

GREENFIELD TOWN COUNCIL
Special Meeting Minutes
June 3, 2008

Town Hall Meeting Room

12:00 noon

CALL TO ORDER: Meeting was called to order at 12:00 noon by President Maloney.

ROLL CALL OF MEMBERS: Roll Call was taken. Councilors Letourneau and Siano were absent.

ALSO PRESENT: Mayor Christine Forgey; Director of Municipal Finance and Administration Marjorie L. Kelly; Town Clerk Maureen Winseck; Greenfield Police Chief David Guilbault; Executive Assistant to the Mayor Debra Jurek; Interim Director of Planning and Assistant to the Mayor for Economic Development and Marketing Marlene Morocco; Town Council Administrative Assistant Kathryn Scott; Anita Fritz, the *Recorder*; Hugh Massey, WHAI; members of the media; GCTV-15 staff; and members of the public.

MOTION: On a motion by Councilor McLellan, second by Councilor Lashier, it was unanimously
VOTED: THAT THE GREENFIELD TOWN COUNCIL SUSPENDS THE RULES OF PROCEDURE, RULE 8, IN ORDER TO DISPOSE OF BUSINESS AS WRITTEN ON THE ATTACHED AGENDA DATED JUNE 3, 2008.

MOTIONS, ORDERS, AND RESOLUTIONS

MOTION: On a motion by Councilor Farrell, second by Councilor McLellan, it was
MOVED: THAT THE TOWN OF GREENFIELD HEREBY PETITIONS THE LEGISLATURE OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS TO PASS SPECIAL LEGISLATION RELATIVE TO THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A FINANCIAL CONTROL BOARD WHICH SHALL CREATE FINANCIAL STABILITY WITHIN THE TOWN OF GREENFIELD PUBLIC SCHOOL DEPARTMENT. THE TOWN REQUESTS THAT LEGISLATIVE LEGAL COUNSEL AND DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION LEGAL COUNSEL CRAFT SUCH LEGISLATION. IT IS FURTHER REQUESTED THAT SAID LEGISLATION INCLUDE BUT NOT BE LIMITED TO THE FOLLOWING PROVISIONS:

- THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A FINANCIAL CONTROL BOARD, CONSISTING OF THE SECRETARY OF ADMINISTRATION AND FINANCE OR HIS DESIGNEE, THE COMMISSIONER OF REVENUE OR HIS DESIGNEE, THE DEPUTY COMMISSIONER OF THE DIVISION OF LOCAL SERVICES OF THE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE OR HIS DESIGNEE, THE COMMISSIONER OF EDUCATION OR HIS DESIGNEE, AND THE MAYOR OR HER DESIGNEE.
- SAID BOARD SHALL INITIATE AND ASSURE THE IMPLEMENTATION OF APPROPRIATE INITIATIVES TO SECURE FINANCIAL STABILITY OF THE GREENFIELD PUBLIC SCHOOL DEPARTMENT, AND SHALL CONTINUE IN EXISTENCE UNTIL JUNE 30, 2010 UNLESS THE MEMBERS, AFTER CONSIDERATION OF THE RECOMMENDATION OF THE SCHOOL COMMITTEE IF IT CHOOSES TO OFFER ONE, BY MAJORITY VOTE, SHALL ANNUALLY VOTE TO CONTINUE THE OPERATION OF THE BOARD FROM YEAR TO YEAR AFTER THAT DATE.
- WITH APPROVAL OF THE FINANCIAL CONTROL BOARD, THE TOWN OF GREENFIELD MAY BORROW, AT ONE TIME OR FROM TIME TO TIME, SUMS THAT ARE APPROVED BY THE SCHOOL COMMITTEE AND THEN BY THE BOARD, BUT IN NO EVENT IN AN AMOUNT IN THE AGGREGATE IN EXCESS OF \$1,000,000 TO MAINTAIN AND OPERATE THE SCHOOL DEPARTMENT WHILE IT ADJUSTS THE LEVEL OF ITS EXPENSES AND REVENUES SO AS TO ACHIEVE BALANCED BUDGETS AND FISCAL STABILITY. BOND OR NOTES ISSUED UNDER THE ACT SHALL BE FOR A TERM OF 10 YEARS OR LESS.
- ALL PROCEEDS OF ANY LOAN AUTHORIZED SHALL BE DEPOSITED IN A SEPARATE FUND WHICH SHALL BE SET UP ON THE BOOKS OF THE SCHOOL DEPARTMENT AND BE MAINTAINED SEPARATE AND APART FROM ALL OTHER FUNDS AND ACCOUNTS OF THE SCHOOL DEPARTMENT. THIS FUND SHALL BE CALLED THE GREENFIELD SCHOOL SYSTEM FINANCIAL STABILITY FUND.

Councilor McLellan requested the following friendly amendments to clarify the language of the order.

- In the first bullet after the words “consisting of” insert the following language “the following officers of the State of Massachusetts”
- At the end of the first bullet after the words “and the Mayor” insert the following language “of the Town of Greenfield or her designee”.
- In the second bullet after the words “June 30, 2010 unless the members” insert the following language “ of the Control Board”

- In the third bullet, last sentence, change the word “shall ” to “ may”

DISCUSSION: Discussion was held regarding the request to amend the word “shall” to “may”. Councilor McLellan withdrew the friendly amendment to change the word “shall” to “may”.

Councilor Martin requested an additional friendly amendment to add the following paragraph: “No official of the Greenfield Public School System or School Committee shall incur liabilities beyond a 12 month period”. He noted the purpose was to not allow contracts to be entered into. It was noted this was a substantive amendment which could not be a friendly amendment it would need a formal vote.

It was unanimously,

VOTED: TO APPROVE FOLLOWING FRIENDLY AMENDMENTS TO CLARIFY THE LANGUAGE OF THE ORDER:

- In the first bullet after the words “consisting of” insert the following language “the following officers of the State of Massachusetts”
- At the end of the first bullet after the words “and the Mayor” insert the following language “of the Town of Greenfield or her designee”.
- In the second bullet after the words “June 30, 2010 unless the members” insert the following language “ of the Control Board”

MOTION: On a motion by Councilor Martin, second by Councilor Allis, it was

MOVED: INSERT THE FOLLOWING PARAGRAPH: NO OFFICIAL OF THE GREENFIELD PUBLIC SCHOOL SYSTEM OR SCHOOL COMMITTEE SHALL INCUR LIABILITIES BEYOND A 12 MONTH PERIOD.

DISCUSSION: Councilor Martin explained this would constrict the ability for the School Administration or School Committee to enter into any contracts until after the Legislature considers the Council request. The following two questions regarding the order were: 1.) Was this legal 2.) Would this help or hinder the process?

Councilor Martin withdrew the proposed friendly amendment.

It was unanimously,

VOTED: THAT THE TOWN OF GREENFIELD HEREBY PETITIONS THE LEGISLATURE OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS TO PASS SPECIAL LEGISLATION RELATIVE TO THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A FINANCIAL CONTROL BOARD WHICH SHALL CREATE FINANCIAL STABILITY WITHIN THE TOWN OF GREENFIELD PUBLIC SCHOOL DEPARTMENT. THE TOWN REQUESTS THAT LEGISLATIVE LEGAL COUNSEL AND DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION LEGAL COUNSEL CRAFT SUCH LEGISLATION. IT IS FURTHER REQUESTED THAT SAID LEGISLATION INCLUDE BUT NOT BE LIMITED TO THE FOLLOWING PROVISIONS:

- THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A FINANCIAL CONTROL BOARD, CONSISTING OF THE FOLLOWING OFFICERS OF THE STATE OF MASSACHUSETTS THE SECRETARY OF ADMINISTRATION AND FINANCE OR HIS DESIGNEE, THE COMMISSIONER OF REVENUE OR HIS DESIGNEE, THE DEPUTY COMMISSIONER OF THE DIVISION OF LOCAL SERVICES OF THE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE OR HIS DESIGNEE, THE COMMISSIONER OF EDUCATION OR HIS DESIGNEE, AND THE MAYOR OF THE TOWN OF GREENFIELD OR HER DESIGNEE.
- SAID BOARD SHALL INITIATE AND ASSURE THE IMPLEMENTATION OF APPROPRIATE INITIATIVES TO SECURE FINANCIAL STABILITY OF THE GREENFIELD PUBLIC SCHOOL DEPARTMENT, AND SHALL CONTINUE IN EXISTENCE UNTIL JUNE 30, 2010 UNLESS THE MEMBERS OF THE CONTROL BOARD, AFTER CONSIDERATION OF THE RECOMMENDATION OF THE SCHOOL COMMITTEE IF IT CHOOSES TO OFFER ONE, BY MAJORITY VOTE, SHALL ANNUALLY VOTE TO CONTINUE THE OPERATION OF THE BOARD FROM YEAR TO YEAR AFTER THAT DATE.
- WITH APPROVAL OF THE FINANCIAL CONTROL BOARD, THE TOWN OF GREENFIELD MAY BORROW, AT ONE TIME OR FROM TIME TO TIME, SUMS THAT ARE APPROVED BY THE SCHOOL COMMITTEE AND THEN BY THE BOARD, BUT IN NO EVENT IN AN AMOUNT IN THE AGGREGATE IN EXCESS OF \$1,000,000 TO MAINTAIN AND OPERATE THE SCHOOL DEPARTMENT WHILE IT ADJUSTS THE LEVEL OF ITS EXPENSES AND REVENUES SO AS TO ACHIEVE BALANCED BUDGETS AND FISCAL STABILITY. BOND OR NOTES ISSUED UNDER THE ACT SHALL BE FOR A TERM OF 10 YEARS OR LESS.

- ALL PROCEEDS OF ANY LOAN AUTHORIZED SHALL BE DEPOSITED IN A SEPARATE FUND WHICH SHALL BE SET UP ON THE BOOKS OF THE SCHOOL DEPARTMENT AND BE MAINTAINED SEPARATE AND APART FROM ALL OTHER FUNDS AND ACCOUNTS OF THE SCHOOL DEPARTMENT. THIS FUND SHALL BE CALLED THE GREENFIELD SCHOOL SYSTEM FINANCIAL STABILITY FUND.

President Maloney reviewed the upcoming Town Council and subcommittee meetings, including Ways and Means Budget discussion meetings.

ADJOURNMENT: On a motion by Councilor Guin, second by Councilor Allis, it was unanimously **VOTED:** TO ADJOURN THE MEETING AT 12: 19 P.M.

A true copy,

Attest: _____
Maureen T. Winseck, Town Clerk

GREENFIELD TOWN COUNCIL MEMBERS

GCTV-15
Special Meeting
June 3, 2008

1.	Lashier, Dennis	P						
2.	McLellan, Thomas	P						
3.	Allis, Brickett	P						
4.	Maloney, Mark	P						
5.	Wisnewski, Mark	P						
6.	Letourneau, Danielle	A						
7.	Martin, William	P						
8.	Joseph, Christopher	P						
9.	Vacant	---						
10.	Farrell, Timothy	P						
11.	Guin, Daniel	P						
12.	Siano, Alfred	A						
13.	Mason, John	P						