

****** UNOFFICIAL ******
BERNARDS TOWNSHIP BOARD OF EDUCATION
BASKING RIDGE, NEW JERSEY
SPECIAL BOARD MINUTES INDEX
MARCH 30, 2006
EXECUTIVE SESSION 7:30 P.M.
PUBLIC BUDGET HEARING SESSION 8:00 P.M.
CEDAR HILL SCHOOL

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**BERNARDS TOWNSHIP BOARD OF EDUCATION
BASKING RIDGE, NEW JERSEY
SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES
MARCH 27, 2006
EXECUTIVE SESSION 7:30 P.M.
PUBLIC BUDGET HEARING SESSION 8:00 P.M.
CEDAR HILL SCHOOL**

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 p.m. by President Carlucci.

I. Salute to Flag

II. Roll Call

PRESENT: Mr. Byrne, Mr. Carlucci, Mr. Koch, Ms. McGowan, Ms. Seitz (arrived at 7:32 p.m.), Ms. Smith, Ms. Stevens, Ms. Woolford, Dr. Goger, Mr. Murray, Ms. Rudolph

ABSENT: Ms. Winter

III. Statement of Public Meeting Notice

This was a Special Meeting of the Board of Education of Bernards Township. Notice of the time and place of this meeting was provided and copies of that resolution were forwarded to the official newspapers as designated by the Board of Education and to the Township Clerk and a copy of the notice was posted on the bulletin board of the Board of Education Offices in accordance with P.L. 1975 Chapter 231A.

IV. Executive Session – 7:31 p.m. – Board Conference Room

BE IT RESOLVED that the Bernards Township Board of Education shall meet in closed session to discuss the following: negotiations; and further

BE IT RESOLVED that the matters discussed in closed session will be disclosed to the public as soon as and to the extent that such disclosure can be made without adversely affecting the public interest or without violation of the confidentiality of personnel.

V. Regular Session - Call to Order - 8:10 p.m. – Cedar Hill School Multi-Purpose Room

Ms. Winter arrived at 8:20 p.m.

VI. Public Hearing on the 2006-07 Budget

1) Superintendent Valerie A. Goger and Finance Chairperson William Koch presented an overview of the 2006-07 budget. Discussion followed on second ballot question options.

2) Public Forum on Budget

Comments were made regarding the elementary enrichment program, the supervisors' teaching option, one-year deferral of the position of Director of Pupil Personnel Services, proposed new positions, challenge of financial data, healthcare costs and employee co-pays.

3) Board Forum on Budget

Comments were made regarding the supervisors' teaching option (Option #1), one-year deferral of the Director of Pupil Personnel Services Position (Option #2), and the second ballot question options. The Board reached a consensus through a straw poll vote with eight Board members in favor of Option #2. Mr. Carlucci was in favor of Option #1. The Board reached a consensus on second ballot question Option A in the amount of \$253,000 which received five votes with Mr. Byrne, Ms. McGowan, Ms. Smith, Ms. Stevens and Mr. Carlucci voting in favor. Option B in the amount of \$270,000 received four votes with Mr. Koch, Ms. Seitz, Ms. Winter and Ms. Woolford voting in favor.

4) The Bernards Township Board of Education does hereby adopt the following school district budget, which includes spending growth limitation adjustments for the 2006-07 school year:

General Fund	\$67,121,159
Special Revenue Fund	\$ 1,195,423
Debt Service Fund	\$ 5,661,267
Total Base Budget	\$73,977,849

4A) And be it further resolved that there should be raised an additional \$253,000 for General Funds in the same school year (2006-07). These taxes will be used exclusively for restoration of the full time elementary enrichment program, the addition of one new teacher at Ridge High School, and the restoration of the middle school assistant principal.

And be it further resolved that the following amounts be raised from taxes:

General Fund Base Budget	\$61,313,765
General Fund Additional Question	\$ 253,000
Debt Service	\$ 5,661,267

5) The Bernards Township Board of Education does hereby approve the following spending growth limitation adjustments for the 2006-07 budget statement in accordance with N.J.S.A. 18A:7F-5D:

Capital Outlay	\$ 708,432
Special Education	\$ 156,566
Banked CAP 2005-06	\$ 440,705
Insurance & Domestic Security Preparedness	\$ 671,242
Total	\$1,976,945

On motion by Mr. Koch, seconded by Ms. Woolford a motion was made to approve Items #4 & 5.

Prior to voting, on motion by Ms. Stevens, seconded by Ms. McGowan, to amend the amount to be raised in additional taxes from \$283,000 to \$253,000, to reduce the number of new teachers at Ridge High School from four to one, and to establish it as a separate agenda item (4A). This motion was approved by the following roll call vote.

“Ayes” - Mr. Byrne, Mr. Koch, Ms. McGowan, Ms. Seitz, Ms. Smith, Ms. Stevens, Ms. Winter, Ms. Woolford, Mr. Carlucci
 “Noes” - None
 “Abstain” - None

On motion by Mr. Koch, seconded by Ms. Woolford, Item #4A was approved by the following roll call vote:

“Ayes” - Mr. Koch, Ms. McGowan, Ms. Seitz, Ms. Smith, Ms. Stevens, Ms. Winter, Ms. Woolford, Mr. Carlucci
 “Noes” - Mr. Byrne
 “Abstain” - None

The amended Items #4 & 5 were approved by the following roll vote:

“Ayes” - Mr. Byrne, Mr. Koch, Ms. McGowan, Ms. Seitz, Ms. Smith, Ms. Stevens, Ms. Winter, Ms. Woolford, Mr. Carlucci
 “Noes” - None
 “Abstain” - None

VII. Adjournment

On motion by Ms. Woolford, seconded by Ms. Winter, and approved by all present, the meeting was adjourned at 10:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

John T. Murray II

Board Secretary