

A special joint meeting was held during the workshop meeting of the Great Meadows Regional Board of Education on Monday, May 12, 2008, at Great Meadows Middle School, Independence Township. The meeting was called to order at 7:30 PM by Jennifer Cassini, President. A statement was read that adequate notice of the meeting had been given in accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act.

Flag salute.

ROLL CALL:

Great Meadows Regional Board of Education

Present: Richard Alexander, Jennifer Cassini, Peggy Faulborn, Joe Mahal, Matthew Mowatt, Bernie O'Hara, William Vonder Haar, and Richard Wall.

Absent: Maryann Citro.

ROLL CALL:

Independence Township Committee

Present: Steve Crawford, John Cummins, Robert Giordano, Bonnie Kelsey, and Timothy Norton.

Absent: None.

ROLL CALL:

Liberty Township Committee

Present: John Fisher, Don Grover, John Inscho, Ron Peterson, and Mark Tibak.

Absent: None.

Thomas Gross, Interim Warren County Superintendent of Schools, Neil Cramer, Warren County School Business Administrator, Jason Bing, Superintendent, and Julie Mumaw, Business Administrator, were also in attendance.

There were 75 members of the public in attendance.

A question and answer period was held with various questions and concerns regarding budget issues.

Liberty Township Committee and Independence Township Committee took a vote to reduce the 2008-2009 Great Meadows Regional School District Defeated Budget by \$150,000.00. Liberty Township voted unanimously to cut the budget by \$159,000.00. Independence Township Committee majority voted yes to cut the budget by \$150,000.00. In order to eliminate the need for the Great Meadows Regional School District Budget to be sent to Trenton, it is agreed between the school district and townships that the \$150,000.00 will be cut from the budget.

Upon recommendation of the Superintendent, motion by Peggy Faulborn,

seconded by William Vonder Haar, to approve the following 2008-2009 Great Meadows Regional School District Defeated Budget Resolution:

WHEREAS, the Great Meadows Regional School District Board of Education submitted a base budget (General Fund) to the taxpayers of the Townships of Liberty and Independence in the amount of \$11,664,907; and

WHEREAS, the voters of the Townships of Liberty and Independence voted down the base budget (General Fund) submitted to them by the Great Meadows Regional School District Board of Education on April 15, 2008; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Township Committees of the Townships of Liberty and Independence have conferred with the Great Meadows Regional School District Board of Education to review the General Fund Budget of the School district pursuant to the provisions of NJAC 6:19-5.2 (2); and

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Township Committees of the Townships of Liberty and Independence have concluded that the school district board of Education can be reduced by \$ 150,000.00 and still provide sufficient amounts for a thorough and efficient system of education in excess of the minimum standard provided for in NJSA 18A:7A-5;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED the Great Meadows Regional Board of Education agrees that:

1. The original General Fund (Base Budget) provided for a tax levy on the ballot of \$11,664,907.
2. The General Fund (Base Budget) shall be reduced by \$150,000.00.
3. The final General Fund (Base Budget) tax levy for the Great Meadows Regional School District Board of Education will be \$11,514,907.
4. The Following line items of the General Fund (Base Budget) shall be reduced by the amount set forth herein as follows:

A. General Supplies	\$ 10,000
B. Other Employee Benefits	\$ 5,000
C. Operations Salaries	\$ 20,000
D. Instructional Staff Training	\$ 5,000
E. Decrease Fund Balance	<u>\$110,000</u>
	\$150,000

ROLL CALL VOTE: YES: Alexander, Cassini, Mahal, O'Hara, Vonder Haar, Wall.

NO: Faulborn. Motion carried.

Liberty Township Committee and Independence Township Committee left the meeting at 9:50 PM.

Committee Reports were discussed.

- 5.1** Upon recommendation of the Superintendent, motion by Joe Mahal, seconded by Richard Alexander, to approve the following **Finance** item 5.1.1.

Motion carried in a unanimous voice vote with Wall abstaining.

- 5.1.1** Approve training for Richard Wall, new Great Meadows Regional Board of Education member, on May 14, 2008 in Atlantic City at a cost of \$175.00.

- 5.2** Upon recommendation of the Superintendent, motion by Matt Mowatt, seconded by Richard Alexander, to approve the following **Personnel** item 5.2.1.

Motion carried in a unanimous voice vote.

- 5.2.1** Approve Kevin Piazza as a substitute teacher for the 2008-2009 school year.

Motion by Bernie O'Hara, seconded by Matt Mowatt, to adjourn at 10:05 PM.

Motion carried in a unanimous voice vote.

Respectfully submitted,

Julie Mumaw
Board Secretary