The Board of Education held a Special Meeting in the Board’s Meeting Room on the second floor of City Hall, 355 Main Street, West Haven, Connecticut on June 17, 2015. The meeting was called to order by Patricia Libero, Chairwoman of the Board of Education at 6:00 p.m. The meeting opened with a pledge to the flag.

BOARD MEMBERS
IN ATTENDANCE: Patricia Libero, Chairwoman
James W. Morrissey, Vice Chair
Betsy Davis, Secretary/Treasurer
Patrick Egolum
Robert Guthrie
Mark Palmieri
Rosa Richardson
Rosemary Russo
Cebi Waterfield

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT:

ADMINISTRATORS PRESENT: Neil Cavallaro, Superintendent of Schools
Anne Druzolowski
Matt Cavallaro Director of Finance

Chairwoman Patricia Libero said the first item in the agenda is presentation and action on the Superintendent’s Proposed Operating Budget for 2016. Superintendent Cavallaro and Matt Cavallaro discussed how the operating budget number was arrived and answered any question the board members asked. The complete budget presentation is found on the website.

Mark Palmieri made a motion to accept the Superintendent’s budget #15-53
Bob Guthrie seconded the motion
Discussion: None
All board members were in favor
Motion passes. Item 15-53 is approved
Chairwoman Libero said the second item on our agenda is Action on recommendation from the Superintendent for the Football Coach and proposed new hires. Before any motions were made Superintendent Cavallaro said the reason we brought two new hires to this agenda is because the positions being filled are math positions and we have two experienced math teachers. These are not new positions and with math being a shortage area we wanted to act as soon as possible. Both of the two people we are hiring are under contract in other districts.

Rosa Richardson, Chairman of the Athletic Committee, said they did search and interviewed four very viable candidates for the Football Coach Position. Rosa is very confident and comfortable with the decision that was recommended by Superintendent Cavallaro.

Board Member Jim Morrissey said he agreed with what Rosa said. There were four very good candidates and it wasn’t an easy decision but he feels very comfortable that it was the right decision. Mr. Boshea has been a lifelong resident of West Haven and a 20 year assistant football coach. He knows the program and wants to make some additional changes as far as academics. Jim knows he will receive help from the administration and it will be a partnership. He looks forward to Mr. Boshea being the Head Coach of West Haven High School Football. The other three candidates were also outstanding.

Rosa Richardson made the motion to approve the hiring of the Football Coach and two new hires. (Item #15-54 Richard Boshea, item #15-55 Erin Kirchmeier and item #15-56 Thomas Unger) Cebi Waterfield seconded the motion Discussion: None All board members were in favor Items #15-54, #15-55, and #15-56 are approved

Chairwoman Libero stated that the last agenda item is required board action on ED042 Request for review of final plan for the West Haven Renovation Project State Project No. 156-0138 EA. Mr. Ken Carney stated that as this thing has unfolded we have heard a lot of rumors and myths and so on and so forth so he decided to hand out a copy of the new set of plans to the Board of Education, City Council, every agency and gave the Mayor a stack to hand out. Mr. Carney discussed the new set of plans for the high school and answered many of the questions the board members asked. He spoke about the new entrance to the high school and the glass entrance above it will be the media center. You will actually walk into the school under the media center. Security has been integrated into the design so that when you walk into the building you walk through a set of doors and cannot access the next set of doors unless a guard lets you in or you go to the admin office. The new main entrance is going to be approximately where the rock is in the courtyard. The new blueprint is approximately 30,000 square feet smaller and far more efficient. With the air conditioning they are anticipating a quarter of a million dollars saving in utilities. Pat Libero asked where the bus pickup and drop off will be located. At the new main entrance there is room for up to eight busses and the parent drop off will be strictly at the main entrance. The only way into the school for security purposes in the
morning will be through the main entrance. In the afternoon for dismissal the buses will be lined up for bus students at what is now the main entrance and parents will pick up at the new main entrance. This will alleviate all the problems on Painter Avenue and Kelsey. A further discussion took place about the floor which included square footage so you could see the size of every room. There is a sky bridge connecting the two wings of the high school which is about 14 feet in the air. Mr. Carney said that before any PCT (Planned Completion Test) can be attended the BOE Chairperson, Superintendent and Building Chair must sign an ED042. This ED042 is why we are here tonight and we are asking you to pass a motion to let the board chair initial this. A discussion and answer period took place. All board members had no further questions and Chairwoman Libero asked for a motion.

Rosa Richardson made the motion to have the Board of Education hereby authorize the Chair to execute the ED042 request for review of final plans for the West Haven Renovation Project State Project No. 156-0138 EA

Mark Palmieri seconded the motion

Discussion: See Addendum

Addendum to Minutes from Board of Education Special Meeting

June 17, 2015

Board member Rosemary Russo asked that the minutes of the June 17th meeting reflect the following points that were made during the discussion regarding the demolition phase of the G Wing:

1. Tech Education shops are included in the plans. Three large classrooms are set up for this purpose. They include metal shop, wood shop, and automotive shop.

2. As part of the presentation made by Ken Carney and the members of the construction team, it was noted that materials and equipment are included in the cost of the project. District officials are working with the team as well as with Central Connecticut State University and other places of higher learning to ensure that each lab has the latest technology and that teachers are prepared to use that technology to implement the curriculum.

3. It was noted by the superintendent and high school principal that staff development and curriculum revisions will take place during the construction phase.

4. A plan for relocating and modifying the classrooms is underway.

5. All salvageable equipment has been inventoried and will be used in the new shops and as needed during the construction time.
6. Board members and the administration were presented with a copy of the latest plans and were made aware of the phasing plan and timetable for the project.

All board members were in favor
Motion passes item #15-57 is approved

Chairwoman Libero asked for a motion to adjourn.
Patrick Egolum made the motion
Cebi Waterfield seconded the motion
The meeting adjourned at 6:45 PM

Respectfully submitted,
Marylou C. Amendola
Board Secretary