

Weymouth School Committee Special Meeting
111 Middle Street
November 7, 2018
Minutes
Approved 11/15/18

CALL TO ORDER	5:30 PM The regular meeting was called to order.	
MEMBERS Strike out = absent	Lisa Belmarsh, Chair Tracey Nardone, Vice Chair John Sullivan, Secretary Gail Sheehan Kathy Curran Rebecca Sherlock-Shangraw Robert Hedlund, Mayor	Jennifer Curtis-Whipple, Superintendent Joseph Callanan, Town Solicitor
NEW BUSINESS	<p><u>Review Two Open Meeting Law Complaints filed by Mr. Gerard Mackin against Supt. Whipple and Weymouth School Committee</u></p> <p>Chair Belmarsh stated the purpose of this meeting is to review the 2 Open Meeting Law Complaints one filed against the School Committee and whether or not to refer to the Town Solicitor, Joseph Callanan to respond.</p> <p>The first complaint filed alleges the following (Quoted from G. Mackin's complaint):</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. My reading of M.G.L. c. 30A is that before the School Committee can go into Executive Session it must first open a public hearing then announce that it is going into Executive Session and whether or not it will return to a public hearing. That process was not followed. 2. The Weymouth School Committee in conducting a "Meeting of the Whole" is in my opinion again Violating M.G.L. c. 30A because apparently this "meeting of the whole" is not a true Public Hearing. 3. An employee of the Weymouth School Department, namely Kevin P. Mackin, was identified as being on leave during the open meeting which I believe is an additional violation of 30A since an employee should only be referred to in executive session. <p>The second complaint alleges the following (Also quoted from the complaint):</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. On September 16, 2018, I wrote to the members of the School Committee and Superintendent asking the question posed herein as to the discussions regarding Kevin Mackin. The only persons responding were Mayor Hedlund and Superintendent Whipple. Their two responses are attached. I suggest that none of those people has denied that such a statement was made in fact the two responses could easily have included that denial but rather make a claim of privilege which no longer exists since the purpose for which that Executive Session was held did not involve (or notify Mr. Mackin) and a new Principal for the Chapman Middle School was selected. 	

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	<p>2. I am informed that prior to the subsequent School Committee meeting, the members of the Committee may have been directed by an attorney, through the chairperson and Superintendent, that they should not respond in any way to my letter of September 16, 2018. I have written to both the Chairperson and Town Solicitor (both attached) but to date have not received a response.</p> <p>3. I have filed FOIA requests for information on any Executive Session where Kevin Mackin was a potential topic or was actually discussed, and to date have not received a response.</p> <p>The chair asked for a motion.</p> <p>MOTION: by Mrs. Nardone to refer the two Open Meeting Law Complaints to Town Solicitor Joseph Callanan to make a recommendation for the Chair to respond to the Attorney General.</p> <p>SECOND: by Dr. Sullivan</p> <p>UNANIMOUSLY VOTED</p>
EXECUTIVE SESSION	<p>At 5:34 p.m. in the open session of the School Committee meeting, Chair Belmarsh called for a motion. Motion made by Mrs. Nardone, seconded by Dr. Sullivan to enter into executive session, Pursuant to M.G.L. c. 30A, section 21(a)(3), to discuss strategy of potential litigation regarding investigation of and allegations regarding an individual Unit B member and return to open session for the purpose of adjournment. A roll call vote was taken 4/0 (yes – Belmarsh; Nardone; yes – Sullivan; yes – Sherlock-Shangraw).</p>
NEXT MEETING	<p>Meeting of the Whole Thursday, November 1, 2018 6:00 PM - MJL Humanities Center, WHS</p> <p>Meeting of the WSC Thursday, November 15, 2018 – 7:00 PM – MJL Humanities Center, WHS</p>
ADJOURNMENT	<p>MOTION: by Mrs. Nardone to adjourn the meeting at 6:21 p.m.</p> <p>SECOND: by Dr. Sullivan</p> <p>UNANIMOUSLY VOTED</p>
DOCUMENTS RELATED TO THIS MEETING	<p>2 OML Complaints</p>

Submitted by:

John Sullivan, Secretary