

Grantham Village School District Meeting Minutes

March 18, 2009

Moderator Carl Hanson called the 2009 Grantham Village School district Meeting to order at 7:04 p.m. Moderator Hanson read Annual School District voting results from March 10, 2008 election. School Board members elected are Leslie Brown and Robert McCarthy both for 3 year terms. Mr. Hanson was reelected as Moderator. Open positions still remain for Treasurer and School District clerk to be decided by the school board. Mr. Hanson recognized Laurie Hanks, Chair of the School Board, who introduced the rest of the school board members. She next recognized Superintendent Margaret Sullivan and Principal Kurt Gergler. Mr. Hanson explained the voting procedures to the audience.

ARTICLE 1. Shall the Grantham School district vote to hear the reports of agents, committees, and other officers heretofore chosen and to pass any vote relating thereto? School board member Jeffrey Walla moved the motion. Second by Claudia Hoffman. No discussion was heard. **Article 1 was passed unanimously.**

ARTICLE 2. Shall the Grantham School District vote to raise and appropriate six million, six hundred and eight-one thousand, two hundred ninety-five dollars (\$6,681,296) (**operating budget including bond plus food service and federal grant programs**) for the support of the school, for the payment of salaries of School District officials and agents, and for the payment of statutory obligations of said District, and to authorize the application against said appropriation of such sums as are estimated to be received from state and federal governments, together with other income, the balance which is to be raised by taxation by the District? This Article does not include fund requested in any of the other warrant articles. (Majority vote required). School Board member Laurie Hanks moved the article as written. A second by Claudia Hoffman was heard. **Article 2 failed by a vote of 79-70.**

School Board member Laurie Hanks spoke to the article. She highlighted the construction has begun on the new addition and is well underway. She also noted the budget did not contain any staff cuts or additional positions from last year. The reading intervention successes in kindergarten have seen more growth at an earlier time. Last year, GVS increased both a Special Education teacher position and a Reading Interventionist position to full time which bring the total to 2 full-time Special Education and 2 full-time Reading Interventionist. In the fall of 2008, GVS had 80.8% of K-6 students reading on grade level. In September, 74.3% of our 1st, 2nd and 4th graders were on or above grade level. In January 94.1% of those same 1st, 2nd and 4th graders were reading on or above grade level. Laurie also went over the NECAP scores for reading and math showing significant improvement over past years. Some of the challenges impacting the budget this year include Lebanon tuition increase; increase in building size; ownership of land and the first year of the bond payments due. School Board member Jeffrey Walla spoke of the budget summary. A major budget increase this year is tuition to Lebanon School district. Lebanon Jr. High tuition cost per student for 2009 is \$13,270 and increases to \$14,332 for 2010. Grantham sent 68 students to Lebanon Jr. High in 2009 and anticipates 69 for 2010. These numbers represent an increase over last year of \$86,548. The Lebanon High school tuition cost per student for 2009 is \$10,809 and increases to \$11,466 for 2010. The number of students from Grantham attending Lebanon High School in 2009 is 113 and expected to rise to 118 for 2010. This is a cost increase of \$218,119 for both Lebanon Jr. and Sr. High school tuition to Grantham School District. Mr. Walla also noted that a savings of \$365,000 was achieved through negotiation with Lebanon School District. School Board member Laurie Hanks went over the Wages and Benefits portion of the budget. She summarized that no additional staff persons were added this year; contracts voted on and approved last year represents staff is responsible for an additional 3% of health care costs; health benefits have a guaranteed maximum increase of 12.6% and GVS pays 6.9% of the teacher retirement program up from 5.8% last year. Laurie also went over the Buildings and Grounds items of the budget. She noted that fuel costs are increasing but at a rate that is less than the proportional increase of additional space due to

the efficiencies that will be achieved in the renovations. Plowing and mowing are now the school district's responsibility since the school district has taken ownership of the land although the town has agreed to pick up the cost of the plowing and mowing for this year. Jeffrey Walla continued the budget discussion explaining the debt service represents and increase of 28.3% of the overall net budget increase. The debt service includes \$352,100 for principal and \$382,123 for interest totaling \$734,223 due July 15, 2009 and January 15, 2010. The increases for areas covered by contracts and maintenance related items includes a decrease of \$25,000 originally budgeted for plowing and snow removal. Other increase totals for contracts and maintenance: tuition \$218,119; wages and benefits \$236,998; buildings and grounds \$44,192 and transportation \$20,000. Food service and federal grant programs include \$92,701 and \$41,495 respectively and is partially reimbursed by the state. Jeffrey Walla also presented the local education tax rates only by local area towns. The Grantham Local Education tax rate for 2009-2010 based on current budget is estimated to be between \$9.35 and \$9.40 based on existing evaluation. This represents an increase of approximately \$1.85 per 1000. Rates for 2009-2010 based on current budget is estimated to be between \$11.50 and 11.60 based on existing evaluation which represents and increase of approximately \$1.85 per 1000. The total net budget increase is \$519,309 less the proposed amendment to plowing and snow removal of \$25,000. Mr. Walla asked that the amendment to Article 2 be put forth for a vote.

AMENDMENT TO ARTICLE #2. The School Board moves to amend Article #2 to reduce the amount from \$6,681,295 to \$6,656,295. The reduction of \$25,000 represents the costs which had been estimated for snow plowing and removal of the school parking lots and driveway and mowing of the school grounds. The Town of Grantham has agreed to continue to provide these services for the 2009-2010 school year. School Board member Jeffrey Walla moved the article. A second from Warren Kimball was heard. **Article 2 passed unanimously by voice vote.**

Moderator Hanson recognized Robert LaGassa. Mr. LaGassa asked what the procedure was for a second amendment to Article 2 that he would like to propose. Moderator Hanson responded that each amendment would be heard one by one and voted upon. Mr. LaGassa asked if the amendment were approved what would be the new bottom line of the budget. Moderator Hanson explained if the amendment to Article 2 were approved then the new budget line would be as noted in the amendment. Moderator recognized Mr. Phil Schaefer. Mr. Schaefer stated he remembered a lawn mower being included in the budget and asked if the school board removes the \$25,000 would this item also be removed. School Board member Jeffrey Walla responded that the \$25,000 was for both the equipment and removal. Mr. Schaefer raised his concern that the school board budgeted \$25,000 for snow and lawn maintenance when the town said it would only cost \$2,200. He asked the school board how the folks are supposed to believe the other figures if this one is off by so much. Mr. Walla responded that he would answer the question about how the numbers were reached. Jim Palermo, GVS Maintenance supervisor, sought out contractor bids for snow plowing and removal. In addition to plowing, the accumulated snow has to be physically removed from the all parking lots including the island that will be in place next year and the road in the back of the school that is designated wet lands. Each bid included the plowing and the removal of the physical snow accumulation involving large equipment. The Grantham town selectman agreed after the town meeting that the amount for all the snow plowing and removal would be higher than \$2,200 given the circumstances with the physical removal of the snow accumulation. Moderator Hanson asked for further discussion. None was heard. **The motion was passed unanimously. Moderator Hanson declared the budget would be amended to \$6,656,295 and so declared.**

Moderator Hanson said he received a request for vote by secret ballot with respect to Article 2 and appears to be signed by more than the 5 registered voters. The vote we take for article 2 will be by secret ballot. Moderator Hanson was approached by Robert LaGassa with an amendment to Article 2.

He recognized Robert LaGassa who moved that Warrant Article 2 be amended to reduce the proposed amount by two hundred sixty-two thousand, four hundred and eighteen dollars (\$262,418) to six million, four hundred and eighteen thousand, eight hundred and seventy-seven dollars (\$6,418,877). all other language of the article to be unchanged. Mr. LaGassa explained his rationale for this proposed amendment.

Amendment to Article 2. The proposed Operating Budget is a 22.9% increase over last year. If passed, it would increase the school tax by 19%. On a home or property with an assessed value of \$300,000, taxes would increase from \$2895 last year, to \$3445 this year. Last year, at the Grantham Village School (GVS), it cost about \$16,000 per student. If this article is passed, that cost will increase to over \$21,000 per student, including the \$734,223 school addition bond principal and interest payment; or about \$17,500 per GVS student, discounting that payment. By comparison, last year we paid an average of only \$11,800 per student for middle & high school tuition. In addition to the bond payment this year, the one and a quarter million dollar (\$1,245,651) budget growth includes increases in middle and high school tuition payments to Lebanon of \$218,119. Average cost for tuition will be \$12,525 this year. The remaining \$293,219 in budget growth is GVS costs, predominately for wage and benefits for a staff of 51. We have 204 students in the village school; a ratio of one staff per four students. Last year, the Grantham Educational Association negotiated a three year wage and benefit package increase from \$60,668 to \$65,541. GVS wages increase by \$110,256 this year. The costs of benefits increase this year by \$152,418; health care costs increase over 21% and retirement contributions increase over 33%. In view of these difficult economic times; the large growth in the school budget and taxes; the large GVS staff and the mismatch in cost for educating grade school students at GVS, compared to middle and high school students, I propose that we eliminate all planned wage and benefit increases in the budget this year. That reduction amounts to \$262,418. This amendment will not impact or reduce any other funding requirements to operate the Grantham Village School. If this amendment is passed, the school tax increase will be held to about 13.5%; a \$386 increase (vice \$550) on a \$300,000 property. I urge you to vote yes on this amendment to Article 2. **Amendment to Article 2 passed by a secret ballot vote of 78 for -70 opposed.**

Moderator Hanson asked for further discussion. He recognized Bob Osgood. Mr. Osgood noted the GVS budget was \$2,572,000 in year 2000 and is now \$6,681,000 for 2009 which represents an increase of over 4 million in 10 years. Taxes on a \$300,000 home are about \$5,000 for next year. If everything being the same with the school budget increases each year the taxes may raise to \$8,000. He expressed the town budget held its budget to a 2.3% increase this year. He went over the history of the Grantham Village School expansions and is concerned that the second entrance for the school has not been realized yet. A rough amount to install the second access would be around 1.5 million dollars. This is a safety concern and needs to be addressed. Mr. Osgood also raised his concern over the cost of the Lebanon Jr. High School expansion and the cost of the bond to the Grantham tax payers. Mr. Osgood stated he supported the proposed amendment from Bob LaGassa. Moderator Hanson recognized Matt Farhner. Mr. Farhner expressed his concern over targeting teacher and staff salaries. If we want to motivate our teachers and staff cutting their salaries is not the way to go. He stated he was against the amendment as it is written to cut staff wages and benefits. Moderator Hanson recognized Brian Sullivan. Mr. Sullivan spoke out against the amendment stating he feels it is a very bad idea and unenforceable. The strategy laid out is to take apart a collective bargaining agreement that was approved a year ago. It is a three year agreement and all three years are binding by this school district. We can not today vote to undo what we agreed upon last year. It is punitive against the teachers and is not doable. The retirement piece of the collective bargaining agreement is non-negotiable and is set by the retirement system and the district is required to pay it and can not be removed from this budget. He strongly urged not to support this amendment as he feels it will devastate the school district. Moderator Hanson recognized Robert LaGassa. Mr. LaGassa stated the last two speakers do not understand the budgeting and budget execution of the law works in the state. While I propose a deduction and a rational area to cut, the only

thing we are voting on is the top line of \$6,418,877. Given this the School Board may spend it any way they choose that's within the budget number. This being said they can hire more teachers and take the money from other categories such as books, heating and other places. They have the flexibility to do this within the budget. Another option would be to look at the staff of 51. With absolutely no other way to cut the budget without renegeing or breaking the law by not honoring contracts they could look at the \$240,000 and decipher that they could eliminate 4 positions. They could eliminate four positions with the authority they have and still honor their contracts. Mr. LaGassa stated he was the Village District Commissioner for a number of years and knows something about municipal laws and how they work. He also stated he knows about municipal planning and budget planning. He further said the state will tell you to budget for about a 10% cushion because by law you can not over extend your budget that was voted on here at this meeting. I suspect that there is more than the \$25,000 for snow removal in the budget that there are other places to find dollars. If in fact there is a point that everywhere has been cut than we will have to eliminate positions. Mr. LaGassa said they did this in the Village District and reduced staff by 20%. He stated he knows GVS has 14 K-6 teachers; 1 sub teacher; 6 associated with Special Education; 6 guidance, nurse, pathologist and therapists; 7 Arts, Music, Media and PE; 5 food service and maintenance; 7 teacher assistants. He stated that when he volunteered about 5 years ago the student population was about 170-180, the school operated on half the budget as it is today and the staff was about 38. The only thing he could see that changed in the 4 or 5 years is the students have increased by about 10% or 15%. He continued to discuss the top line of the budget and referred to the School Board as the managers of the budget. He also stated that in the end if the amendment is approved every position will still be hired next year and all contracts will be honored and all necessary benefits will be paid. They will find a way to do it. He applauded the School Board for their efforts in transferring the responsibility of health benefits to the individuals because only when the individual has a share in that will they be responsible for it. Until about a year ago the school was responsible for 100% of health care. He noted that the standard in most municipalities is 10%-15% paid by the beneficiary. This year the budget reflects 6.9%. When you have health care benefits going up by 22% and retirement contributions going up by 33% in three more years we can shut this place down. At the real cost of about \$18,000 per student to run this school you can send your child to UNH to get a Master's degree without paying room and board. We have to get a handle on this cost. He stated people his age are living on 30% - 40% less income than last year. He referred to his own as 50% less than a year ago. He urged the voters to support to amendment and to look for cuts in the budget. He reiterated that he would like to refute that it is not a contractual issue. He feels the teachers can find the money elsewhere or reduce the positions. Moderator Hanson recognized Liz Borger. Mrs. Borger stated when she moved to NH 4 years ago she choose Grantham because of the school. She stated she trusted the school board to make the right decisions. They have taken out enrichment already and made other cuts. She expressed her concern that removing \$262,418 dollars from the budget would translate into eliminating positions. Is that an art teacher, a music teacher? Think about what education translates into your property value when you are ready to sell your house. Will that family look at Grantham School and decide it's declined and move on to another community. The dollar amount individually is not worth the cut in education. Moderator Hanson recognized Rita Eigenbrode. Mrs. Eigenbrode pointed out one thing that enrichment was taken out of Article 2 but is back in as Article 4. It's all one lump sum. She stated that she knows of some people in this town that will not be able to afford to stay in the town if the taxes keep going up. She stated she feels that for one year we need to make some changes and also stated she didn't think it would ruin our school. One of the parts of the school addition that will be costly to maintain is the islands in the parking lot. She stated it will add hours and hundreds of dollars to the cost of the snow removal if they are kept. She also stated she had nothing but good things to say about Grantham Village School but hoped for one year it could cost a little less. Moderator Hanson recognized School Board Laurie Hanks. Mrs. Hanks stated she would like to clear up the staff numbers put forward. Grantham Village School has 14 class room teachers (2 teachers per grade K-6); 9 full time Special Education Paraprofessionals which the state and Federal requires as part of the IDEIA we must employ that number of people. She continued GVS has 1 full time PE teacher; 2 full time Special

Education teachers; 2 full time reading interventionists; 1 part time music teacher; 1 part time art teacher; 1 part time instrumentalist; 2 full time custodians; 1 full time nurse; 1 full time librarian/media specialist (she holds two positions); 1 food service coordinator; 2 part time food service workers; 1 part time guidance counselor; 1 part time occupational therapy assistant and 1 part time speech & language assistant. Administrative staff includes: 1 full time Principal; 1 full time Administrative Assistant; 1 full time staff accountant; 1 full time maintenance coordinator; 2 part time administrative assistants; 1 part time Superintendent; 1 part time Special Education Director. The total employees includes 37 full time and 12 part time totaling 49. Moderator Hanson recognized Phil Schaefer. Mr. Schaefer stated he also volunteered at the school in various programs. He stated he didn't think we should hurt the education opportunities in town but there are times when action is needed. He felt the problem could be solved if we only paid average for our health care insurance to the employees. He offered that The Town of Grantham and Eastman on average spend about \$13,000 per employee for a family insurance program. On a national basis he stated the annual premium cost of an average family of four cost nearly \$12,700. He feels this is a good number to spend but unfortunately Grantham School District is paying about \$8,000 more per employee than the National average. He is unsure if the school pays health care for part time employees. Even if 40 employees received an average health care plan the district would save about \$8,000 per employee or about \$320,000 in total. In this case, we wouldn't have to fire anyone but only renegotiate the health care plan or look into a lower cost. Moderator Hanson recognized Tanya McIntire. Mrs. McIntire asked if an appropriation for the adequate education line is being funded from the state. Mr. Walla answered the funding does come from the state and all those funds stay within our District. Grantham School District is not a donor or receiver town. He further stated the line item should not have been included in the budget summary report and was a misunderstanding. Mrs. McIntire also asked about the food service line from last year's budget and wondered why there is a \$40,000 difference in regular programming and then discovered it was added back in to the budget. Moderator Hanson asked that the voters keep the discussion to the key event as it relates to the amendment article. Mrs. McIntire stated she felt the budget could be reduced by at least 10% -20%. She went on to state her family has given money to the town in the form of her son was transferred out of Grantham Village District to attend another school. She stated this has cost her family about \$9,000 to place her son in another educational program. He is not part of the Lebanon Jr. High tuition and therefore by her taking him out of district she concludes she has saved the district about \$4,000. She stated she was concerned that with the economy she will no longer be able to afford this out of district placement. She asked if it is the intent of the education laws in our country and our state and our community that if it comes to her no longer being able to afford his out of district placement would consider helping her family remain in a thriving program. Moderator Hanson recognized Jean Leopold. Mrs. Leopold asked how many students are in Grantham Village School. School Board member Laurie Hanks answered 222. Mrs. Leopold asked how many were enrolled last year. Jeffrey Walla answered 241. Mrs. Leopold stated the school lost quite a few students. She referred to the NESDEC report that stated the school would have approximately 350 students by now and that is why the addition was built. Mr. Walla corrected her as an untrue statement. Mrs. Leopold referred to her report again. Mr. Walla assured her the report was not what the School Board used as a basis to build the addition. Moderator Hanson heard a motion to move the motion and curtail the debate. A first and second was heard. A voice vote could not be determined so a show of hands vote was requested by Moderator Hanson. Seventy-four hands were counted for and 41 were opposed. The motion to curtail debate was passed and the amendment was put for vote. Moderator Hanson explained the procedure for voting. He explained if you wish to amend article 2 and reduce the budget by \$262,418 you would vote yes. The bottom line for Article 2 would become \$6,393,877. If you are in favor you would put a yes in the ballot box and if you are opposed you would put a no in the ballot box. Moderator Hanson recognized School Board member Laurie Hanks. She stated the budget does not have a 10% and we have no phantom students. If this \$262,418 is taken out of our budget we will likely lose teachers. Moderator Hanson asked for further questions about voting for the amendment to Article 2 to reduce the budget to \$6,393,877. None was heard. A motion was made by Rita Eigenbrode to move the question. A second was heard by Mr. LaGassa.

Moderator Hanson asked for a voice vote. A unanimous vote was heard. The written request voting began. A voice asked for clarification on what happens if the amended budget fails. Moderator Hanson explained if the budget fails we will take up Article 2 again with a different number. The sole purpose of this meeting is to set the operating budget for the upcoming year. Moderator Hanson recognized Mr. Robert LaGassa. Mr. LaGassa stated he thought if Article 2 is defeated as amended then we don't have an Article 2 and we don't have a 2009-2010 operating budget then we go to a default budget. School Board member Laurie Hanks stated that was incorrect and we are not an SB2. Moderator Hanson again explained that the voting would be done with the green yes/no ballots and reiterated the procedure as stated above. **When voting was completed, Moderator Hanson announced that the proposed budget of \$6,681,296 was amended to \$6,393,877 by a secret ballot vote of 78 for and 70 opposed**

ARTICLE 3. Shall the Grantham School District vote to name the Grantham School Board as agents to expend the Grantham School Building Construction Fund Capital Reserve established in 2004? School Board member Leslie Brown moved the article. A second was heard. **Article 3 passed by unanimous vote.** Jeffrey Walla spoke to the article as it related to the Trustees to the Trust Fund. The Capital Reserve Funds that were established in 2004 did not specify who would be the agent for expending those funds. In February, the school board had expenditures relating to construction costs which we authorized from the Capital Reserve Funds. This article corrects the understanding that allows the school board as the agents to this particular fund. Moderator asked for further discussion. Moderator Hanson recognized Kristina Beauregard, Trustee of the Trust Funds. Mrs. Beauregard explained that the school board expended the \$250,000 from the fund and could not receive further funds without a vote from the town. So as things stand they can not access any further funds from that Capital Reserve so this article is to correct that procedure. Moderator Hanson asked for further discussion. **A majority vote was heard and Article 3 was passed.**

ARTICLE 4. Shall the Grantham School District vote to raise and appropriate thirty-four thousand four hundred and seventy-five dollars (\$34,475) for all enrichment programs at Grantham Village School? (Majority vote required). School Board member Doug Caffrey moved the article. A second by Liz Borger was heard. **Article 4 passed as written by majority voice vote.** Moderator Hanson recognized Jeffrey Walla to speak to the article. Enrichment totals \$34,475 and includes: other specific programs; additional pay for teachers who are involved \$1,200; Nature's Classroom \$8,500; Field Trips \$1,000; Books & Beyond \$3,500; Transportation for trips \$8,000. Laurie Hanks spoke to The other specific programs line which includes: Four Winds (volunteers teach the kids after receiving training from Four Winds) \$3,250; Violin (grades 4-6) \$2,400; Robotics \$2,300; Hood Museum (Art start – 3rd Grade) \$1,400; Artist in Residence \$1,400; Other K/1 Enrichment \$700; Montshire Outreach (K&1) \$500; Geography Bee \$160; Spelling Bee \$100; Great East Music Festival \$65. Moderator Hanson recognized Sally Caffrey. Mrs. Caffrey spoke about the Enrichment programs. She stated she is the program coordinator for both Books & Beyond and the Four Winds programs. She gave a brief description of each program. The Books & Beyond program is an incentive for kids to begin a love for reading and has been at GVS since before 1999 when she joined the program. The program rewards students for reading and they earned books based on the guidelines of the program. The program is available to 100% of the students. The school district pays for books for the Books & Beyond program. She also stated the Four Winds program (formerly known as ELF) is also staffed by volunteers and is in its 7th year at GVS. The school district pays for the Four Winds instruction for the volunteers and for the materials used in the classrooms. She noted 16 volunteers are involved this year. Once a month the volunteers go into the classrooms to teach different programs with a new theme each month. This program is also available to 100% of the students at GVS. Mrs. Caffrey noted the success of these programs and stressed the enrichment budget represents about 2% of the original budget or .06 cents per 1000 for property taxes. Moderator Hanson recognized Mary Kronenwetter. Mrs. Kronenwetter stated she is a volunteer for the Four Winds program and works full time as many of the volunteers often do. She stated that most of the volunteers loose a day of pay at work to teach this program. When discussing numbers for this article keep in mind that most volunteers give at least 6 hours a month for 9 months at about \$20 per hour (amount of lost pay per hour) so you are looking at about \$20,000 in

volunteer time. She stated by using volunteers the school is getting a great bang for their buck. She supports this article. Moderator Hanson recognized Lin Hill. Mrs. Hill stated she is also a four winds volunteer and encouraged everyone to vote for the article. She shared some of her knowledge gained as a Four Winds volunteer with the audience. She explained that students get to touch and feel the props to get them interested in nature. It is not just a volunteer teaching a group of kids but more of an interactive learning experience. She also stated that it is an important lesson is science that is needed to obtain jobs later in life. She supports Article 4. Moderator Hanson recognized Denise Buckman. Mrs. Buckman spoke about the Hood Museum program. She noted that 4 times a year our 3rd graders get to go to the Hood Museum to experience an appreciation for the social, political and emotional diversity of what is out there in the world. She stated she thinks that is worth more than \$1,400. Moderator Hanson recognized Laura Zentmaier. Mrs. Zentmaier offered her support these programs and stated she did extensive research on the area when she moved. Grantham is one of the very best and it is because of programs like these. She also said there is no better investment than your children. Moderator Hanson heard a motion to move the question. A second was heard. A majority vote was heard to move the question. The vote was put forward.

ARTICLE 5. Shall the Grantham school District vote to transfer the sum of twenty-two thousand, two hundred and twenty-five dollars (\$22,225) from the 2008-09 unexpended operating budget to reduce the 2007-08 general fund deficit pursuant to RSA 189:28-a? (Majority vote required). School Board member Dave Armstrong moved the article. A second was heard. **Article 5 was passed by unanimous voice vote.** Jeffrey Walla spoke to the article. He noted the \$22,225 was expended from the Capital Reserve Fund that shouldn't have been since the School Board was not the agent at the time. As a result the unexpended funds have to be paid to the district. This article allows us to pull that amount from our current year to pay the general fund. This is achieved through freezing the budget for the remaining of the year. Moderator Hanson recognized Robert LaGassa. Mr. LaGassa asked Mr. Walla if this is being taken from unexpended funds from the previous year. Mr. Walla explained that the funds will come from the current year of 2008-2009 budget. Mr. LaGassa asked if there were other unexpended funds from previous years. Mr. Walla explained that the District has always run its fund at basically a break even and has not be open in the past to leaving unexpended funds for unexpended items. Mr. LaGassa asked for clarification that every penny left over is used and not left in a fund. Mr. Walla and Mrs. Hanks confirmed. Moderator Hanson asked for further discussion. Lin Hill was recognized. Mrs. Hill thanked the school board for their tireless work and for also hiring Principal Kurt. Gergler, who is worth every penny. She also thanked Mr. Walla specifically for his efforts and knowledge of budgets. Moderator Hanson asked for further discussion. None was heard. **Article 5 passed by majority voice vote.**

ARTICLE 6. To transact any other business which may legally come before this meeting? School Board member Jeff Walla moved the article. A second was heard by Cindy Towle. **Article 6 was passed by unanimous voice vote. Motion to adjourn. A second was heard. Moderator Hanson declared the meeting adjourned.**

Respectfully submitted,

**Brenda Molloy
School District Clerk**