

TOWN COUNCIL
Town of Trumbull
CONNECTICUT
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TOWN HALL
Trumbull

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PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE
MINUTES
DECEMBER 11, 2013

The Chair called the meeting to order at 8:06 p.m. at the Town Hall.

PRESENT: Ken Martin Sr., Chairman, Tony Scinto, Vice Chairman, Vincent DiMasi, Jr., Ennio De Vita, Thomas Christiano, Daniel Marconi, Michael London, Alternate (not voting) and Vicki Tesoro, Alternate, (not voting).

ALSO PRESENT: Town Council Chairman Carl A. Massaro, Jr., John Marsilio, Director of Public Works, Lori Rosasco Schwartz Town Council member.

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1. RESOLUTION TC25-01: Moved by Mr. London, seconded by Mr. Christiano.
BE IT RESOLVED, That First Selectman Timothy M. Herbst is hereby authorized to sign and execute on behalf of the Town of Trumbull the Greater Bridgeport Regional Solid Waste Interlocal agreement.

Mr. Marsilio explained the agreement before the committee represents an extension of what has been in place for 25 years with regard to the method of disposal of waste from the Town of Trumbull.

There are three (3) principal differences in this contract they are as follows:

1. The original 1988 contract had 18 communities in the interlocal. This agreement has 11-12. *They have been advised that other communities not in the original interlocal would like to join but we would need to craft and sign an agreement with Wheelabrator to facilitate.*
2. The original contracts with Wheelabrator were all third-party agreements. *The Town was contractually obligated with CRRA as their representative to negotiate the deal point. The only thing CRRA did was instead of Wheelabrator billing each community individually Wheelabrator would bill CRRA and the Town would send the money to CRRA. CRRA would then charge \$2.50 per ton to do so.*
3. A power purchase agreement has been added.
There are two sources of revenue for this plant in Bridgeport:
 - A. *The municipal waste tipping fees.*
 - B. *The sale of their power to the public.*

What is being proposed with Wheelabrator is that the Town will pay them to take the solid waste but wants a favorable agreement on the power purchase side. The details of those two

costs are contiguous on all the communities who adopt this agreement, committing their waste without the erroneous put or pay agreement that has been in place for 25 years. Power will be provided to all of these communities. This is a ten-year agreement. The municipal solid waste portion escalates at a percentage of CPI annually and the power purchase portion will be reviewed every two years. It will be reviewed 4 times during the course of this agreement. The rate charged will be based on the lowest rate on file with PURA at the time of negotiating the renewal. This agreement if adopted by the Town Council is still subject to final approval by the Town Attorney before it can be formalized. There is no minimum to the amount of tonnage. Mr. London stated that having no minimum tonnage is a significant difference and advantage for the Town.

Mr. Marsilio indicated the urgency is based upon the fact that Wheelabrator has suffered on the power side due to market conditions, our alternatives to this are not good. Waste management has closed two plants because they are not profitable. The other urgency is that Towns are working on their next fiscal year budgets at this time, this would affect those numbers. The current agreement is in place until June 30, 2014. The power would be for municipal use and would significantly reduce the Town's electricity bill. The CRRA would effectively be removed from this under the proposed agreement. As the Southwest Advisory Board exists now every Town has one vote. Bridgeport had 3 votes for the past 25 years and would now have one vote as do all of the other towns.

Mr. Marsilio recommends the agreement based on that there are not great alternatives. Land filling in Pennsylvania or Ohio could stop at any time and it is not known if you could get 10 or 20 years out of an arrangement like that or what the liability or future costs would be. If this plant went away that would be what we would have to do. The agreement is a 20 year agreement with the first part being 10 years and has a reopener every 2 years for energy and has two 5-year options. The potential annual savings would be based on if they can get the electric rate at 6.7 cents per kWh instead of the 9.7 cents currently paid, every penny is worth to \$250,000. They have been negotiating and/or discussing this since 2011, with most of the discussion having been informal. The three main negotiators were Fairfield, Westport and Trumbull. The governor's office is in favor of this agreement; this would be the first of its kind in the State of CT. They are disenchanted with CRRA. CRRA has failed in its mission. The agreement is based on tonnage and is collective. Each community of the 11 communities needs to ratify the agreement. There is no guarantee that would happen. Milford has already approved it. More communities can be brought in after June 2014, although the board could set a penalty. New Haven and Stamford who had never been a part of this have been in discussions with them. The only obligation is that if the community is going to bring their waste there they would also have to take the power purchase too.

Mr. Christiano spoke in favor and noted that he did not see a negative. Mr. Marsilio stated that he needs to form his budget

VOTE: Motion CARRIED unanimously.

2. RESOLUTION TC25-04: Moved by Mr. Scinto, seconded by Mr. Christiano.
BE IT RESOLVED, That the request of the Board of Education for the Department of Public Works to maintain and care for school buildings and grounds is hereby approved.

Mr. Marsilio stated that he only has anecdotal knowledge of this resolution. He has had conversations with the Superintendent of Schools with regard to capital issues within the schools. Mr. Marsilio indicated to Mr. De Vita that he is not aware of what the proposal is.

Mr. Massaro explained that the BOE meeting is being held at the same time as this meeting due because it had been postponed due to inclement weather. Page 2, item number IV subsection c. of the attached 12/3/2013 BOE minutes distributed at this meeting outlines the scope of the BOE request to the Public Works Dept. The BOE is looking for assistance in an emergency scenario and for Public Works to look over their facilities and equipment. They are citing a reduction in personnel as a basis of their request. Mr. Massaro spoke to the Superintendent today. They are looking for a short period of time for Public Works to look at their facilities and operations and in case of emergency they would be there to help them. Mr. Massaro indicated the Public Works Dept is always there to help the BOE anyway. Ms. Tesoro stated she was present at the meeting when the BOE made this motion and believes it has to do with the fact that the BOE has equipment issues. There is a truck they can not rely on and are down 4 men in their dept. They are concerned if there is a snow emergency there would be a problem. Mr. Marsilio indicated he had recently given them a truck. Ms. Tesoro added that this would be for a short period of time no more than 60 days as contained in the BOE motion. Mr. Donofrio of the BOE had quoted Chapter 3, section 12, b2 of the Trumbull Town Charter at the BOE meeting. This section states that the Dept. of Public Works may maintain school buildings and grounds only if and to the extent of the period requested by the BOE and approved by the Town Council provided the costs are charged against the BOE appropriations. This explains why this is before this council. The committee agreed the resolution needs to be amended. The urgency is based on the fact that we are in winter. Mr. Massaro stated he had a request to transfer the maintenance of the grounds and facilities to be put on the agenda long before the BOE met on this matter which is why the resolution had such broad language. The BOE detailed their request and the resolution could be amended.

Mr. London suggested that the resolution read as:

BE IT RESOLVED, That the request of the Board of Education for the Department of Public Works to maintain and care for school buildings and grounds for a period of no less than thirty days and not to exceed sixty days beginning "XYZ" date is hereby approved.

Ms. Tesoro indicated the BOE motion stated it would be effective upon Town Council approval. Mr. Massaro stated that he did speak to the Superintendent about the dates based on approval at the December 17, 2013 special meeting. The adopted resolution needs to be published which could bring the effective date of the resolution to a month past the meeting date. The Superintendent indicated that would be too long and it will most likely be asked that this be made emergency legislation at the 12/17/2013 special meeting. Emergency Legislation could make the resolution effective by the Monday after the meeting or sooner.

Mr. Christiano noted that the Public Works Department probably does not have the extra manpower. Mr. Marsilio stated that he is unclear what is being requested by the resolution. If they are looking for someone to be responsible during a catastrophe then this achieves that. But what the goal, the scope of services or the objective is within the 30-60 days is not clear to him. No one has discussed this with him. Mr. Massaro stated the Superintendent and members of the BOE could be invited to the special meeting on December 17, 2013 to explain and in the interim to Mr. Marsilio. Mr. London suggested sending the resolution without recommendation.

Mr. Marsilio stated that he has worked with the First Selectman, Town Council Chairman and has never denied any resources. Ms. Tesoro agreed in passing without recommendation to allow for time to discuss with the BOE. The committee agreed not to amend the resolution.

Moved by Mr. Scinto, seconded by Mr. De Vita to send without recommendation.
VOTE Motion CARRIED unanimously.

There being no further business the Public Works committee adjourned by unanimous consent at 8:44 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Margaret D. Mastroni, Town council Clerk

TRUMBULL PUBLIC SCHOOLS
TRUMBULL, CONNECTICUT
Budget Meeting – December 3, 2013
Long Hill Administration Building
Lorraine R. Smith Assembly Room

The Trumbull Board of Education convened in the Long Hill Administration Building for a Budget Meeting.

Members present:

Members absent:

D. Herbst, Vice Chairperson
L. Chory, Board Member
J. Donofrio, Board Member
S. LaFrance, Board Member
J. Peddle, Board Member
R. Seaman, Board Member
M. Ward, Board Member

Agenda Item I – Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 6:33 p.m. by Vice Chair Mrs. Herbst.

Agenda Item II – Preliminary Business

A. Salute to the Flag - The Public Session began with a salute to the Flag. At this time, it was moved (Chory) seconded (Ward) to take Agenda Item IV-B out of order. Vote: Unanimous in favor.

Agenda Item IV – Reports/Action Items

B. Election of Officer—Board of Education— Vice Chair Mrs. Herbst conveyed that with the addition of new members to the Board, an election of officers must take place. Mr. Ward nominated Mrs. Herbst for position of Board Chairman, seconded by Mrs. Seaman. Mrs. Herbst commented that she is honored to be nominated for Board Chair and will continue to do her very best for Trumbull students. With no further nominations, Mrs. Herbst unanimously was voted to the position of Board Chairman. Mrs. LaFrance nominated Mrs. Chory for the position of Board Vice Chairperson, seconded by Mr. Donofrio. Mrs. Chory commented that she is honored to be nominated for Vice Chair and will continue to do her best to serve the students, staff and citizens of Trumbull. With no further nominations, Mrs. Chory unanimously was voted to the position of Board Vice Chairperson. Mrs. Chory nominated Mrs. Seaman for the position of Board Secretary, seconded by Mrs. Herbst. With no further nominations, Mrs. Seaman unanimously was voted to the position of Board Secretary.

Agenda Item II – Preliminary Business

B. There was no correspondence this evening.

C. Comments –Board Chair Mrs. Herbst conveyed that due to the lengthy agenda for tonight’s meeting, Public Comment would be limited to 30 minutes, with each speaker allotted two minutes for comments. She asked that tonight’s speakers sign in before speaking. She also noted that for future meetings, people wishing to address the Board in Public Comment must sign in at the podium before the meeting begins and will be called to speak at the appropriate time. Speakers will be allowed two minutes for comments. Mrs. Herbst further emphasized that only Trumbull residents will be allowed to address the Board in Public Comment. She noted that in the event a non-resident, including Board of Education employees, wishes to address the Board, it will only be allowed at the request of the Superintendent. At the request of the Superintendent. Mrs. Herbst read a letter from Trumbull High School (THS)

Principal Marc Guarino addressed to students, parents and the Trumbull community explaining the rationale for the cancellation of the THS spring musical, Rent, The School Edition. Mrs. Herbst further conveyed that the Board supports Mr. Guarino's, the Superintendent's and Assistant Superintendent's position on this issue. Jane Helfgott spoke in support of reinstating Rent and would like an explanation of the plan referred to in Mr. Guarino's letter. Angela Bulkley, parent, spoke in support of funding ancillary activities such as elementary strings, marching band and spring musical since students may be excluded from these programs due to family financial difficulties. Lainie McHugh, PTA Council President, spoke in support of expanding the Board's budget request to fund additional programs such as elementary foreign language, expanding high school course offerings and to eliminate pay to participate fees. Mrs. McHugh also reminded the Board of their responsibility to further what is in the best interests for the approximately 7,000 students of Trumbull. Larissa Mark, THS student and President of the THS Thespian Society, spoke in support of allowing Rent to proceed as the 2014 THS spring musical. Jon Tropp, parent of THS students, spoke in support of reinstating Rent and questioned why they [administration] consider the subject matter in Rent controversial. Hannah Pirozzoli, THS student and Co-President of Gay-Straight Alliance, spoke in support of Rent and asked the Board to allow this musical to be performed this year. Andrea Gottschall, parent, stated that she and her husband had an excellent meeting with Mr. Guarino regarding the production of Rent. She questioned Mr. Guarino's reference in his letter to being presented with a plan and conveyed that the director, producer and lighting designer have already shared hundreds of pages of information and Thespian members also provided information to him. She noted the media coverage given to this issue and questioned why Mr. Guarino has not provided any comment to the media. Janet O'Donnell, parent of former THS students, also spoke in support of reinstating the production of Rent.

Agenda Item III – Consent Agenda

- A. Personnel—There have been no changes since the last Board meeting.
- B. Approval/Minutes – Regular Meeting – 11/13/13 By unanimous consent of members present at that meeting, the minutes were approved as presented.

Agenda Item IV – Reports/Action Items

- A. Approval/2014 Dates for Board of Education Meetings— In accordance with Section 10-218 of the CT General Statutes and the By-laws of the Trumbull Board of Education, the Board shall adopt a meeting schedule for the ensuing year. It was moved (Ward) seconded (Chory) to approve the Board of Education Meeting Dates for the calendar year 2014 as presented. Vote: Unanimous in favor.
- C. Facilities/Maintenance Committee—Dr. Cialfi conveyed that due to recent retirements of maintenance personnel, the administration is in the process of restructuring responsibilities of the Plant Operations Department. Dr. Cialfi asked the Board to support seeking assistance from the Town for a period of 30 to 60 days since the winter season is approaching and due to the lack of manpower. It was moved (Peddle) seconded (Donofrio) that the maintenance of buildings, grounds and equipment of the Board of Education be turned over to the responsibility of the Town of Trumbull's Department of Public Works for a period of no less than 30 days and not to exceed 60 days. Discussion ensued regarding the length of time needed for assistance. Mr. Donofrio commented that according to State Statute and Town Charter, the Town Council must approve the takeover of the Board of Education's maintenance responsibilities by the Department of Public Works. Further discussion ensued regarding the time involved in securing Town Council approval. It was moved (Chory) seconded (LaFrance) to amend the motion to add the wording "effective upon Town Council approval." Vote: Unanimous in favor. Vote on original motion as amended: Unanimous in favor. Mrs. Herbst expressed her desire to establish a Board committee to review the facilities/maintenance operations and examine the processes/procedures and ultimately make recommendations for Board action. She noted that this would not be a standing committee of the Board. She appointed Mr. Peddle and Mr. Ward to be on the

Facilities/Maintenance Committee and asked them to seek several community members to join the committee and present those names to the Board at their December 10, 2013 meeting. Discussion ensued regarding the charge of the committee including examining the process of facilities maintenance and making recommendations for the restructuring of the Plant Operations Department. It was noted that the committee will be working collaboratively with the Superintendent on this issue; once the restructuring is complete, the Plant Operations Department will be under the supervision of the Superintendent.

- D. 2014-15 Budget Presentation and Discussion—Superintendent Dr. Cialfi welcomed the new Board members and congratulated the new officers. He gave a Power Point presentation on the 2014-15 administration's proposed budget request in the amount of \$96,392,885 or 3.69% increase over this year's allocation. He reviewed the district's mission, objectives, accomplishments, and the district's goal focus on the Common Core State Standards (CCSS), the Administrator/Teacher Supervision, Evaluation and Professional Learning Plans, and continuous improvement in the Scientific Research Based Intervention (SRBI) process. He reviewed the need to support CCSS with curriculum revisions, updated classroom supplies, textbooks, online subscriptions, professional development and technology. He also reviewed the areas to support the new Administrator/Teacher Supervision, Evaluation and Professional Learning Plans including teacher/administrator training, testing materials, and resources for increased observations and reviews of practice. Dr. Cialfi further conveyed rationale for increased positions in the following areas: Pupil Personnel Services, Technology Integration Specialists, high school teaching staff, maintenance and central student registration. He commented on Trumbull's rank in per pupil spending in most Fairfield County districts and all districts in DRG B. Discussion ensued regarding the increase in staffing and transportation costs. At this time, a brief recess was called at 8:23 p.m. and the Public Session resumed at 8:30 p.m. A motion was made to take review of the elementary schools' budget at this time. Dr. Cialfi, along with Business Manager Sean O'Keefe, reviewed the Elementary budget, with a focus on technology integration specialists. Discussion ensued regarding the job description of technology integration specialists and how they will assist students and staff. Both Jane Ryan Principal Mrs. Bolton and Daniels Farm Principal Mr. Kunschafft spoke in support of adding these positions so teachers can take full advantage of the technology available for lessons. Trumbull Early Childhood Education Center (TECEC) Coordinator Dr. Wheeler briefly reviewed the program and conveyed that tuition paid by parents of regular education students is given directly to the Town. Pupil Personnel Services (PPS) Director Ms. Smith, along with Assistant Superintendent Dr. McGrath reviewed the increase in PPS staff, out of district tuitions, professional development for staff regarding CCSS, legal fees, amount of one-on-one para-educator support, the need for additional clerical support, compliance issues and the establishment of a program (Track 18 to 21) to meet the needs of Specialized Resource Program (SRP) students 18 to 21 years old. Discussion ensued regarding tuition costs and State/Federal mandates for special education students. Mr. O'Keefe and Transportation Manager Mrs. Perkins reviewed the Transportation budget. Discussion ensued regarding increased costs, bus contract, field trips, bus monitors and cameras. Mr. O'Keefe reviewed budget figures including health insurance costs and leasing of computer equipment. Discussion ensued including the projected decrease in elementary enrollment, elementary teacher staffing, and the elementary enrollment study. Mrs. Herbst asked that any questions Board members may have should be sent to her and she will forward to the Superintendent for a response. She also asked the Superintendent to forward responses to Board members' questions to the full Board.

Agenda Item V -- Other

There was no business under this agenda item.

Adjournment

Board Members gave unanimous consent to adjourn the Public Session at 10:08 p.m.