

BROOKLINE SCHOOL DISTRICT
SPECIAL MEETING
JUNE 9, 2022
MEETING MINUTES

The Special meeting of the Brookline School District was conducted on Thursday, June 9, 2022 at 6:30 p.m. at the Captain Samuel Douglass Academy.

Moderator pro tem Brian Rater presided.

Members of the School Board Present: Kenneth Haag, Chairman
Karen Jew, Vice Chairman
Colleen Micavich, Secretary
Alison Marsano
Kelly Zakar

Members of the School Board Absent:

Also in Attendance: Andrew Corey, Superintendent
Gina Bergskaug, Asst. Superintendent of Curriculum and Instruction

Moderator Rater led in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Members of the School Board were introduced.

Moderator Rater explained the special school district meeting was posted on May 17, 2022 at the Captain Samuel Douglass Academy, the Richard Maghakian Memorial School, the School Administrative Unit website and display case and in the Union Leader and Nashua Telegraph as required by RSA.

He stated the rules to be the Moderator conducts the meeting, but the voters can override any decision made by the Moderator. An article just simply raises a subject matter. A specific motion related to the article is required to proceed. All motions must be germane to the subject of the warrant article. Speakers need to announce their name and address. All comments and questions should be addressed to the Moderator. With the exception of the presenter, there is a five-minute limit for each speaker. If debate has been ongoing and voters feel as though it is time to move on, a motion to move the question would be appropriate (requires a 2/3 majority to pass). Should the motion pass, it ends debate. Per tradition, those already in line to speak would be permitted to do so.

Article 1 - Special Warrant Article

Shall the District vote to cure the procedurally defective bond hearing notice related to the \$1,500,000 bond for an elevator and security improvements project at the Richard Maghakian Memorial School that was approved at the March 8, 2022 Voting Session?

Moderator Rater stated, as a minimum of 5 voters have requested, in writing, that a secret ballot be conducted, the vote will be handled in that manner. He verified those who requested the secret ballot vote were present; Eric Pauer, Diane Pauer, John Liska, Ryan Pauer, Mark Christensen, J.M. Thomas, and Veronica Thomas.

Moderator Rater noted several requests to keep the ballot open for the period of an hour, which will be granted.

1 **MOTION BY KENNETH HAAG TO BRING THE ARTICLE TO THE FLOOR, AS WRITTEN**
2 **MOTION SECONDED BY KAREN JEW**

3
4 Ken Haag, Chairman, Brookline School Board, explained the procedural defect; the notice publicized in the
5 Manchester Union Leader included the language “Capital Lease Hearing” and “Capital Lease Warrant Article”.
6 It should have stated “Capital Lease/Contingency Bond Hearing” and “Capital Lease/Contingency Bond
7 Warrant Articles”.

8
9 There were two articles for the Town vote; one was a larger sum, which included a more extensive project and
10 the secondary, contingency vote (which did pass) is the \$1.5 million bond intended to address increasing the
11 number of classrooms, the purchase and installation of an ADA compliant elevator, and related entry-
12 way/security improvements for the Richard Maghakian Memorial School.

13
14 School Board Chairman Haag noted the contingency bond passed with a vote of 553/334. The vote on the lease
15 did not pass with a vote of 417/472.

16
17 Moderator Rater reminded those present and wishing to provide input that any discussion needs to be related to
18 the warrant article itself, which is about curing the defect with the public notice. It is not very broadly about the
19 entire bond. Discussion should be limited to whether or not the public notice was sufficient.

20
21 **MOTION BY ERIC PAUER THAT A SECRET BALLOT BE CONDUCTED FOR THOSE PRESENT**
22 **AND WISHING TO VOTE RATHER THAN ALLOWING VOTING TO REMAIN OPEN FOR AN**
23 **HOUR**

24 **MOTION SECONDED**

25
26 ON THE QUESTION

27
28 Eric Pauer, 12 Westview Road

29
30 Stated his belief those in attendance do not wish to wait an hour. He would like to have the ballots counted
31 once everyone in attendance has had the opportunity to cast a vote.

32
33 Jessica Hartman, 51 Mountain Road

34
35 Commented she is in a family where someone needs to be home for childcare. If the voting were to be kept
36 open for an hour, it would allow the opportunity for both she and her husband to vote. She is opposed to the
37 motion.

38
39 Erin Sarris, 15 High View Drive

40
41 Part of the benefit of a ballot vote is to keep it open and allow for greater participation.

42
43 Alison Marsano, 30 Laurel Crest Drive

44
45 Commented she finds it astounding that people who ask for secret ballots all the time and request votes are
46 suddenly trying to restrict the vote of the people who already voted on this when the intent is to simply open it
47 up for a one-hour period of time. She spoke of the road race currently taking place in Hollis. She believed it
48 appropriate for a minimum of a one-hour period for voting.

1 Diane Pauer, 12 Westview Road

2
3 Requested of the Moderator that when members of the Legislative Body speak publicly at the podium that they
4 refrain from referencing other members of the Legislative Body by name.

5
6 Moderator Rater emphasized all comments and questions should be addressed to the Moderator.

7
8 *Ballot Clerks were asked to count cards.*

9
10 **MOTION FAILED**
11 **34-44**

12
13 The floor was opened for discussion.

14
15 *No discussion was offered.*

16
17 Moderator Rater brought Article 1 to a vote.

18 **MOTION CARRIED**
19 **100-53**

20
21 Moderator Rater stated 65% of the voters having voted in favor, the motion passes. The cure has taken affect,
22 and therefore, the bond is legalized.

23
24 **MOTION TO ADJOURN**
25 **MOTION SECONDED**
26 **MOTION CARRIED**

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28 *The June 9, 2022 special meeting of the Brookline School District was adjourned at 8:00 p.m.*

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32 _____ Date: _____
33 Kenneth Haag, Chairman, Brookline School Board

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37 _____ Date: _____
38 Karen Jew, Vice Chairman, Brookline School Board

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42 _____ Date: _____
43 Colleen Micavich, Secretary, Brookline School Board

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47 _____ Date: _____
48 Alison Marsano, Brookline School Board

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Kelly Zakar, Brookline School Board

Date: _____

Alana Justice, Clerk, Brookline School District

Date: _____

DRAFT