

NORTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS  
Norton, Massachusetts

NORTON SCHOOL COMMITTEE  
MINUTES OF MEETING

RECEIVED  
NORTON TOWN CLERK  
2021 JAN -4 P 1:17

***Date of Meeting:*** Monday, July 20, 2020

***Location:*** Remote Participation

***Present:*** Committee Members: Chairperson Carolyn Gallagher, Vice-Chairperson Deniz Savas, Mrs. Sheri Cohen, Mrs. Kathleen Stern, and Mr. Dan Sheedy. ***Also present:*** Superintendent of Schools Joseph F. Baeta, Assistant Superintendent for Teaching and Learning Jennifer O'Neill, School Business Administrator Matthew Wells, Director of Facilities Wade Lizotte, Director of Pupil Personnel Services Vincent Cerce, Norton High School Principal Ethan Dolleman, and Athletic Director Aaron Sumner

***Call to Order:*** Chairperson Gallagher called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. noting that the meeting is being taped.

***Discussion and Vote on Athletic Complex:***

Dr. Baeta provided overview of the project with attention to the School Committee support of Option G with a total cost of \$8,667,499.

Mrs. Gallagher commented that the recent unemployment number for the Town of Norton was a concern. Dr. Baeta noted that unemployment was at 16.9% as of May/June 2020. Mrs. Gallagher noted that the School Committee removed the article from the June Town Meeting not out of the lack of need, but because the Town Meeting was to tackle articles concerning the FY21 budget.

Mr. Sheedy wants to wait a bit to see the Town's finances as we come out of the pandemic and believes that it is financially irresponsible at this time to look at the three projects.

Mrs. Cohen suggested the idea of breaking out the project and that it may not be a good idea to move forward. She asked the School Committee about doing the athletic complex in phases and there was concern from the Committee about doing so because of past history.

Mr. Savas noted that the timing wasn't right, but the actual costs and breaking-up project would lead to no new additional phases beyond the first phase.

Audience member P. Wiggins noted his support for the project.

Mr. Lizotte noted that the Norton Middle School tennis courts have not been supported and are built on top of the wastewater treatment plant leaching field.

Mr. Wells was asked about the potential of the TRANE like bid going forward. He informed the Committee that we are ready to complete the bid process and need to know from the Town.

Mrs. Cohen said that we should ask M. Yunits for information on debt with attention to what is coming off the table and if the Town still interested in the TRANE bid. Dr. Baeta to do so.

No further vote was taken.

***Discussion and Vote on COVID-19 Resolutions:***

Resolution on COVID-19 State Funding approved with amendment of adding J. Barrows to the list of receivers.

MOTION: by Mr. Sheedy to Approve Resolution on COVID-19 State Funding

SECOND: by Mrs. Cohen

ROLL CALL VOTE: Carolyn Gallagher – Yes; Dan Sheedy – Yes; Sheri Cohen – Yes; Deniz Savas – Yes 4 – 0 – 1 Motion Carries

Resolution on COVID-19 Student Opportunity Act was approved with amendment of adding J. Barrows to the list of receivers.

MOTION: by Mrs. Cohen to Approve Resolution on COVID-19 Student Opportunity Act

SECOND: by Mr. Sheedy

ROLL CALL VOTE: Carolyn Gallagher – Yes; Dan Sheedy – Yes; Sheri Cohen – Yes; Deniz Savas – Yes; Kathleen Stern – Yes 5 – 0 Motion Carries

MOTION: by Mrs. Cohen to Reconsider Funding Resolution to allow Mrs. Stern to vote

SECOND: by Mr. Sheedy

ROLL CALL VOTE: Carolyn Gallagher – Yes; Dan Sheedy – Yes; Sheri Cohen – Yes; Deniz Savas – Yes; Kathleen Stern – Yes 5 – 0 Motion Carries

MOTION: by Mr. Savas to Revote and Approve Resolution on COVID-19 State Funding

SECOND: by Mr. Sheedy

ROLL CALL VOTE: Carolyn Gallagher – Yes; Dan Sheedy – Yes; Sheri Cohen – Yes; Deniz Savas – Yes; Kathleen Stern – Yes 5 – 0 Motion Carries

MOTION: by Mr. Savas to Adjourn

SECOND: by Mrs. Cohen

ROLL CALL VOTE: Carolyn Gallagher – Yes; Deniz Savas – Yes; Kathleen Stern – Yes; Dan Sheedy – Yes; Sheri Cohen – Yes 5 – 0 Motion Carries

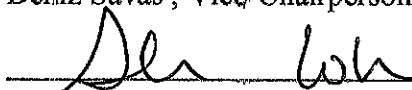
The meeting adjourned at 6:41 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Joseph F. Baeta, Ed.D.  
Secretary Pro Tem

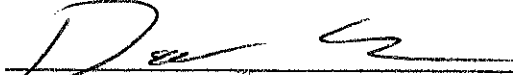


Carolyn Gallagher, Chairperson

Deniz Savas , Vice-Chairperson



Sheri Cohen



Daniel Sheedy



Kathleen Stern

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