

WATERBURY BOARD OF EDUCATION

MINUTES ~ SPECIAL MEETING

Thursday, April 25, 2013 at 7:30 p.m.

State Street School, 58 Griggs Street, Waterbury, Connecticut

PRESENT: President Stango, Commissioners Brown, D'Amelio, Harvey, Hayes, Rodriguez, and Van Stone.

ABSENT: Commissioners Harkins, Morales, and Sweeney.

ALSO PRESENT: Chief Operating Officer & Chief of Staff Paul Guidone.

SILENT PRAYER

President Stango called the special meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. with a moment of silence.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG

Commissioner Hayes led everyone in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

ROLL CALL

CLERK: Commissioner Brown.

BROWN: Present.

CLERK: Commissioner D'Amelio.

D'AMELIO: Here.

CLERK: Commissioner Harkins (absent). Vice President Harvey.

HARVEY: Here.

CLERK: Commissioner Hayes.

HAYES: Present.

CLERK: Commissioner Morales (absent). Commissioner Rodriguez.

RODRIGUEZ: Here.

CLERK: Commissioner Sweeney (absent). Commissioner Van Stone.

VAN STONE: Present.

CLERK: President Stango.

STANGO: Here. Once again, Commissioner Sweeney sends her regrets and the Superintendent is presenting at Harvard. We have public addressing the Board on the special meeting item only which is the budget. Seeing none – Item #1, Commissioner Van Stone.

1. COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

- 1.1 Upon a motion by Commissioner Van Stone and duly seconded by Commissioner Harvey, it was voted, by roll call vote, to approve of the 2013-14 Department of Education's budget request to the Mayor totaling \$163,250,000.00.**

STANGO: Motion has been made and seconded. Is there any discussion? Yes, Commissioner Hayes.

HAYES: Just briefly, again, I'm supporting this as a request so when this goes forward we know, we'll have final numbers before we actually adopt a budget. So this is simply a vote approving the request to the Board of Aldermen and the Mayor based on all the things that we don't know, I guess promises made. I just want to make that clear, people don't think we're voting on the budget because I won't be comfortable voting on the budget when we have four people missing as well.

STANGO: Very well. Commissioner Van Stone.

VAN STONE: Thank you Mr. President, through you. Given that there are that many unknowns, I'm gonna be voting "no" against this tonight. I would prefer the 155,625 number, just starting out with the most conservative, lowest potential number and then with the hopes that as we went further in the process, some of these things became a little more clear, and then possibly at that point looking at a different number. But at least as we sit here today I'll be voting no against this recommendation. Thank you Mr. President.

STANGO: Anyone else? Commissioner Harvey.

HARVEY: I was not able to attend the Finance Committee meeting due to another meeting so I was really interested in seeing what had improved since the first time we were presented with a budget recommendation. So I feel a little more comfortable now. But, yes, there are assumptions that are still unclear and some things that are questionable but I feel a little bit more comfortable about it moving forward with it so I will support this.

STANGO: Thank you Vice President Harvey. Anyone else? Hearing none – all in favor.

HARVEY: Can we have roll call please.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

Yeas: Commissioners Brown, D'Amelio, Hayes, Harvey, Rodriguez, and Stango – 6

Nays: Commissioner Van Stone – 1

ADJOURNMENT

Upon a motion by Commissioner Van Stone and duly seconded by Commissioner Hayes, it was voted unanimously to adjourn at 7:33 p.m.

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