

MINUTES OF FEBRUARY 23, 2016 BOARD OF EDUCATION REGULAR MEETING

The Regular Meeting of the Riverview Board of Education was called to order at 7:00 P.M. by President Laura-Frazier in the Council Chambers at Riverview City Hall, 14100 Civic Park Drive, Riverview, MI 48193.

The following members were present at roll call: President Laura-Frazier, Vice-President O'Brien, Secretary Wright, Treasurer Pelkey, Trustee Bohr, Trustee Filkins and Trustee Irving.

Also Present: Russell E. Pickell, Superintendent;
Cathy Rios, Secretary;
and Lauren Day, Student Liaison

GUEST AND VISITOR COMMENTS

Two people asked and were granted permission to address the Board of Education.

A-7 – ACCEPTANCE OF AGENDA

Moved by Secretary Wright and supported by Vice-President O'Brien that the Riverview Board of Education accepts the Agenda for the February 23, 2016 meeting.

Yeas: Bohr, Filkins, Irving, Laura-Frazier, O'Brien, Pelkey, Wright

Nays: None

MOTION CARRIED

A-8 - APPROVAL OF CONSENT GROUPING

Moved by Secretary Wright and supported by Trustee Bohr that the Riverview Board of Education approves the items listed in the Consent Grouping which contains Minutes of January 26, 2016 Organizational/Regular Meeting, Check Registers and Purchase Card Expense Reports.

Yeas: Bohr, Filkins, Irving, Laura-Frazier, O'Brien, Pelkey, Wright

Nays: None

MOTION CARRIED

RIVERVIEW VISION COMMITTEE REPORT: Mr. Hatzl indicated that the committee's first meeting was held on February 17th to discuss two items affecting the district. First they discussed getting the correct information out to the electorate regarding the upcoming millage election. Central to this discussion was the fact that this is a renewal for businesses in Riverview and has absolutely no

impact on homeowners' property tax. The Millage Renewal is vital to the operation of our schools. Just under 2 million dollars goes from the non-homestead renewal to directly fund the district. Because of the state issued gag order we were temporarily unable to correctly inform our voters and what would normally be an overwhelmingly yes vote because this renewal will not increase anyone's taxes. Now that the gag order has been lifted we want to assure residents that this is needed and will not affect them financially in any way. The REA proposed some excellent ideas to inform our citizens and offered the full support of their group to do so. The two most impactful strategies were establishing a phone bank to contact residents and encourage their support. Secondly they will be creating a pamphlet that they will be delivering door to door in the weeks before the election.

The district proposed that they would continue to inform voters as well by using the robo-call system as a reminder of the election along with mass emails and mailings. An article was reported in the News Herald last week and informational posters are now in all school buildings as well as City Hall.

He wanted to thank the City Council for acknowledging and supporting the millage efforts as well as the group Strong Community, Strong Pirates, Strong Schools for sending the millage information via postcard.

Their second agenda item was to discuss aligning future spring break dates with the county and state common calendar due to our state moving their standardized testing window. Most districts are now in the process of doing this. The REA agreed that it was something that they would bring to their members for discussion and vote. The time we have on break would remain the same just redistributed. A quick decision on the matter is important for parents making plans for next spring. This would move our Spring Break vacation for the third week in April up to the first week in April, 2017.

STUDENT LIAISON REPORT: Lauren Day gave an update as to student accomplishments at the High School as well as recent and upcoming events.

ADMINISTRATIVE COMMENTS/LEGISLATIVE REPORTS/ COMMITTEE REPORTS

Legislatively there are a few things going on. The third grade reading bill is getting a revamping and moving its way through the Senate. It still contains the retention piece for third grade but there are a lot of stipulations and a lot of parental and administrative controls that allow exemptions for those things.

The gag order legislation is still suspended. There are two legislative pieces that are being pushed through the House, one is trying to fix the language and the other is trying to repeal the language. Based on the 60 day extension that means that the gag order will be lifted at least for this election. We were able to have a presentation at the city council meeting to discuss our upcoming non-homestead millage proposal. This was the first time we were able to do this and it was a very positive event, they had great questions and great comments. The council really sees the importance of the

passing of this millage.

Superintendent Pickell then reiterated all of the highlights of the millage that Mr. Hatzl had outlined. This will not increase anyone's taxes. Local businesses have been paying this for 20 years ever since Proposal A. At that time businesses received a huge tax cut. This is just a continuation of what they have been paying. Homeowners currently pay zero and whether they vote yes or no they will still pay zero.

This is not a bond these are the dollars that are funneled through the state and funneled back to us to educate the children of this community and if we do not collect and levy those taxes the State is not going to funnel those revenues back to us. We do not have a 1.8 million dollar cushion built into our budget so if this does not go through it will represent a 1.8 million dollar reduction. The honest case scenario is that our District would not resemble what it does today if that is truly going to be the case.

This is usually never a close vote but with all the legislation going on there is a little bit of apprehension. This is why the correct information is so important as to how our schools are funded.

This will be devastating to our schools and our community if this does not pass. Election day is March 8th so please make sure you get out there. We will continue with information to the community with flyers, ads and a mailer. We will be walking the neighborhoods on March 5th.

A-9 – APPROVE FOOD SERVICE – CHARTWELLS RENEWAL

Moved by Trustee Bohr and supported by Treasurer Pelkey that the Riverview Board of Education approves the renewal of Chartwells' contract for district food service management and operations for the 2016-2017 school year

Yeas: Bohr, Filkins, Irving, Laura-Frazier, O'Brien, Pelkey, Wright

Nays: None.

MOTION CARRIED

A-10 – APPROVAL OF LUSK ALBERTSON POLICY SERVICES CONTRACT

Moved by Trustee Filkins and supported by Trustee Irving that the Riverview Board of Education approves the contract with Lusk Albertson School Policy Services for a fee of fifteen thousand (15,000) dollars payable upon delivery of the initial set of bylaws, policies and administrative regulations with the annual cost of maintenance not to exceed four thousand (\$4,000.00) dollars.

Yeas: Bohr, Filkins, Irving, Laura-Frazier, Wright

Nays: O'Brien, Pelkey

MOTION CARRIED

GUEST AND VISITOR COMMENTS

One person asked and received permission to address the Board of Education.

ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION PRESENTED BY BOARD MEMBERS CONCERNING WHICH NO ACTION CAN BE TAKEN

Trustee Filkins wanted to thank Mr. & Mrs. Lambert for coming out. He encouraged Mr. Lambert to have a discussion with Mr. Hatzl regarding his concerns. Secondly he urged everyone to get out to vote to support our schools. He thanked the Mayor, Council and City Manager who met with him, Nancy Holloway and Aaron Robinson. They had a great meeting in regards to the relationships between the school and the City and how to work together to solve common problems. Lastly, the gag order was one of the most ridiculous things he has ever seen and wants to thank the Superintendent and the board members for their leadership in becoming part of the legal action with others to get this gag order lifted so we can discuss with our constituents what is going on in our community.

Vice-President O'Brien also wanted to thank the Lamberts for coming out and he wanted to express his agreement in that the current seniors should be grandfathered in and maybe change with the incoming freshmen.

Treasurer Pelkey wanted everyone to get out to support the schools and reiterated that this is a millage and not a bond and he explained the differences between the two. He also wanted everyone to know that Forest Parent Club is having a Euchre Tournament this Sunday at the Sportsmen's Den and if anyone wants additional information they can email him.

Trustee Irving wanted all to know that there are several members of the Boys Varsity Swim team that will be competing at Division 3 States on March 11th and 12th at Eastern this year. All three relays and some individual swimmers including Noah Ellington for diving will be competing on those days.

Trustee Bohr also wanted to thank the Lamberts for coming and he acknowledged their daughter's academic success. He also agrees with discussing their concerns with Mr. Hatzl. Also with the vote coming up he encouraged people to get out there and spread the word incase people haven't heard. He also urged the public to thank the businesses.

President Laura-Frazier also thanked the Lamberts for coming and indicated she agreed with this suggestion as well. She also thanked the Key Club for the Pancake Breakfast and Winter Run that they sponsored this past Saturday. She worked it along with Trustee Filkins.

ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Treasurer Pelkey and supported by Vice-President O'Brien that the February 23, 2016 Board of Education regular meeting be adjourned.

Yeas: Bohr, Filkins, Irving, Laura-Frazier, O'Brien, Pelkey, Wright

Nays: None

MOTION CARRIED

The meeting adjourned at 7:53 p.m.

Amy Wright, Secretary
Riverview Board of Education

Accepted March 22, 2016