

**IPSWICH SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING
THURSDAY, OCTOBER 7, 2010
MIDDLE/HIGH SCHOOL ENSEMBLE ROOM**

OPEN SESSION

CALL TO ORDER

H. O’Flynn, Chair, called the meeting to order at 7:01 p.m. with the following members present: J. Loeb, S. Gresh, L. Dietz, and E. Traverso. Also present were: R. Korb, Superintendent of Schools; and Abigail Skelton, Student Representative.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mr. Loeb read the following announcements:

Executive Session will be held this evening to discuss strategies regarding litigation and real estate matters and strategies in collective bargaining, after which the meeting will adjourn

Policy Subcommittee will meet on October 20, 5:30 p.m., Payne School

School Committee will meet on October 21, 7 p.m., Middle/High Ensemble Room

CITIZENS’ COMMENTS

RULE OF NECESSITY

Dr. O’Flynn read the restrictions on four School Committee members who have relatives employed by the system, and Mrs. Dietz moved, seconded by Mr. Traverso, to invoke the Rule of Necessity. UNANIMOUS.

I. SCHOOL COMMITTEE PRESENTATIONS

A. FEOFFEES OF THE GRAMMAR SCHOOL STATUS

Dr. O’Flynn refuted two of the statements made in a recent Chronicle editorial: that the School Committee had not, in fact, critiqued the appraisal of Little Neck property ordered by the Finance Committee, and that the School Committee had not blocked the release. Currently, the School Committee is waiting for the new appraisal, expected before the next meeting on October 21.

Mr. Traverso announced that he is working with Mitch Feldman to determine what would happen in the future if the Trust were based on rental income or security income going forward 20 years. When the analysis is ready, Dr. O’Flynn asked that he be notified for an agenda item.

Rachael Roesler, from the audience, asked several pertinent questions regarding the appraisals, legal fees, and sale price. Finance Committee members M. Schaaf, J. Skelton, and R. Howard and others contributed to the discussion of appraisals and the net figure to be attained if/when the sale takes place. Dr. O’Flynn, speaking for the School Committee, believes that another appraisal will give the best possible legal power to the School Committee.

B. OCTOBER 25, 2010, FALL TOWN MEETING WARRANT ARTICLES REVIEW

In discussion, Article 3, School Budget Amendments, Dr. O’Flynn moved, seconded by Mrs. Dietz, to support Article 3 and he will present it at Town Meeting. UNANIMOUS.

Article 4, Whittier Regional High School Budget, Dr. O’Flynn moved, seconded by Mr. Traverso, to support Article 4. UNANIMOUS. Mr. Hopping, presently recovering from back surgery, was asked to present if he is able.

Article 5, Feoffees Litigation, had considerable discussion. Legal bills are mounting. Mr. Korb, having requested the article over two months ago, said the intent is that if the School Committee uses \$300,000, it is willing to do whatever measures are necessary and appropriate to repay the money over time. If more funds are needed next year, ask at Spring Town Meeting for more. The proposed language of the warrant article is confusing. Mr. Loeb recommended that the concept be supported, and the language be worked out following discussions with the Town Moderator, the Board of Selectmen, and the Finance Committee. Mr. Loeb moved, seconded by Dr. O’Flynn, to support Article 5. UNANIMOUS. Mr. Loeb will present.

C. PROPOSITION 3 RESOLUTION LANGUAGE

Mr. Traverso feels very strongly about Question 3 on the November voters’ ballot which asks to reduce the sales tax to 3% and he has plans to speak to town groups as an individual. Following discussion, Mr. Loeb moved, seconded by Mr. Traverso, that the School Committee opposes Question 3 on the ballot. UNANIMOUS.

II. SCHOOL COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. VOUCHERS/BILLS

B. SCHOOL COMMITTEE SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS

1. ATHLETICS SUBCOMMITTEE

Dr. Gresh and Dr. O’Flynn reported on topics discussed: rededication of the football field; grubs now controlled at the Mile Lane fields; use of more Doyon fields; and football realignment.

2. ATHLETIC FIELD STUDY COMMITTEE

3. AD HOC TOWN/SCHOOL COLLABORATION COMMITTEE

Mrs. Dietz reported that the people from the Collins Center, who had written reports, spoke about them and answered questions in a very interesting meeting. Mr. Korb added that IT has room for improvement.

4. DAY CARE CENTER SUBCOMMITTEE

5. EARLY CHILDHOOD SUBCOMMITTEE

Mr. Korb reported that the Committee will be reconvening and that he, personally, has met with the Sisters of Notre Dame and is considering space at the Cable Hospital when Lahey vacates.

6. FEOFFEES SUBCOMMITTEE
7. NORTH SHORE COALITION FOR SCHOOL FUNDING
8. OPERATIONS SUBCOMMITTEE

9. POLICY SUBCOMMITTEE
 - a. School Assignment Areas, JC, Proposed Adoption
 - b. Parents' Choice of Elementary School, JECC, Proposed RevisionMr. Loeb moved, seconded by Mrs. Dietz, to approve both policies for first reading. UNANIMOUS.

10. PUBLIC SAFETY FACILITY COMMITTEE

Mrs. Emerson reported that the Board of Selectmen had voted (3/2) against appropriating any money at Fall Town Meeting for engineering studies in spite of the PSFC request to meet with them in October.

11. SPECIAL EDUCATION PARENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE (SEPAC)

Meeting next week.

12. WIND TURBINE SUBCOMMITTEE

Mr. Korb reported that Mr. Henry had received two bids for wind turbine installation which are being reviewed and evaluation should be completed by October 8. Delivery could come by March, 2011.

13. IPSWICH HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE

14. OTHER

Dr. Gresh, using PowerPoint, suggested forming a Communications Subcommittee in light of the confusion with the complicated Feoffees issues so that the School Committee can better communicate with the citizens of Ipswich. After a short discussion of a former subcommittee of this nature, Dr. O'Flynn recommended that a Communications Subcommittee be recreated and asked for three volunteers. Dr. Gresh and L. Dietz volunteered, and B. Hopping will fill the third opening when he recovers from surgery.

III. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

A. SUPERINTENDENT'S ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT

Mr. Korb gave an update on the proposed use of SFSF and Education Jobs funds. Chapter 70 reduction change has dropped the figure to \$50,551 from \$69,000 as originally thought which will be offset with the use of SFSF and Education Jobs funds.

IV. CONSENT

A. CONSENT AGENDA

Mrs. Dietz moved, seconded by Dr. Gresh, to approve the Consent Agenda as follows:

- Acceptance of Minutes of September 22, 2010, Open Session
 - Acceptance of Minutes of September 22, 2010, Executive Session
 - Acceptance of the New England BioLabs contribution to the Ipswich Schools per the Tax Increment Financing (TIF) Agreement for FY11 in the amount of \$10,000 to be for Science Education
 - Approval of the Advanced Project Adventure overnight field trip to Conway/Albany, New Hampshire, Blackberry Crossing Campground – Mt. Chocorua, on Oct. 15-17, 2010
 - Approval of the High School’s Model UN Club overnight field trip to Dartmouth College, New Hampshire, April 1-3, 2011
 - Acceptance of a donation from Tedford & Martin of 18 gallons of paint to the drama group (The Company) in preparation for the production of “Once on This Island”, valued at \$505.82
 - Acceptance of the donation of \$2,085 from an anonymous donor to support the Winthrop School Grade 5 Plimoth Plantation Field Trip.
- UNANIMOUS.**

V. EXECUTIVE SESSION

Mr. Loeb moved, seconded by Mrs. Dietz, to move to Executive Session to discuss pending litigation. Roll call in favor - Traverso, Gresh, O’Flynn, Loeb, Dietz.

Mrs. Dietz moved, seconded by Mr. Loeb, to move to Executive Session to discuss real estate matters. Roll call in favor - Traverso, Gresh, O’Flynn, Loeb, Dietz.

Mr. Loeb moved, seconded by Mrs. Dietz, to move to Executive Session to discuss collective bargaining strategies. Roll call in favor- Traverso, Gresh, O’Flynn, Loeb, Dietz.