

**Watervliet Public Schools
Regular Meeting Minutes of the Board of Education
July 8, 2024
Watervliet High School Auditorium Center
450 East Red Arrow Highway
Watervliet, MI 49098
6:00 P.M**

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by President Spaulding at 6:08 p.m.

OPENING

Mr. Gruszczyk led the Pledge of Allegiance and opened the meeting with a moment of silence.

ROLL CALL

Members Present: John Oliphant, Amanda Morlock Fisher, Jim Tyler, Carrie Wilder, Bill Spaulding, Brian Gruszczyk.

Members Absent: Kimberly Adams

Others in Attendance: Ric Seager, Deah Muth, Christina Powers, Sherry Wheeler, Brandon Waggoner, Lori Pline, Terry Adams, Dave Kindt, Alecia Hickman, John Gulliean, Heather Cram, Ken Dietz, Jessica Tyler, Kate Vanlente and community members.

APPROVAL (and/or) CORRECTION OF MINUTES

Mr. Oliphant moved that the minutes of the June 3, 2024, Regular Meeting, the June 17, 2024, Special Meeting, and the June 24, 2024, Special Meeting be approved as presented. Support by Mr. Gruszczyk. 6-0. Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Mr. Oliphant moved for approval of the agenda for the July 8, 2024, Regular Meeting as presented. Support by Ms. Morlock-Fisher. 6-0. Motion carried.

FINANCE

Budget Review

Examination and Payment of General Fund Bills

Mr. Oliphant moved that General Fund expenses for June 2024 in the amount of \$1,089,260.64 be approved. Noting \$623,844.29 is for payroll-related expenses. Support by Mr. Gruszczyk. 6-0. Motion carried.

WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS

None

BUSINESS

Honoring Mr. Ken Dietz

Superintendent Seager shared Mr. Ken Dietz retired from WPS in June after 18 years of incredible years of service to our district leaving behind a tremendous legacy.

Personnel Changes

Superintendent Seager shared Amanda Bruce will join the High School ELA Team. Superintendent Seager also shared Chad Yager will join the Middle School Physical Education department and Madison Hanley will join the Middle School Social Studies Department. Heather Cram - will join the district as the Coordinator for Special Education, Klaudia Stinson is the new Speech Pathologist for the District and John Guilleen will be joining the District as the new Director of Athletics and Student Services. Robin Savino will join the North School 4th Grade Team.

Ratification of WEA Negotiations

Mr. Oliphant moved that the Board of Education approve the WEA contract for 2024-2027. Support by Ms. Morlock-Fisher. 6-0. Motion carried.

Student Handbooks for 2024-25, First Reading:

Superintendent Seager shared the building student handbooks and delineated changes for the 2024-25 school year.

Policy Update - First Reading

Superintendent Seager shared the policy change recommendations from NEOLA as approved by the Policy Subcommittee at their June 11 meeting.

Legal Guidance and Resolution for the November 5, 2024 School Board Election

Mr. Oliphant moved that the Board of Education approve the Board Election Resolution for the November 5, 2024, General Election, for the election of members to the Watervliet Public Schools Board of Education. Support by Mr. Gruszczyk. 6-0. Motion carried.

FlexFarming - Middle School STEM and Food Service Cooperative

Mrs. Adams shared information about the FlexFarming cooperative program that introduces farming to students in the MS STEM classes.

Any Additional Business

None

BOARD and PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

President Spaulding worked with the board to update the Board Committees.

ADJOURN

Mr. Gruszczyk moved to adjourn at 7:53 p.m. Support by Ms. Morlock-Fisher. 6-0. Motion carried.