

**WEYMOUTH SCHOOL COMMITTEE
SPECIAL MEETING
M I N U T E S
Approved 6.8.17**

Date: May 31, 2017

Present: Chair Belmarsh, Mrs. Sheehan, Mrs. Curran, Ms. Flemer, Dr. Sullivan, Mrs. Nardone

Absent: Mayor Hedlund

Also present: Superintendent Curtis-Whipple, Assistant Superintendent Kelly Stukenborg,

Call to Order

At 5:30 p.m. Chair Belmarsh called the meeting to order. The meeting began with the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag.

New Business

Response to Open Meeting Law Complaint

Chair Belmarsh opened the meeting with an explanation of the agenda item and stated that the purpose of this meeting was to decide whether the matter should be referred to the Town Solicitor for review and response.

Mrs. Curran stated that she had just received the document and needed time to review it. Chair Belmarsh noted that she would allow Committee members time to read over the complaint. She also stated that the document was available on the blog.

At 5:34p.m.the Chair and Committee members took a few moments to read and review the text of the complaint.

Once each member had concluded their review, Mrs. Nardone stated that this was a “witch-hunt” and then in reference to the author of the complaint she stated “she needs to get a hobby”. Chair Belmarsh stated that the Committee did not need to discuss the merits of the complaint at this time.

Chair Belmarsh suggested the Committee forward this complaint to Mr. Joseph Callanan, Weymouth’s Town Solicitor. Mrs. Sheehan stated that this complaint seems "cut and dry", asked why we would forward to town Solicitor. Committee members inquired as to why there was no discussion or response by the School Committee. Chair Belmarsh stated that Solicitor Callanan has asked all Town Departments send legal matter to him for review. She suggested that we comply with his request and rely on his guidance with this legal matter. Town Solicitor is responding to both school committee and town council matters. By sending all inquiries to him, we are assured that the responses are consistent between us. Mrs. Curran asked the Chair to clarify the purpose of the paper work accompanying the complaint. The complaint is the form.

The Chair responded with a brief explanation and then asked for a motion from the Committee.

A motion was made by Mrs. Nardone and seconded by Mrs. Sheehan at 5:35PM to refer the Open Meeting Law complaint to the Town Solicitor, Joseph Callanan for review and respond.

A discussion of the motion commenced at this time.

Mrs. Flemer asked whether page two would go over to the Town Solicitor. She also inquired about the timeline for response to the complaint. Chair Belmarsh stated that the response deadline was 14 days from the receipt of the complaint. She went on to say that our Town Solicitor was well aware of the timeline and was prepared to respond as soon as possible.

Mrs. Flemer asked if there was anything else that the Committee needed to do at this time. Chair Belmarsh explained the process to the Committee and asked if there were any other questions. Superintendent Whipple wanted to state that there were several inaccuracies in the text of the complaint since she prepares the agenda with Chair Belmarsh, she does not feel it should be targeting one specific person. Chair and Superintendent collaboratively draft agenda.

Chair Belmarsh reiterated that the Committee was not going to discuss the merits of the complaint at this time and thanked Superintendent Whipple for her comments. She then called for a vote from the Committee on the motion that was currently on the table.

The Committee unanimously voted to refer the Open Meeting Law Complaint to the Town Solicitor, Joseph Callanan for review and response. **The motion was voted at 5:37PM.**

Chair Belmarsh called for a motion to adjourn.

Motion made by Dr. Sullivan, seconded by Mrs. Sheehan to adjourn.

Mr. Gus Perez asked the Chair to be recognized for a comment. The Chair recognized Mr. Perez. He stated that since other comments regarding the complaint would be reflected in the minutes, he wished to have all of Mrs. Nardone's comments reflected in the minutes as well.

Chair Belmarsh assured Mr. Perez that the comments would be reflected accurately in the notes.

A vote to adjourn was taken and the Weymouth School Committee was officially adjourned at 5:38 p.m.

Next Meeting of the Weymouth School Committee

The Weymouth School Committee will next meet on June 8, 2017 at 7:00 p.m. in the Mary J. Livingstone Humanities Center at Weymouth High School.

Respectfully submitted,

Approved

Weymouth School Committee Meeting
May 31, 2017

Documents Related to Meeting and Retained at School Administration Building

- Agenda
- Open Meeting Law Complaint

Approved