 16 - Moved From December 23 due to winter break

*Meetings followed by an asterisk have previously been cancelled

MEETING MINUTES

TOLLAND TOWN COUNCIL HICKS MEMORIAL MUNICIPAL CENTER 6th FLOOR COUNCIL ROOM OCTOBER 22, 2019 – 7:00 P.M.

MEMBERS PRESENT: William Eccles, Chair; David Skoczulek, Vice-Chair; Brenda Falusi; Lou Luba; Tammy Nuccio; John Reagan and Paul Reynolds

MEMBERS ABSENT: None.

OTHERS PRESENT: Michael Wilkinson, Director of Administrative Services; State Representative Tim Ackert

1. **CALL TO ORDER:** William Eccles called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.
2. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** Recited.
3. **MOMENT OF SILENCE:** Observed.
4. **PROCLAMATIONS/PRESENTATIONS:**

Representative Tim Ackert advised that his colleagues, Patricia Wilson Pheanious and Dan Champagne, had scheduling conflicts tonight and were unable to attend the meeting. On behalf of the three of them though, he read three Proclamations into the record, which were presented to Mr. Eccles, Mr. Reynolds and Mr. Skoczulek for their years of service on the Council. Mr. Ackert thanked all the Council members for the time and service they devote to the community. Ms. Falusi read a text she received from Ms. Wilson Pheanious recognizing Mr. Eccles, Mr. Reynolds and Mr. Skoczulek's hard work and dedication.

5. **PUBLIC PETITIONS, COMMUNICATIONS, AND PUBLIC PARTICIPATION** (*on any subject within the jurisdiction of the Town Council*) (2 minute limit):

Philip Dooley, Jr. of 192 Goose Lane: He read an e-mail that he sent to the Council dated Tuesday, October 22, 2019 at 12:41 a.m. into the record (*the e-mail is attached*) regarding Birch Grove Heating.

6. **PUBLIC HEARING ITEMS:** None.

- 7a. **REPORTS OF BOARDS AND COMMITTEES RESPONSIBLE TO THE COUNCIL: Katie Murray, Chair of the Birch Grove Building Committee:** Things are still on schedule. It has been determined that the town would be receiving the keys to the new school on August 23, 2021. They will be working backwards from that date. She advised that a number of items from the school will be repurposed and used throughout the town. Demolition will commence on November 1, 2019. Plans for a small groundbreaking ceremony are being worked out. Ms. Murray did comment that she did get Mr. Dooley's e-mail, which will be passed onto the architect. Ms. Nuccio asked Ms. Murray who they could send communications to regarding Birch Grove. Ms. Murray said the Town Manager, Ms. Bellody or herself would be fine, and then they would see that the concerns are brought to the Committee. Ms. Nuccio said she wants to inquire about running sewer to the school, and that she will send an e-mail to Mr. Rosen about this.
- 7b. **REPORTS OF TOWN COUNCIL LIAISONS: John Reagan, WPCA:** Rob Grasis, Director of the WPCA Vernon, was at the meeting. He provided an update on the Water Treatment Plant, which recently had a grand opening. The final debt schedule will be coming shortly, and the first payment will be due next July for fiscal year 2021. He advised that our pumps have been rebuilt, and it was suggested that we need to get a

backup at some point. The carwash is moving forward, but they are working to make sure there is no run-off. They also spoke about FOG (Fat, Oil, and Grease). They are suggesting that someone take on the responsibility to ensure that restaurants, etc. are handling FOG properly, and that it isn't going into the sewer system. **Tammy Nuccio, EHHD:** They talked about the EEE risks. Tolland has multiple traps around us, and some have had mosquitoes that have tested positive for EEE. They are putting off easing up on restrictions until the first frost. Discussion about the wells occurred, and a task force is starting to meet to look at the possible well contaminations. They are going to start their campaign for flu shots and shingle shots (which are running low). **Recreation:** The winter basketball games will be at TIS and TMS. **BOE:** They held their first budget workshop. The high school held their first Town Council debate, and they did a great job in all aspects. She hopes they continue it. **Brenda Falusi** commented that an update had just been received regarding EEE – despite not experiencing a hard frost, and day time temps of around 60 degrees, both the CT Agricultural and the DPH are of the opinion that there is an extremely low risk of anyone acquiring EEE at this time. With this updated guidance, people can start to consider if they would like to relax the dusk time restrictions for outdoor activities. **BOE:** This is the time to sit down with various groups. A lot of information was shared at the workshop. It is apparent that every single group in our school systems is understaffed, but they are super dedicated to this town and to the young scholars in our community. They are doing an excellent job with what they have been handed to provide our students with an excellent education. She strongly urges people to attend these workshops and ask questions. There will be three more coming up. **PZC:** The next meeting is Monday. **Karen Moran, BOE:** November 20th at 7 p.m. in the Public Library is the next budget workshop. She thanked those Council members who are retiring, and wished those that are running good luck.

8. NEW BUSINESS (ACTION/DISCUSSION ITEMS):

8.1 Appointments to vacancies on various municipal boards/commissions.

David Skoczulek motioned to appoint / re-appoint the following:

8.1.a Appointments to Board of Assessment Appeals

Jan Rubino, 296 Weigold Road, term 11/06/19 – 11/03/21 (Member)

Cara DuBaldo, 194A Anderson Road, term 11/06/19 – 11/08/23 (Member)

8.1.b Appointments to Agriculture Commission

Stephen Bassett, 296 Weigold Road, term 07/09/19 – 07/09/22 (from Member to Alternate)

Sheri Sullivan, 27 Ellen Drive, term 07/09/19 – 07/09/22 (from Alternate to Member)

8.1.c Re-Appointment to Board of Assessment Appeals

Rick Field, 139 Torry Road, term 11/06/19 – 11/03/21 (Member)

8.1.d Re-Appointment to Town Historian

Peter Palmer, 412 Hunter Road, term 11/06/19 – 11/03/21

Seconded by Tammy Nuccio. All in favor. None opposed.

Also, resignation letters were received from:

Resignation Letter from Peter Palmer (Citation Hearing Officer – Planning & Zoning) effective 10/31/19

Resignation Letter from Peter Palmer (Citation Hearing Officer – Inland Wetlands) effective 10/31/19

9. **OLD BUSINESS (ACTION/DISCUSSION ITEMS):** None.

10. **REPORT OF THE TOWN MANAGER (A WRITTEN REPORT SHALL BE PROVIDED THE 1ST MEETING OF THE MONTH ONLY):** Mr. Wilkinson said he will check on the FOG issue, but believes Tolland may have an ordinance in place. With regard to Birch Grove questions, he suggests they get passed through Mr. Rosen. He advised that they did get the update regarding EEE, and will be lifting some of their restrictions. Mr. Wilkinson thanked everyone for serving, and wished them good luck.

Mr. Eccles thanked Mr. Wilkinson for his work, and asked him to thank all the staff for their assistance over the years.

11. **ADOPTION OF MINUTES**

11.1 October 8, 2019 Regular Meeting Minutes: David Skoczulek moved to adopt the minutes; Seconded by Tammy Nuccio. All in favor. None opposed.

12. **CORRESPONDENCE TO COUNCIL:**

- 12.1 E-mail from Philip Dooley, Jr. re: Birch Grove (*attached*);
- 12.2 E-mail from LeeAnn Fritsch re: Fritsch water results;
- 12.3 E-mail from Steven Jones re: farewell outgoing council members; and
- 12.4 Letter from Amanda Barton, Dari Farms: they are extending the closing to early November.

13. **CHAIRMAN'S REPORT:** None.

14. **COMMUNICATIONS AND PETITIONS FROM COUNCILPERSONS:** Ms. Nuccio wished those leaving good luck. Ms. Falusi reminded that there are openings on various Boards / Commissions. Mr. Reagan said he learned a lot from Bill, Dave and Paul over the years, and thanked them. Mr. Luba said he would like the next Council to address some of the issues regarding the crumbling foundations, and some of the actions needed for them to advocate to the state legislature, and also consider other options.

15. **PUBLIC LISTED PARTICIPATION** (*on any subject within the jurisdiction of the Town Council*) (*3 minute limit*):

Philip Dooley: If they do come up with something that saves the town money in the long run, and the town can come up with the money, can that be added to the school budget.

Mr. Eccles deferred his questions to the Birch Grove Committee. Ms. Murray said it is her understanding that any changes to the overall project budget, if it goes up, would have to go to town referendum. Mr. Eccles said at this point, there really is no time for a referendum, since the plans will be finalized in January.

George Eldridge: He came tonight to thank the Council. He appreciates what they do.

Kenny Trice: He thanked those that are leaving. He wished them the best, and hopes that they stay connected to the community.

16. **ADJOURNMENT:** David Skoczulek moved to adjourn the meeting; Seconded by Brenda Falusi at 7:46 p.m. All were in favor.

William Eccles, Chair

Michelle A. Finnegan
Town Council Clerk

Tue 10/22/2019 12:34 AM

DOOLEY PHILIP G JR

Fw: Birch Grove Heating

Katie Murray <kstar.murray@gmail.com>; Michael Rosen <mrosen@tolland.org>; Walt Willett <wwillett@tolland.k12.ct.us>; Town Council TownCouncil@tolland.org

Birch Grove Committees,

We all want to provide a future for our children, that is why we provide schools. As a society, however, we are doing a poor job in the long term, by allowing Global Warming to continue. Science has conclusively shown that if we do not act, our economy and perhaps our civilization itself will be wiped out. At our current rate of burning fossil fuels, the atmospheric concentration of CO2 that will result in about 1.5 degrees C of temperature rise above pre-industrial levels will be passed in just 11 years. To prevent this, we must reduce fossil fuel use to zero over the next 22 years. By then, all of our buildings must be heated by biomass or heat pumps powered by renewable sources and all of our transportation must be electrically powered.

It would be a huge waste of tax payer money to heat the new Birch Grove School with fossil fuels and then have to convert to heat pumps in a few years. For minimum operating costs, and to meet the long-standing state mandate to consider those operating costs in state projects, the best approach would be ground sourced heat pumps (the technology used at TMS, TIS, and the town hall building). At a minimum, reversible air conditioners should be considered -- they only cost 10% more than conventional air conditioners of the same capacity, and can provide about half of the building's heat from an air source in our climate.

If there is an intent to re-use the old furnaces from the existing BG building (?) in the new building, these could be used as backup and as a primary heat source until ground source wells could be drilled in the future.

In a similar manner, electric cars, pickup trucks and school buses show lower operating and maintenance costs compared to their fossil fuel powered versions, and should be a prime consideration for future purchases and leases.

Please feel free to contact me for more information or references. Dealing with climate change is not a distant problem, to be left in the hands of policy makers at the federal or international level. Uncomfortable as it is, we have to realize that this problem is upon us now, and that we have the ability and the responsibility to take necessary steps even at the local government level.

Philip Dooley
192 Goose Lane
Tolland, CT
860-875-4455
afternoon or evening

<https://www.theguardian.com/profile/greta-thunberg>

<http://www.realclimate.org/index.php/archives/2018/10/ipcc-special-report-on-1-5oc/>

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