

WATERBURY BOARD OF EDUCATION

Monday, January 22, 2007 at 6:00 p.m.

(For the January 29, 2007 Board Meeting - MINUTES ATTACHED)

COMMITTEE MEETING

The Board of Education Committee meetings were held on Monday, January 22, 2007 at Hopeville School, 2 Cypress Street, Waterbury, Connecticut, starting at 6:08 p.m.

PRESENT: President Hayes, Commissioners Flaherty-Merritt, Geremia, Harvey, Petteway, Stango, Sweeney, Theriault, Uriano, and White.

ALSO PRESENT: Superintendent Snead, Assistant Superintendent Cullinan, Chief Operating Officer Paul Guidone, Director of Personnel Ron Frost, School Business Administrator Paul Mazzaccaro, and School Inspector Herbert Greengas.

Reports were submitted to the various committees of the Board and discussed. The Committee Meetings recessed at 8:10 p.m. to conduct a Special Meeting and resumed at 8:58 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

The Committee meetings adjourned at 9:29 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Carrie A. Swain, Clerk
Board of Education

WATERBURY BOARD OF EDUCATION

MINUTES - REGULAR MEETING

Monday, January 29, 2007 at 6:30 p.m.

Aldermanic Chamber, City Hall, 235 Grand Street, Waterbury, Connecticut

PRESENT: Vice President Petteway, Commissioners Flaherty-Merritt, Geremia, Harvey, Stango, Sweeney, Theriault, and Uriano.

ABSENT: President Hayes and Commissioner White.

ALSO PRESENT: Superintendent Snead, Assistant Superintendent Cullinan, Assistant Superintendent Sequeira, Chief Operating Officer Paul Guidone, Director of Personnel Ron Frost, School Business Administrator Paul Mazzaccaro, Attorney Maurice Mosley, and School Inspector Herbert Greengas.

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER

Vice President Petteway called the meeting to order at 6:34 p.m.

STANGO: Before the silent prayer I would like to make note of the recent passing of two longtime Waterbury teachers – Tom Fenton passed away on January 8. Tom taught science for over 30 years, first in the K through 8 schools and then at Wallace Middle School. While teaching he was involved in curriculum revision and curriculum writing for the soon to be middle schools. He was also a respected coach. Ron Stolfi passed away last weekend, he taught at Crosby High School for over 30 years. Ron served as Science Department Chairman and also coached football for many years. Crosby was a very large part of his life. Together Tom Fenton and Ron Stolfi have served the students of Waterbury well for almost 70 years. Many students in the East End were taught science by Mr. Fenton in middle school and then went on to be taught by Mr. Stolfi in high school. These former students must have had many fond memories this past week. Let us remember them during our silent prayer this evening.

PETTEWAY: Thank you Charlie, and thank you for acknowledging those who served in our system in the Waterbury School District. May we all stand for a silent prayer.

SUPERINTENDENT: Please add Robyn Apicella to the prayer list who is recovering from hip surgery.

Superintendent Snead led everyone in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

ROLL CALL

CLERK: Commissioner Flaherty-Merritt.

FLAHERTY-MERRITT: Present.

CLERK: Commissioner Geremia

GEREMIA: Present.

CLERK: Commissioner Harvey.

HARVEY: Here

CLERK: Commissioner Stango.

STANGO: Here.

CLERK: Commissioner Sweeney.

SWEENEY: Here.

CLERK: Commissioner Theriault.

THERIAULT: Here.

CLERK: Commissioner Uriano.

URIANO: Here.

CLERK: Commissioner White – absent. President Hayes – absent. Vice-President Petteway.

PETTEWAY: Here.

COMMUNICATIONS:

Upon a motion by Commissioner Sweeney, and duly seconded by Commissioner Uriano, it was voted unanimously to receive and place on file the following communications:

1. Submittal of Comprehensive Annual Financial Report, Report of Federal Awards, Report of Compliance and Internal Control over Financial Reporting, and Report of State Financial Assistance Programs for year ending June 30, 2006 from Scully & Wolf, LLP.
2. Copies of communications dated January 11, 2007 from Civil Service certifying the following individuals for the position of Paraprofessional: Rebecca James, Theresa Owens, Chantel Malloy, Karen Sforza, and Rocco Guerrera.
3. Copies of communications dated January 11, 2007 from Civil Service certifying the following individuals for the position of Library Page: Melissa Cullen, Patricia Romano, and Martha Thomas.
4. Communication from Joshua Martinez regarding bidding on new school projects.

5. Communication dated January 12, 2007 from Mayor Boughton of Danbury regarding Project Labor Agreements.
6. Communication dated January 12, 2007 from Joan Goncalves regarding bidding for new school projects.
7. Communication dated January 16, 2007 from Wadsworth Stallings new school projects.
8. Copies of communications dated January 17, 2007 from Civil Service certifying the following individuals for the position of Paraprofessional: Nancy Wiatr, Rachel Clemente, Carol Pelletier, Tami Gosselin, and Linda Santopietro.
9. Copies of communications dated January 17, 2007 from Civil Service certifying Agron Lames for the position of Electrician and KeumHwa Papallo for the position of Library Page.
10. Communication dated January 24, 2007 from Robert Dakers regarding Resolution Discontinuing Operations of the Waterbury Financial Planning and Assistance Board.
11. Submittal of the Waterbury Financial Planning and Assistance Board's Final Report on Activities and Presentation of Key Ongoing Fiscal Issues and Indicators dated January 25, 2007.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Upon a motion by Commissioner Sweeney and duly seconded by Commissioner Uriano, it was voted unanimously to approve the minutes of December 4, 2006.

PETTEWAY: Is there anyone here wishing to address the Board?

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT: In the past week I have visited Gilmartin, Sprague, Kingsbury, Wallace, and Crosby as part of my ongoing principal evaluation process.

At Gilmartin I took a look at the potential sites for a new building as well as what use might be made of the current structure. In my opinion, some of the present structure could be used for a kindergarten or preschool center or both. I am offering that suggestion to you for your consideration. I did take notice that there needs to be a little more involvement in the use of data to drive instruction at Gilmartin, but other than that the school was operating normally. Gilmartin is a unique school in that it has quite a large number of disabled students. I am happy to report that we do a good job assisting those students in that environment.

At Sprague School, the Principal and I discussed strategies to improve bus behavior and parent communications. The school was clean and orderly, and I am pleased to report that I did observe targeted instruction taking place. There needs to be a bit more involvement with the parent population, however.

Kingsbury School is moving along nicely. The staff is really focused in an expert way on teaching strategies and making good use of formative assessments and data driven instruction. I met with both the literacy and numeracy coaches as well and I left the school feeling they are right on target. I am very pleased with the new Principal. She has a good handle on what is going on and what needs to take place.

I went to both Wallace and Crosby this morning. My major finding is that there needs to be more communication with the custodial staff in both schools. I was not pleased with the maintenance or upkeep in either building. I will discuss this further with Herb Greengas. On a positive note, instruction was taking place in every classroom I visited, and Lou Padua was very impressive in terms of his knowledge of what is going on in his classrooms. I did discuss with Barbara Carrington Lawlor the need for a little more cooperation with the Chief of Police in his initiatives, especially in term of the "guns and gangs" program.

The Connecticut State Department of Education, Bureau of Special Education, will be conducting a monitoring visit here in our schools next week.

I stopped by Wilby today to greet and speak to administrators and invited guests who are here to do some training on student scheduling into smaller learning academies. This was arranged through Brown University as part of the SLC project.

I visited several schools last Friday to get an opinion on whether or not students got to school on time and if there were any issues with the frigid cold weather. I received good reports from each school I visited. At each school, most students were in attendance and there were no complaints of frost bite. Each of the administrators said it was a good call to have school. The schools I visited were a representative sampling of all grade levels.

Last week I attended and offered comments at the last meeting of the State Oversight Board. The resolution dissolving the Oversight Board is contained in your packets.

Our 2007-2008 budget request to the Mayor is scheduled for action tonight. The request, in my opinion balances the school system's needs with demands on our City's taxpayers. I urge its adoption.

PETTEWAY: Thank you Dr. Snead for your report. And another note on the 2007/08 budget, I did review that budget and saw the inclusion of the different items that are needed in this school district and I do concur and I hope everyone will vote on that for a positive vote.

REPORTS

1. COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

- 1.1 Upon a motion by Commissioner Geremia and duly seconded by Commissioner Uriano, it was voted unanimously to approve the 2007 - 2008 Department of Education's budget request, totaling \$149,500,000.00, to the Mayor.**

PETTEWAY: All those in favor, any discussion? The ayes have it. Motion passed unanimously.

2. COMMITTEE ON BUILDING

2.1 Upon a motion by Commissioner Harvey and duly seconded by Commissioner Uriano, it was voted unanimously to approve the ED049R for the New Elementary School #1 (Duggan Site) Project (state project #151-0252).

PETTEWAY: All those in favor.

THERIAULT: Under discussion, once again I want to bring out the point that we're paying more and more for these schools. We went from 31.5 million to 35.5 million an increase of four million dollars in one week. That never came back to workshop committee but went to the Building Committee and straight across the street. Maybe for expedience, maybe too much expedience, maybe too fast. Also, the square footage of that building, for whatever reasons and I've heard lots of explanations and some I buy and some I don't. But anyway the building came down from 99,600 square feet, now we're down to approximately 72,000 square feet. So we're paying more for less. The last point I want to make on Duggan is we spent \$50,000 through the Waterbury Development Corporation to ascertain what the cost of that building would be and whether or not it was feasible to do on that site and we were told, yes, it is feasible to do on the site for 31.5 million – new or renovated and yet a week later the price raises by four million dollars. I just have to keep making that point over and over again because I think it's germane to the conversation. I will vote for the Duggan Project because I think the school is sorely, sorely needed just like it's needed in the North End as well. But let's be a little bit more in terms of caveat emptor, let the buyer beware, we're the buyers, we're the builders, we're the Board of Ed, we should know about these things well before they happen and not have to read about the Mayor giving 1.5 million and the State of Connecticut giving an additional 6.5 million to cover the additional costs – the Duggan Project was four million, the North End was four million, my point is that should have been known way before the price was incurred. Thank you for your attention.

PETTEWAY: Thank you Commissioner Theriault. Any other discussion? All those in favor, motion passes unanimously. There's no one opposed – right.

2.2 Upon a motion by Commissioner Harvey and duly seconded by Commissioner Uriano, with Commissioner Theriault voting "no", it was voted to approve the ED049R for the Wilby High School Classroom Addition Project (state project #151-0246).

PETTEWAY: All those in favor. Commissioner Theriault.

THERIAULT: Once again I rise to notify the public of the tremendous demise in the square footage of this project which was literally cut in half from two stories to one because of the budget, because of other restraints, because of probably the amount of students using the space as well. But my point is that once again these prices for these

projects, the modification of the media center, the additional classrooms at the high schools, the costs are increasing and we're getting less and less square footage. I could buy a little bit of a reduction in the square footage but I will not be voting for a 50% reduction because I thought that the square footage should have been thought out and should have been calculated more attentively and it wasn't. So now we're faced with a budget that we have to reduce and reduce the square footage of this project when we need every square inch as we go into the future. So I'll be voting against this one because I don't think we had due diligence in terms of the projection of what we needed and the budget in the first place. Thank you.

PETTEWAY: Any other discussion? No more discussion – all those in favor, any opposed? Motion passes.

3. COMMITTEE ON GRANTS

- 3.1 Upon a motion by Commissioner Flaherty-Merritt and duly seconded by Commissioner Sweeney, it was voted unanimously to approve to apply for the Northwest Regional Workforce Investment Board "Experts in Schools" program grant.**

PETTEWAY: Does everybody understand that one? Doc, if you could just give us an overview. Do you know about this with Dr. Frigo and her project? All those in favor, any opposed? Motion passes.

4. COMMITTEE ON SCHOOL ACTIVITIES

- 4.1 Upon a motion by Commissioner Flaherty-Merritt and duly seconded by Commissioner Harvey, it was voted unanimously to approve the use of school facilities by school organizations and/or City departments.**

PETTEWAY: All those in favor, any opposed? Motion passes.

- 4.2 Upon a motion by Commissioner Flaherty-Merritt and duly seconded by Commissioner Harvey, it was voted unanimously to approve the use of school facilities by outside organizations with fees as outlined in their attached Use of Building Permit and subject to the receipt of all necessary deposits, insurance information, and/or lifeguard/CPR certifications, as listed.**

PETTEWAY: All those in favor, any opposed, motion passes.

- 4.3 Upon a motion by Commissioner Flaherty-Merritt and duly seconded by Commissioner Uriano, it was voted unanimously that the request of Waterbury Republican American for a waiver of custodial fees in the approximate amount of \$420.00 and building usage fees in the amount of \$1,200, for their use of Kennedy High School to host the Governor's Second Company Foot Guard Band, be approved.**

PETTEWAY: All those in favor, any opposed, motion passes.

- 4.4 Upon a motion by Commissioner Flaherty-Merritt and duly seconded by Commissioner Uriano, it was voted unanimously that permission be granted to M. Zwick, WAMS, and four chaperones to take 48 students to Washington, DC from April 5 through April 7, 2007 to visit historical sites.**

FLAHERTY-MERRITT: Did we get an update on the other chaperones?

SWEENEY: It's in your packet.

PETTEWAY: All those in favor, anyone opposed? Motion passes.

5. SUPERINTENDENT'S NOTIFICATION TO THE BOARD

Upon a motion by Commissioner Geremia and duly seconded by Commissioner Harvey, with Commissioner Theriault "abstaining" on item 5.7, it was voted to receive and place on file items 5.1 through 5.7, as listed:

5.1. Athletic resignations:

Campbell, Kevin - Freshman Baseball Coach, WMS, effective immediately.

5.2 Athletic appointments:

Perriello, Rebecca – Head Cheerleading Coach, CHS, effective immediately.

Piccolo, Alan – Head Boys' Basketball Coach, WHS, effective immediately.

5.3 Grant funded appointments:

Bozzuto, Jenna – Substitute Teacher's Assistant, ECEP, \$53.55 per day, no benefits, effective immediately.

Cruess, Steven – ESH Teacher Substitute, Bunker Hill, salary according to contract, eff. immediately.

Feeney, Eric – TPTA Teacher, Kingsbury School (to replace Kathleen Gignac who resigned), salary according to contract, effective 1/29/07.

Guba-Boruch, Anna Marie – Youth Parents Program Substitute Aide, \$10.00 per hour, effective immediately.

Mahan, Eileen – ESH Teacher Substitute, Bunker Hill, salary according to contract, eff. immediately.

Salvador, Vanessa – ESH Teacher Substitute, Bunker Hill, salary according to contract, eff. immediately.

Senderoff, David M. – Assistant Tutor/Title I, Youth Emergency Shelter, 20 hours per week, 12 months per year, \$15.00 per hour, no benefits, effective immediately.

5.4. Return to previous assignments:

O'Leary, Kathy – from Acting TVP, Regan School, to original assignment, effective 1/2/07.

5.5. Resignations:

Axon, Susan – Brooklyn School, effective 2/2/07.

Bogues, Cherae S. – Title I Secretary, Reading Department, effective 1/26/07.

Campbell, Kevin – WMS grade 6 Math, effective 1/18/07.

Dopf, Kevin – CHS Senior Army Instructor, effective 1/2/07.

Mastriano, Sara – Kingsbury Special Education, effective 2/7/07.

Mormile, Angela R. – Kingsbury School, effective 1/17/07.

Silva, Jennifer C. – Chase Special Education, effective 11/3/06.

5.6. Retirements:

Frink, Janet M. – WMS, effective 1/12/07.

Oyola-Bowman, Sara V. – Supervisor of Bilingual Education, effective 3/2/07.

5.7. Teacher new hires:

	NAME	SCHOOL	GRADE	STEP		EFFECTIVE	SALARY
68	Isaku, Ermira	Crosby	TESOL	BA+15	4	10/26/2006	48,826
69	Mackay, Amy	Sprague	Pre K	MA	1	9/21/2006	43,484
70	Kalach, Kevin	Wallace	Literacy	BA+15	1	11/2/2006	42,056
71	Caiazzo, Kristen	Rotella	2	MA	1	11/20/2006	43,484
72	Forino, Dana	Crosby	Social Worker	MA	4	12/18/2006	50,231
73	Knightly, Kari	Kingsbury	4	MA	1	12/18/2006	43,484
74	Magas, Mark	FCS	FCS	BA+15	4	12/8/2006	48,826
75	Ribeiro-Garcia, Maria	NEMS	TESOL	6TH	3	12/11/2006	51,629
76	Stango, Michelle	Wallace	Numeracy	BA	1	10/19/2006	40,657
77	Divirgilio, Angela	NEMS	Italian	BA	1	12/5/2006	40,657
78	Battisti, David	NEMS	Numeracy	BA	1	12/18/2006	40,657
79	Carlone, Kimberly	WSMS	Math 6	MA	1	1/22/2007	43,484
80	Kayfus, Rachel	Hopeville	Bilingual	MA	1	1/22/2007	43,484
81	Damico, Galina	NEMS	TESOL	MA	5	1/16/2007	52,467

PETTEWAY: All those in favor, any discussion?

THERIAULT: I'd just like to say that the retirement of Mrs. Bowman will be, she will be sorely missed, I think she did a very, very, very good job for us through the years and came into this system at a very, very difficult time and she certainly did an absolutely phenomenal job throughout all the years that I worked with her and all of the years she was in the system so I wish her well but once again we're losing another good person. Thank you.

SUPERINTENDENT: I'd like to ditto and applaud the service of Sarah Bowman. She got all of our questions and concerns relative to delivering service to English Language Learners straightened out. She's provided expert service to us over the years. She'll be missed.

PETTEWAY: Yes, she will be missed. I don't know if all of the Commissioners knew her but she was here, she came while I was here and she really brought it up to a better level with all of her knowledge and expertise. And she will be sorely missed, as well as all other teachers that leave our system, it seems that they come here, such a good system, we train them and then for some reason they want to leave. I don't think we'll find someone who was as good as Mrs. Bowman.

THERIAULT: Just under discussion of the new hires. I think it's very important that we look down the list and as we go down that list there are some very, very qualified people. Also some people that seem to be a little bit politically connected. With that being said I don't think anyone should be deprived of a job for that reason and I know all the hires are done absolutely legitimately but my point is as I made in the last meeting was that some of our substitutes had been overlooked and I did receive an e-mail from Mr. Frost saying that of the 81 people that were hired last time, almost 40 of them were

substitutes. So I was very happy to hear that. Noting that the substitutes are the ones who are there for us when our teachers are absent and the substitutes are there on a daily basis filling in the gaps and they're our first line of defense and they are the people that should be rewarded first. Thank you.

PETTEWAY: Is there any other discussion?

SUPERINTENDENT: I'm obligated to say with all due respect we do provide the substitutes an opportunity for an interview but we're obligated to put the best teachers in front of the students on a daily basis. And sometimes there are folks who have not been substitutes with us but come in and after review of their credentials and after a series of interviews with our staff, they are deemed highly qualified. In that case when those individuals appear to us through our screening process to be the best candidate then they get the nod. We do give our substitutes every opportunity and many of them to learn quite a bit during the course of the year when they're substituting and in fact those that are very good often times get a written recommendation from the principal of the buildings they've been subbing in and that helps them, that really helps them in the screening process and gives them a better chance of getting a job the following year. But again, there are some folks who are substitutes that need to remain substitutes; they are not as expert at teaching as some of the others. We need the best teachers in front of the students.

PETTEWAY: You know Dr. Snead I agree with that because a lot of times you may have the degree but you may not be able to teach. Just because you have a degree and you've been there a while you just may not have those qualities to teach and it's a different thing. It's a difference in having those papers and taking all the exams and you need to have that ability to teach our students. So I think it's a good thing that we give those substitutes the opportunity but I also think it's the best thing to select those who are best qualified for our students.

THERIAULT: My other comment is going to be this, let us be diligent now that the Oversight Board is gone that when we are hiring people we don't do as we did in the past taking people straight out of college who didn't even have one day of substituting, one day of teaching outside of their student teaching, no appreciable difference in terms of resume and overlooking people that have been substituting for us for four or five years and those people that having been subbing did as well as the person straight out of college because that person was politically connected. And I know that's not happening now and I certainly don't want it to happen in the future and I too want the best and most qualified candidates chosen for our jobs. But if all things are being equal and these people coming out of college don't have an appreciable resume, some are coming from other towns and districts with a great deal more experience but when all things are being equal those substitutes certainly providing they pass the test and do well on the oral exam should get the nudge. Thank you.

PETTEWAY: I'm just so proud that we have such a good Superintendent who is able to recognize those with the best qualities for our school district. Any other discussion?

HARVEY: No discussion, I just want to mention something. I probably should have mentioned this earlier but I think I would be remiss if I did not mention it – the passing of James Cleary, Jr. who among other things I believe he was a janitor at the West Side

Middle School and he passed a week ago today. He was my uncle and I appreciated the turnout. I saw Mr. Augelli, Mr. Perrella, different teachers that turned out, the Mayor turned out, at his funeral so I really appreciate that and I just didn't want that to go unrecognized.

PETTEWAY: Yes, I think Mr. Cleary was there for a very long time. Is there any other unfinished business for discussion?

THERIAULT: Old business. I think I would be remiss if I didn't say a few words about the project labor agreement which once again was literally pushed through like grease lightening. Absolutely, it was. It went to the Workshop and had a Special Meeting and came out of the Workshop and went to a vote, slap, bang, all over. Now I certainly hope that, I saw a lot of people from the union there and God bless them for the right to be there. Unfortunately I didn't see a lot of people from the non-union shop there and I hope there wasn't anything clandestine done behind closed doors in recruiting the union members to show up and not giving enough notice to those non-union people. Now I know that the vote went seven to three but that could be changed if any one of you of the seven that voted for this decided to change your mind and introduce a motion to reconsider. And I certainly hope that the seven of you that did vote one of you would like to reconsider and to bring these people back again. Also, I felt that the time limits that were presented on the part of the non-union people were very dismal or, their presentation was fine but they didn't really have nearly as much time as the union people. So I thought that was inappropriate to give more time to the union people versus the non-union. You can watch the tape and time it yourself. Also, I thought there was a bit of bullying going on and I didn't appreciate it. I too was influenced by the tremendous number of votes and by the key witnesses and expert testimony that was presented on the part of the union. Unfortunately I didn't vote for it because if I had voted with my heart I would have voted for the union but I voted for the taxpayers so that they get a reduction in terms of these schools, what I thought would be a reduction. But I voted my vote and you voted your vote. So if any of you do decide to change your mind I wish you would notify me or someone else - Commissioner Stango or Commissioner Sweeney and let us know so that we could draft a motion and reintroduce a motion for reconsideration. I think the people of Waterbury are going to be snubbed and shunned by the tremendous outpouring of union members versus non-union members. Remember there may be 1,000 people in Waterbury that are union but there's 8,000 or 9,000 that aren't or more. And statewide it would be the same thing. So it remains to be seen whether or not what we put down on paper is going to in fact go to fruition, that we're going to get a tremendous amount of people in Waterbury that are going to be working, go down to that union hall, sign-up and be hired. I hope that's the case. But unfortunately that may not be the case. I have no way of knowing but I do know this - I know there was another option that could have been presented from Mr. Cugno and that option was this - half of the projects go to the union and half of the projects go to the open-shop never even mention it was all or nothing, check the memo. I thought that was a little unfair. So I'd like you to review the data, I'd like the people from the open-shop to come back and have a little bit more time to speak and recruit their membership so that they could fill the room or stuff the ballot box because I think that's exactly what happened at that meeting - the ballot box was stuffed. And I admire their tenacity, I admire their leadership, but I really don't know for sure but I don't think those non-union people that represent 80% of the population had enough time. We heard a lot of very, very strong testimony in terms of the pros and cons for the union

and some of our members were extremely, extremely vocal, more vocal than anytime that I've seen on the, any Board meeting I've attended for the past 30 years. Of course keeping in mind that 123 million dollars is at stake with all of the projects, which is now up to 131 million; it's no mistake that a lot of people are interested in these projects with design, architectures, pouring of cement, all kinds of trade's people and so forth. But I did have to say that because I thought that we kind of missed an opportunity there rather than split the pie rather than give the pie all to one group. And as you go home and you put your head on the pillow at night, you seven, if you think you did the right thing, so be it, I respect your right, I respect your vote, I respect your opinion. But for the people of Waterbury I think you should reconsider. Thank you.

SWEENEY: Commissioner Theriault is correct, if someone would like to come forward and have that vote revisited they have the opportunity to do that. It is not my position to take a vote until you "get it right". However, that opportunity is open under Robert's Rules and I would support anybody's right to bring that forward. It is my feeling that we missed an opportunity to split that pie, and again I agree with Commissioner Theriault, we missed the opportunity to split that pie. Commissioner Stango did mention that in his remarks before that vote. However, we were left at a Building Committee meeting with the impression that that would come forward. I take full responsibility for not stepping forward at the time of the vote and requesting an amendment to that resolution because that was the way to go. That was my fault and I apologize to the citizens of Waterbury for dropping the ball. However, again, if anybody wants to help us rectify that I would be happy to stand forward with them. Thank you.

STANGO: Like Commissioner Sweeney and Commissioner Theriault, I had my reservations and concerns also. I agree with Commissioner Sweeney that we dropped the ball there because it happened so fast. It came down like a steaming freight train, I couldn't stop it. It just happened so quickly. You know it's amazing to me that we sit here every week, we go to workshops and we go through fine little details about someone, Girl Scouts who want to use the West Side Cafeteria for a party and we talk about it and then we wait 10 days before we vote on it and then we talk about it again perhaps at the final meeting where we didn't have the opportunity for this. It happened so fast. I don't know why this wasn't presented to us, we had the both sides sitting there like we did listening to them and then have a week to think about it, a week that we could talk with each other and say "what do you think about this, what do you think about that", a little give and take here to see what was going to come out of it. But we didn't have that chance, instead of seven days we probably had about seven minutes between the breaks. I didn't think that was appropriate and I still don't know why it happened. I also would like to see it come up again and see if we can think about it some more. Obviously I've been thinking about it for the last week and I'm still sure that I did make the final and right decision because in our decision, the side that did not prevail, we at least would give both sides an opportunity to work, we were not excluding anyone. The way I wanted to have it to come down was that each side would be able to bid on the job – if the union people got it then the union people got it. If the association bid lower then they would get it. Ultimately it would have been in the best interest of the taxpayer. I think everyone who wants to work should have the right to work, no one should be excluded. I want the union to work and I want the association to work, I want everyone to work. Thank you very much.

GUIDONE: For point of clarification, it was mentioned a couple of times this evening, Commissioner Theriault had sent a previous correspondence asking for some research on the subject, unfortunately Attorney Mosley was away last week but is back today. So we've done some research on the matter of reconsideration and the motion and I think he needs to clarify a couple of points that were made.

MOSLEY: If I may, just a point of clarification, first, a member who voted on the prevailing side could move to reconsider – that's correct. However, and an important point to remember, the members must make the motion to reconsider on the same day that the motion that's being considered is adopted unless the Board of Education's rules are to the contrary and looking at the Board of Education rules they are silent in that regard. So one, a member of the prevailing side has to make the motion and two, it should have been done the same day that the motion carried.

THERIAULT: Point of order, through the Chair, that doesn't preclude the Board from making such a rule does it Attorney Mosley? The Board could make a rule and say exactly that, say we want to reconsider that and we want that part of our rules.

MOSLEY: The Board of Education has the right to make any rules that are not against the Charter or illegal. So the Board of Education has it within its purview to make rules. But as of right now, one it has to be someone on the prevailing side and two, it should have been done the same day that the meeting carries, according to Robert's Rules.

THERIAULT: Through the Chair, I think it would be a moot point unless one of the seven come forward and if one of the seven came forward I would make a motion that we'd establish a rule negating Robert's Rules in this particular case to give the Board an opportunity to change their mind. But unless one of the seven comes forward I think it's a moot point but I did have to bring it up because I think the people of Waterbury deserve a better shake than what they got.

PETTEWAY: Thank you Commissioner and while I could appreciate your comments Commissioner Theriault and we've heard the representation by the Attorney what should had taken place, if I'm not mistaken the folks who had a vote on the Building Committee were there at those meetings to listen to one side and then the other side and I personally don't think that there was not a lot of discussion between the two sides. Again, you have the vote on that Building Committee, I don't have a vote, you were there at all of those meetings, and it's unfortunate that you had an afterthought about the decision that was made on the day that was made. And I could appreciate how you feel about that.

THERIAULT: Point of order, it wasn't made at the Building Committee level, it was made at the Board level.

PETTEWAY: I understand that but Commissioner Theriault what I'm saying is that all of the discussion from both the sides from the inception of whether or not PLA or non-union was started on the Building Committee level. I did attend a few of those meetings and I heard quite a bit of discussion from the PLA side as well the other side.

THERIAULT: Point well taken, thank you.

PETTEWAY: And I could understand how you feel and I heard some good sides from both of them but unfortunately that vote has been passed.

SWEENEY: And I would say in light of this discussion that my remarks at this point would be that as we go forward we scrutinize that PLA contract and make sure that we get everything that we can out of it to make sure that as many Waterbury residents as possible get jobs. That we scrutinize that contract to make sure we protect women and minority business owners in that contract. And make sure that we hold the unions accountable because quite frankly all I've heard is promises of what they can offer. I have yet to see anything that convinces me that they will do it. So I'll be watching.

HARVEY: Yes, I agree with you Commissioner Sweeney, in the scrutinizing of the whole project itself to make sure that those promises that were made that they come through with that because as I mentioned at the meeting prior to the vote it all boils down to what we do for the community and what is done for the community. So I stand with you on that.

THERIAULT: And through the Chair, if you or President Hayes or Dr. Snead or Mr. Guidone could give us the name and address and the location of where the people in Waterbury go to apply for these union jobs and post it in the newspaper and maybe we could give it to the reporter tonight so it could be in the paper so that the people in the City of Waterbury could start queuing up, to use an Irish expression, means getting in line and applying for these jobs. And I think that's kind of where I'm coming from. As I said, I respect everyone's right to vote, and I respect everything that they listen to and the presentations from both sides. And for me it was a very difficult decision as it was for Mr. Stango. Some of us didn't have any affiliation with unions and didn't really care either way. But I'd like to know the name of the person that they go to, where they go, how they apply, what kind of test they have to do. Maybe even so much as later on to find out how much the union dues are and so forth. So maybe there should be just a separate article about this but it wouldn't hurt in passing to let them know where to go and what to do because these projects are going to be moving along very quickly now as we start to take these parcels by eminent domain and hopefully get a shovel in the ground by next year, there's going to be a lot of people employed and you got to start now to get the job for next year.

PETTEWAY: Quite frankly I agree with you and I would say that perhaps we need to set up the workshop regarding the PLA from the contractors and let them speak to the community about the procedure and the process. Certainly that's something, that is not hard to do. And I also agree and I would put this on the Building Committee, to set yourself up, someone, to kind of review and follow the projects so that everyone on the Board is aware of what's going on, what's going where at all times. In other words just having, making the contractors accountable. I think that would have us all rest at ease along with all these projects. And it has to be an ongoing thing to do. So I would put that on the Building Committee to start that and get that going. And also to see if you could talk to the contractors and see if they could get a community workshop to let them know all about the processes of the Project Loan Agreements and how it's used in the infrastructure of the buildings. Is there any other discussion?

THERIAULT: We just might have a workfare here in Waterbury at the convenience of the people so the people could go down, for instance, on the Green and sign up rather

than having to go down to Yalesville or someplace else or maybe take a test around here or someplace. So I think that would behoove us all to do that just to make it convenient for the citizens of Waterbury.

PETTEWAY: I could understand how you feel Commissioner Theriault because if we look at the infrastructures that have come up in the past to me it seems like it was just kind of like a closed operation and we really want to do this differently this time, us Commissioners, to make it fair to the public, to the taxpayers, and the schools and everyone involved. So this is what we're aiming for and all of us as Board Commissioners should take the responsibility to insure that that's done. Is there any other discussion?

ADJOURNMENT

Upon a motion by Commissioner Geremia, and duly seconded by Commissioner Harvey, it was voted unanimously to adjourn at 7:21 p.m.

ATTEST: _____
Carrie A. Swain, Clerk
Board of Education

Resolutions signed by Mayor Michael J. Jarjura on January 30, 2007