

BROOKLINE SCHOOL BOARD
MAY 25, 2022
PUBLIC HEARING
MEETING MINUTES

A Public Hearing was conducted by the Brookline School Board on Wednesday, May 25, 2022 at 6:30 p.m. at the Captain Samuel Douglass Academy.

Kenneth Haag, Chairman, presided:

Members of the Board Present: Karen Jew, Vice Chairman
 Colleen Micavich, Secretary
 Kelly Zakar

Members of the Board Absent: Alison Marsano

Also in Attendance: Andrew Corey, Superintendent
 Daniel Molinari, Principal, Richard Maghakian Memorial School

BROOKLINE SCHOOL DISTRICT
SPECIAL WARRANT ARTICLE
PUBLIC HEARING

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? (3/5 majority vote required). This Special School District Meeting is called pursuant to RSA 40:16.

Superintendent Corey noted, as part of the Capital Lease or bond, there is the requirement to provide public notification in newsprint. That is where the procedural defect comes into play. The notice was posted in the Manchester Union Leader (Nashua Telegraph does not advertise daily).

The notice included language around the review of the proposed capital lease warrant articles. It should have stated the review of proposed capital lease/contingency bond warrant articles.

That is the reason for calling a Special Meeting for June 9, 2022 beginning at 6:30 p.m. at the Captain Samuel Douglass Academy.

In a communication dated May 9, 2022, the Board was notified “in executing the bond we were notified by bond counsel, Greg Im that he had identified a procedural defect with the bond hearing. To correct this procedural defect we will need to hold a special district meeting”.

The special district meeting will ask the voters to ratify the January 12, 2022 bond hearing that was not properly noticed in the newspaper. The special meeting is conducted like a traditional town meeting format. The vote is **NOT** by official ballot (SB2). The vote is like an open town meeting and can be a

show of hands or by secret ballot (slip of paper with yes or no). However the vote is done, there must be a tally of results to show approval by a 3/5 majority.

Although in practical effect, this is a second bite at the apple for voters who opposed the Article, the discussion at the Special Meeting should not be about the merits of the bond project. Rather, the discussion is whether the District is willing to disregard the procedural irregularity of the bond hearing notice. Discussion in favor of ratifying the bond hearing would include:

- That the hearing for the capital lease was properly noticed
- The bond was a contingency if the lease was not approved
- There was discussion about the bond at the public hearing and the Deliberative Session

The project consists of an elevator as well as security improvements, a new library, and two new classrooms at RMMS. The security feature would provide a security office. It is believed by adding the security office we will significantly increase the security of that area while maintaining the multiple entry points of access meaning you either have to be buzzed in or communicate with the secretary.

Chairman Haag opened the floor for public comment at 6:35 p.m.

Testimony in Favor

Peter Webb, 48 Mason Road

Stated his belief the language of the special warrant article is as directed by counsel. He commented on the wording to “cure” something.

Brian Rater will serve as Moderator at the Special Meeting. Mr. Webb stated his expectation the voters would struggle with the language “cure”.

Superintendent Corey stated the intent to provide a brief presentation displaying the original error that occurred in newsprint and then clarifying the purpose of the special meeting. Meghan Glynn, Esq., Drummond & Woodsum, would be present to answer any legal questions posed.

The article is not able to be modified as the voters are not voting on the bond itself. It goes forward and is voted up or down.

Testimony in Opposition - None

Testimony in Favor - None

Testimony in Opposition - None

The Public Hearing was declared closed at 6:40 p.m.

Date _____

Signed _____