

IPSWICH SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING
25 OCTOBER 2010
MIDDLE SCHOOL/HIGH SCHOOL CAFETERIA

OPEN SESSION

CALL TO ORDER

Dr. O’Flynn, Chair, called the meeting to order at 6:30pm, with the following members present: E. Traverso, J. Loeb, L. Dietz, and S. Gresh. R. Korb, Superintendent; J. Cuff, Finance Director; and A. Skelton, Student Representative were also present.

CITIZENS’ COMMENTS

There were no citizens’ comments.

I. Warrant Articles

A. ARTICLE 3

There was no discussion.

B. ARTICLE 4

It was determined that because Mr. Hopping is recovering from surgery and unable to attend Town Meeting, Mr. Traverso would make the motion for Article 4. Mr. Traverso read a prepared statement he intended to make after moving the article; all members agreed the statement contained the appropriate tone and language.

C. ARTICLE 5

The Finance Committee presented language changes to the Tri-Board Working Group Statement. A change was sought by the School Committee in section 4.c. of the Statement, to which the Finance Committee agreed.

Mr. Korb spoke about the need for the School Committee to be recognized as a co-sponsor of Article 5, along with the Finance Committee. Dr. O’Flynn requested of Mr. Fay, Chair of the Finance Committee, that the School Committee be publicly noted as a co-sponsor of the article. Mr. Fay indicated that he would make it known, during his presentation of Article 5 and in his remarks in support of Article 5, that the School Committee and Finance Committee would work cooperatively. Mr. Loeb also planned to offer comments on the article after Mr. Fay presented it to Town Meeting.

Mr. Loeb moved, seconded by Mr. Gresh, that the School Committee adopt revised language of the Tri-Board Working Group Statement, such that the statement would read as noted below. UNANIMOUS.

TRIBOARD WORKING GROUP STATEMENT

1. Purpose: The Feoffees Legal Fund shall be used to protect and advance the Ipswich schoolchildren’s interest in the Little Neck property. Funds will be

used to: a) maximize the economic return of Little Neck, either through negotiating an acceptable, maximum sale price, or a market based land rent, in the event that the property is not sold; and b) restructure the Feoffees trust to reflect the content of the FY2010 town meeting article addressing the structure of the Feoffees.

2. Approach: The School Committee, Selectmen, and Finance Committee shall define and carry out a coordinated, consistent approach to achieve the Purpose.

3. Eligible Use of Funds: Legal, real estate and other professional services appropriate to carry out the purpose, including litigation, professional opinions, or assistance to the Feoffees for eviction of noncompliant tenants. All vendors must demonstrate pertinent qualifications and expertise suitable to carry out their assignments.

4. Allocation of Funds: Three members of the School Committee, and two members each of the Selectmen and Finance Committee shall comprise a Triboard Working Group. The Group shall be responsible for the allocation of funds in pursuit of the Purpose described above, and the Feoffees Strategy, described below.

a. The School Committee shall propose a comprehensive strategy to implement the Purpose above;

b. The Triboard Working Group shall consider this strategy and make recommendations;

c. The Triboard Working Group shall meet at least monthly or when requested by 3 members of the Working Group for the purposes of discussing strategy and allocation of funds pursuant to 4.f.

d. All information will be shared promptly and completely with members of the Triboard Working Group, and through the representative members to the respective Committees;

e. Requests for the use of the Feoffees Legal Fund shall generally be made prior to the expenditure of the funds, and shall include the vendor, purpose of the expenditure, and estimated amount as provided by the vendor. Nothing contained herein is intended to exclude expenses already incurred prior to October 25, 2010;

f. The Triboard Working Group shall strive to reach consensus in its allocation of funds. In the absence of consensus, a majority vote shall determine the outcome. The Triboard Working Group shall recommend approval of expenditures to the Town Manager, who will administer the Fund;

g. The expenditure of the funds shall be transparent. Upon request, a copy of any and all expenditures by any board shall be made available. A summary of funded activities will be posted on the FinCom website.

5. Unused Funds: All funds from the Feoffees Legal Fund remaining at the end of the FY will flow to free cash at the end of the year. Additional resources, if needed, will be requested at the STM 2012.

6. Repayment: All Feoffee Legal Fund resources expended at the behest of the School Committee shall be repaid to the Town general fund by the School Committee, in accordance with Article 5.

II. ADJOURNMENT

Dr. O'Flynn moved, seconded by Mr. Gresh, to adjourn at 7:22 p.m.
UNANIMOUS.