

HOPATCONG BOARD OF EDUCATION
Regular Meeting Minutes – Board Meeting Room
March 20, 2017

A Regular meeting of the Board of Education of the Hopatcong Borough School District was held on Wednesday, March 20, 2017 in the High School cafeteria, 2A Windsor Ave., Hopatcong, New Jersey.

1. The meeting was called to order at 7:10 p.m.
Mr. Fasano, President, read the New Jersey Open Public Meetings Act Statement:

2. **FLAG SALUTE**

3. **OPENING STATEMENT -**

In accordance with Section 5 of the Open Public Meetings Act, Chapter 231, P.L. 1975, this public body, the Hopatcong Board of Education hereby announces that The New Jersey Herald has been notified by mail that this Board of Education Regular meeting will take place in the Board Meeting Room at the Administration Office of the Board of Education, Hopatcong, NJ, at 7:00 p.m. on March 20, 2017.

4. **MEMBERS PRESENT:** Mr. Anthony Fasano, President
Mrs. Carol Trumppore, Vice President
Mr. Warren Gallagher
Mr. Peter Karpiak
Mr. Alex McLean
Mr. Robert Nicholson
Dr. Sarah Schindelar
Mrs. Candice Smith

MEMBERS ABSENT: Mr. Philip DiStefano

Also Present: Mrs. Cynthia Randina, Superintendent, Mr. David Disler, Legal Counsel

Approximately 46 staff and/or community members attended.

5. **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

A motion was made by Mr. Nicholson, seconded by Mr. Karpiak to commence Executive Session.
The motion carried with all in favor. Time 5:45 p.m.

6. **RECONVENE**

A motion was made by Mr. Nicholson, seconded by Mr. McLean to reconvene in Public Session.
The motion carried with all in favor. Time: 6:38 p.m.

7. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Approval of the minutes, as attached, of the following meetings, as reported by the Board Secretary and reviewed by the Board President and members of the Board:

- a. February 6, 2017 – Executive Session
- b. February 6, 2017 – Special Meeting - Personnel
- c. February 22, 2017 – Executive Session
- d. February 22, 2017 – Regular meeting

HOPATCONG BOARD OF EDUCATION
Regular Meeting Minutes – Board Meeting Room
 March 20, 2017

Dr. Schindelar made a motion to approve Minutes 7a – 7d, which was seconded by Mrs. Trumpore

Philip DiStefano	Absent	Warren Gallagher	Yes	Peter Karpiak	
Alex McLean		Robert Nicholson	Yes	Sarah Schindelar	
Candice Smith	Yes	Carol Trumpore	Yes	Anthony Fasano	Yes

Mr. Karpiak abstains from 7a, 7b, 7c; approves 7d
Dr. Schindelar abstains from 7c, 7d; approves 7a and 7b
Mr. McLean abstains for 7a – 7b; approves 7c and 7d

Motion to approve Minutes 7a – 7d passed.

8. ACKNOWLEDGMENTS/CORRESPONDENCE

a. The following students were chosen as **Hopatcong High School’s *Students of the Month*** for their outstanding performance in **February 2017:**

Brooke Taylor, Sophomore	Scholastics (Website Design)
Christopher Kaminski, Senior	Scholastics (Video Game Design)
Megan Coolican, Senior	Scholastics (Visual Storytelling)
Emilie Sabura, Sophomore	Specialty Area (Culinary Arts 2)

b. The following students were chosen as **Hopatcong High School’s *Scholar Athletes of the Month*** for their outstanding performance in **February 2017:**

Anthony Mastroeni, Junior	Athletics (Wrestling)
Kelly Nelson, Freshman	Athletics (Cheerleading)

9. SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT AND HIB REPORT

a. Superintendent’s Report - **Cynthia M. Randina** – Curriculum related initiatives; strong literacy programs; STEAM & Chromebook initiative; Makerspace and video editing lab at Durban Ave; preparing our students for college and career readiness; Only 5 students leaving the district; PAARC starts 3/28-5/16; No HIB incidents this month.

c. A second reading and approval of the Superintendent’s HIB Report for February, 2017 as presented to the Board at the Regular Meeting on February 22, 2017. Approval of the HIB report for March, 2017 for first reading and review.

Motion to approve Superintendent’s HIB report 9c:
Motion made by Mr. Karpiak, seconded by Mr. McLean

Philip DiStefano	Absent	Warren Gallagher	Yes	Peter Karpiak	Yes
Alex McLean	Yes	Robert Nicholson	Yes	Sarah Schindelar	Yes
Candice Smith	Yes	Carol Trumpore	Yes	Anthony Fasano	Yes

Motion to approve 9c passed.

HOPATCONG BOARD OF EDUCATION
Regular Meeting Minutes – Board Meeting Room
 March 20, 2017

10. PUBLIC COMMENT – AGENDA ITEMS ONLY

Anthony Fasano, Board President – discusses preliminary budget process
Michele Perrotti – Handed document/picture to board re: Flexible alternative seating: children can pick where and on what they want to sit while learning. Shameful to have prelim budget meeting and regular meeting combined.
Liz Juliano – Reads 16/17 general fund and tax levy amounts and 17/18 general fund and tax levy amounts; asks How much money do we project to have left over; where is additional revenue coming from?
Brian Collins – what is the status of permanent salt shelter? Mr. Piro responds that this will be evaluated over the coming summer.
Jackie Turkington – would prefer the \$44 that Hopatcong tax payers will be getting back as a result of the 2% decrease in the tax levy go back to kids.
Eric Syto – Hopatcong Hawks, Cub Scouts and Boy Scouts heard that they may not be able to use Facilities on Sundays. Any extra money should be going back to kids.
Joe Bongiorno- Why are there no budget handouts? Is money for replenishment of capital reserve account/or for security training for every staff member in district? This budget is an abomination.
Ruth Fouda – Why were students told not to come to this meeting? Didn't do the regular school reports this meeting to keep length as minimal as possible.
Frank Farruggia – What is district's plan for this budget.

11. FINANCE

Approval of the following finance items, **11a-11m**, as recommended by the Superintendent of Schools and the Finance Committee of the Board:

a. 2017/2018 Preliminary Budget Submission

Approval of the following resolution for submission of the tentative 2017/2018 school budget to the County Superintendent:

“**WHEREAS**, the Superintendent has presented to the Finance Committee and other members of the Hopatcong Board of Education, a recommended 2017/2018 School District Budget in the total amount of \$ 37,774,453, as follows; and

WHEREAS, the Board approves a Local Tax Levy of \$23,903,473;

WHEREAS, the Board approves the use of the emergency reserve in the amount of \$50,000 for a security system at the High School;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED the Hopatcong school District preliminary 2017/2018 budget for submission to the County Office is approved as follows on the Meeting Agenda of March 20, 2017.”

	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Local Tax Levy</u>
General Fund		\$23,903,473
Fund 10 – Charter School Tuition.....	\$540,059	
Fund 11 – General Operating Fund.....	\$36,542,780	
Fund 12 – Debt Services Assessment.....	<u>\$1,114</u>	
	\$37,083,953	
 Special Revenue Fund		
Fund 20 – Federal/State Grants.....	\$690,500	\$0
 Debt Service -	 <u>\$0</u>	 <u>\$0</u>
Total Budget	\$37,774,453	\$23,903,473

HOPATCONG BOARD OF EDUCATION
Regular Meeting Minutes – Board Meeting Room
March 20, 2017

- b. Approval of bills for the General Fund and Special Revenue (Grants) account , February 22, 2017 through March 20, 2017, in the following amount:
- | | |
|---|------------------|
| General Fund and Special Revenue (Grants) account | - \$1,113,199.69 |
| Cafeteria account | - \$54,197.93 |
- c. Approval of the March 20th, 2017 Regular bills for the Sussex County Regional Cooperative Operating account, in the amount of: \$ 20,142.91(for normal recurring items: cell phones, vehicle leases, office supplies, vehicle parts & repairs, etc.).
- d. Approval of the April 5th, 2017 Bus Contractor Bills List in the amount of \$ 2,895,756.07 (for Bus Contractor Payment of services rendered in February & March, 2017 – checks to be distributed on April 13, 2017).
- e. Approval of the Transfer Report for the month of January, 2017.
- f. Approval of the Board Secretary's Report for the month of January 2017.
- g. Approval of the Treasurer's Report for the month of January 2017.
- h. Approval of the certification by the Board Secretary pursuant to N.J.A.C. that no budgetary line item has been overexpended in the 2016-2017 budget in violation of N.J.A.C. 6:202.12(a).
- i. **SAIF Resolution:**
Approval of the following Resolution for appointment of the School Alliance Fund Commissioner:
- BE IT RESOLVED**, by the School Board of Hopatcong, County of Sussex, State of New Jersey, that it hereby appoints Carolyn B. Joseph, Interim Business Administrator as the School Alliance Insurance Fund Commissioner.
- and,
- BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that copies of this Resolution be forwarded to the following:
1. Carolyn B. Joseph
 2. School Alliance Insurance Fund
- j. **Special Education Medicaid Initiative (SEMI) Waiver/Corrective Action Plan**
Approval of the Special Education Medicaid Initiative (SEMI) Waiver/Corrective Action Plan for the 2016/2017 school year.
- k. **Travel and Related Expenses Maximum**
Approval for the Chief School Administrator to approve and authorize all travel and related expenses for employees and Board Members in accordance with Board Policy No. 6423, up to a maximum of \$75,000 for the 2017/2018 school year.
- l. Approval to accept \$100 donation from Morris County USBC (Women's Bowling).
- m. Approval for Anthony Gianforcaro, Architect, to provide the necessary completed building approvals and permits to the Borough of Hopatcong for the Eagle Scout project, at no charge.

Mr. Nicholson made a motion to vote on 11a separately which was seconded by Mrs. Smith.

Mr. Nicholson and Mrs. Smith claim that they were frozen out of budget discussions and meetings. Mrs. Smith feels the numbers should be reworked – put children first.

HOPATCONG BOARD OF EDUCATION
Regular Meeting Minutes – Board Meeting Room
 March 20, 2017

Mrs. Trumpore responds that we want to address special needs, academics, band, theatre and art. We started with a \$1,600,000 surplus and tried to plan the budget for the children.

Mr. Gallagher: Wouldn't vote on a budget that would take anything away from the kids; he has two in district. Addressed Mr. Nicholson implying that he wasn't frozen out of budget meetings...he decided not to attend. This budget is fiscally and morally responsible.

Mr. McLean: a Budget increase is in budget because we had surplus; it feels likely that there will be a cut in federal funding with new education commissioner.

Philip DiStefano	Absent	Warren Gallagher	Yes	Peter Karpiak	Yes
Alex McLean	Yes	Robert Nicholson	No	Sarah Schindelar	Yes
Candice Smith	No	Carol Trumpore	Yes	Anthony Fasano	Yes

Motion 11a passed.

Motion to approve Finance 11b -11m:
Motion made by Mr. Nicholson, seconded by Mrs. Smith

Philip DiStefano	Absent	Warren Gallagher	Yes	Peter Karpiak	Yes
Alex McLean	Yes	Robert Nicholson	Yes	Sarah Schindelar	Yes
Candice Smith	Yes	Carol Trumpore	Yes	Anthony Fasano	Yes

Motion to approve 11b – 11m passed with a unanimous vote.

12. PERSONNEL

Approval of the following personnel items **12a – 12l**, as recommended by the Superintendent of Schools and the Personnel Committee of the Board:

- a. Approval of the resignation, with regret, of **Gerald Andrewlavage**, from his position as a Learning Disabilities Teacher Consultant at Hudson Maxim School, for the purpose of retirement, at an annual salary of \$88,285, effective July 1, 2017. Mr. Andrewlavage has served the district for 16 years.
- b. Approval of the resignation, with regret, of **Marianne Bastedo**, from her position as a Paraprofessional in the Hopatcong School District, for the purpose of retirement, at an annual salary of \$16,037, effective July 1, 2017. Ms. Bastedo has served the district for 17 years.
- c. Approval of the resignation, with regret, of **Kathleen Kane**, from her position as District Treasurer of School Monies, at an annual salary of \$10,000, effective March 21, 2017.
- d. Approval of the appointment of **William Stepka** as District Treasurer of School Monies at a prorated salary of \$10,000, effective March 21, 2017 through June 30, 2017.
- e. Approval of the request of **Jaclyn DiBrienza-Cikovic** for a Maternity Leave of Absence from her position as a School Psychologist of 33 Sick Days during the period of March 28, 2017 to May 19, 2017, followed by New Jersey Family Leave of Absence/Federal Leave of Absence for the period of May 20, 2017 to October 1, 2017.
- f. Approval of an internship of **Andrea DiRenzo**, working with the Northern Region Educational Services Commission, in the Business Office for a period of six months, effective April 1, 2017 through September 30, 2017.

HOPATCONG BOARD OF EDUCATION
Regular Meeting Minutes – Board Meeting Room
 March 20, 2017

g. Approval of the following 2016-2017 Coaches for the Hopatcong High School:

Name	Nature of Action	Position	Class	Level	Salary	Date Effective	Date Terminated
Toby Richards	Adjust	Head Bowling Coach	B	4	\$5,034	11/1/2016	6/30/17

h. Approval of the following 2016-2017 Advisors for the Hopatcong Middle School:

Name	Nature of Action	Position	Class	Level	Salary	Date Effective	Date Terminated
Craig Vallaro	Resign	Intramural Volleyball	C	2	\$606	3/27/17	6/30/17
Donald Dippel	Appoint	Intramural Volleyball	C	4	\$953	3/27/17	6/30/17

i. Approval of the employment of **Dana DeMetro and Melanie Rowbotham** as Instructors for the Title I Family Math Program at the Hudson Maxim School for four, two hour sessions during May 2017 at the salary of \$300.00 each.

j. Approval for the following Education students to conduct a field experience in the Hopatcong School District during the 2016-2017 school year:

Student Name	Semester	University	Experience	School	Cooperating Staff Member
Amber Livas	Spring 2017	County College of Morris	Observation 20 Hours	Hudson Maxim	Mrs. Blazier
Danielle Dolce	Spring 2017	Felician Univ.	Field Placement	Durban Ave.	Mrs. Kontozoglus

k. Approval of the employment of the following **Day Plus** employees for the 2016/2017 school year:

Name	Nature of Action	Position	Rate
Michael Sickles	Resignation	Instructor	\$11.25/hr
Elizabeth Tresca	Appoint	Substitute	\$11.00/hr
Amber Livas	Appoint	Instructor	\$11.25/hr

l. Approval of **substitute teachers, aides, custodians and van driver lists.**

**Motion to approve Personnel 12a -12l:
 Motion made by Mr. Nicholson; seconded by Mrs. Smith**

Philip DiStefano	Absent	Warren Gallagher	Yes	Peter Karpiak	Yes
Alex McLean-	not present to vote	Robert Nicholson	Yes	Sarah Schindelar	Yes
Candice Smith	Yes	Carol Trumpore	Yes	Anthony Fasano	Yes

Motion to approve Personnel 12a – 12l passed.

HOPATCONG BOARD OF EDUCATION
Regular Meeting Minutes – Board Meeting Room
 March 20, 2017

13. STUDENTS & SERVICES

- a. Approval for educational instruction services for **Student No. 11552**, a seventh grade student, under medical supervision at High Focus Center, Parsippany, NJ. Tutoring services are arranged through Professional Education Services, Inc. at the rate of \$35 per hour for a maximum of ten hours per week. The effective date was February 8, 2017.
- b. Approval for educational instruction services for **Student No. 11314**, a ninth grade student, under medical supervision at University Medical Center of Princeton, NJ. Tutoring services are arranged through the University Medical Center of Princeton at the rate of \$65 per hour for a maximum of ten hours per week. The effective date was February 28, 2017.
- c. Approval for the out of district placement for **Student No. 411219**, an eleventh grade student who has been placed by CMO-Social Services at Bonnie Brae, Liberty Corner, NJ residential facility. Hopatcong school district is responsible for the educational component only. The average length of stay for residents is 12-24 months. The effective start date was March 7, 2017. The tuition for approximately 68 days is \$25,160.
- d. Approval of the attached field trip requests, as required by the New Jersey Department of Education.

**Motion to approve Students and Services 13a – 13d:
 Motion made by Mrs. Smith, seconded by Mr. Nicholson**

Philip DiStefano	Absent	Warren Gallagher	Yes	Peter Karpiak	Yes
Alex McLean	- not present to vote	Robert Nicholson	Yes	Sarah Schindelar	Yes
Candice Smith	Yes	Carol Trumpore	Yes	Anthony Fasano	Yes

Motion carried.

14. CURRICULUM

Approval of the following items, **14a**, as recommended by the Superintendent of Schools and the Curriculum Committee of the Board:

- a. Approval of the 2016 Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) Accountability Plan.

**Motion to approve Curriculum 14a:
 Motion made by Mr. Nicholson, seconded by Mrs. Smith**

Philip DiStefano	Absent	Warren Gallagher	Yes	Peter Karpiak	Yes
Alex McLean	- not present to vote	Robert Nicholson	Yes	Sarah Schindelar	Yes
Candice Smith	Yes	Carol Trumpore	Yes	Anthony Fasano	Yes

Motion carried.

15. TRAVEL

Resolved, that the Hopatcong Board of Education approve travel costs as related in this resolution and attached, which are educationally necessary and fiscally prudent and are related to and within the scope of the employee's current responsibilities and promotes the delivery of instruction or furthers the efficient operation of the school district. The reimbursements listed in this resolution are in compliance with the state travel reimbursement guidelines as established by the Department of the Treasury and Board of Education policy in accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A:23B-1.1. seq.

HOPATCONG BOARD OF EDUCATION
Regular Meeting Minutes – Board Meeting Room
 March 20, 2017

Motion to approve Travel:
Motion made by Mr. Nicholson, seconded by Mrs. Smith

Philip DiStefano	Absent	Warren Gallagher	Yes	Peter Karpiak	Yes
Alex McLean	- not present to vote	Robert Nicholson	Yes	Sarah Schindelar	Yes
Candice Smith	Yes	Carol Trumpore	Yes	Anthony Fasano	Yes

Motion carried with a unanimous vote.

16. POLICIES & REGULATIONS

- a. Approval of modifications and additions to the policies and regulations of the Hopatcong Board of Education in accordance with statutory and regulatory changes for approval, as revised, for **FIRST READING**:

<u>Policy#</u>	<u>Title</u>
P 2460	<i>Special Education (M)</i> (Revised)
P 2467	<i>Surrogate Parents and Foster Parents (M)</i> (Revised)
P 5350	<i>Student Suicide Prevention</i> (Revised)
P 5460	<i>High School Graduation (M)</i> (Revised)

<u>Regulation#</u>	<u>Title</u>
R 2460	<i>Special Education (M)</i> (Revised)
R 2460.1	<i>Special Education - Location, Identification, and Referral (M)</i> (Revised)
R 2460.8	<i>Special Education - Free and Appropriate Public Education (M)</i> (Revised)
R 2460.9	<i>Special Education - Transition From Early Intervention Programs to Preschool Programs (M)</i> (Revised)
R 2460.15	<i>Special Education - In-Service Training Needs for Professional and Paraprofessional Staff (M)</i> (New)
R 2460.16	<i>Special Education - Instructional Material to Blind or Print-Disabled Students (M)</i> (Re-adopted)

- b. Approval of modifications and additions to the policies and regulations of the Hopatcong Board of Education in accordance with statutory and regulatory changes for approval, as revised, for **SECOND READING**:

<u>Policy#</u>	<u>Title</u>
P 0155	<i>Board Committees Policy (B1)</i> (Revised)
P 1510	<i>Americans with Disabilities Act (M)</i> (Revised)
P 2415.30	<i>Title I - Educational Stability for Children in Foster Care (M)</i> (New)
P 2418	<i>Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 -- Students (M)</i> (New)
P 5116	<i>Education of Homeless Children</i> (Revised)

HOPATCONG BOARD OF EDUCATION
Regular Meeting Minutes – Board Meeting Room
 March 20, 2017

<u>Regulation#</u>	<u>Title</u>
R 1510	<i>Americans with Disabilities Act (M)</i> (Revised)
R 2418	<i>Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 -- Students (M)</i> (New)
R 5116	<i>Education of Homeless Children</i> (Revised)
R 8330	<i>Student Records (M)</i> (Revised)

Motion to approve Policies and Regulations 16a – 16b:
Motion made by Mr. Fasano, seconded by Mr. McLean

Philip DiStefano	Absent	Warren Gallagher	Yes	Peter Karpiak	Yes
Alex McLean	Yes	Robert Nicholson	Yes	Sarah Schindelar	Yes
Candice Smith	Yes	Carol Trumpore	Yes	Anthony Fasano	Yes

Motion passed.

17. CALENDAR

Approval of the following item, **17a**, at the recommendation of the Superintendent:

- a. Approval of the 180 day School Calendar for the 2017/2018 school year.

Motion to approve items 17a:
Motion made by Mrs. Smith, seconded by Mr. Fasano

Philip DiStefano	Absent	Warren Gallagher	Yes	Peter Karpiak	Yes
Alex McLean	Yes	Robert Nicholson	Yes	Sarah Schindelar	Yes
Candice Smith	Yes	Carol Trumpore-not present to vote		Anthony Fasano	Yes

Motion carried unanimously.

18. SUSSEX COUNTY REGIONAL COOPERATIVE

Approval of the following items, **18a – 18o**, at the recommendation of the Superintendent:

- a. The Superintendent recommends the *approval* of the following district(s) as a new member(s) of the Transportation Cooperative for the 2016-17 school year as listed on Exhibit A:
 Passaic Board of Education and Morris Hills Regional High School District
- b. The Superintendent recommends the *acceptance* of student transportation quotations for Special Education Routes for the 2016-17 school year as listed on Exhibit A.
- c. The Superintendent recommends the *award* of student transportation contracts for quoted Special Education Routes to the lowest responsible bus contractor companies for the 2016-17 school year as listed on Exhibit A.
- d. The Superintendent recommends the *acceptance* of student transportation quotations for Athletic/Class/Field Trips for the 2016-17 school year as listed on Exhibit A.

HOPATCONG BOARD OF EDUCATION
Regular Meeting Minutes – Board Meeting Room
 March 20, 2017

- e. The Superintendent recommends the *award* of student transportation contracts for quoted Athletic/Class/Field Trips to the lowest responsible bus contractor companies for the 2016-17 school year as listed on Exhibit A.
- f. The Superintendent recommends the *acceptance* of student transportation bids submitted for Special Education Routes for the 2016-17 school year as listed on Exhibit A.
- g. The Superintendent recommends the *rejection* of non-compliant student transportation bids submitted for Special Education Routes for the 2016-17 school year as listed on Exhibit A.
- h. The Superintendent recommends the *award* of student transportation contracts to the lowest responsible and compliant bus contractor company bidders for Special Education Routes for the 2016-17 school year as listed on Exhibit A.
- i. The Superintendent recommends the *approval* of a Parental Transportation Contact for the remainder of the 2016-17 school year as listed on Exhibit A.
- j. The Superintendent recommends the *approval* of renewal for the 2016-17 school year for Route E-175 as listed on Exhibit A.
- k. The Superintendent recommends the *approval* of the following Member School Districts for the 2017-18 School Year as listed on Exhibit A.
- l. The Superintendent recommends the *approval* of Coordinated Transportation Agreements between the Sussex County Regional Transportation Cooperative and the following local entities as the Lead Agency for such purposes for the 2017-18 School Year (approval of an actual contract & dollar amount will be put forth to the Board at the time when/if services are needed):
 - 1) Essex Regional Education Educational Services Commission (Essex ESC)
 - 2) Educational Services Commission of Morris County (Morris ESC)
 - 3) Warren County Special Services School District
- m. The Superintendent recommends the *approval* of a “Student Transportation Contract Transfer Agreement” for all Transportation Contracts in the name of the Contractor “Williams School” to “Sydney Transportation” effective March 20, 2017, due to the contractor changing their business name.
- n. The Superintendent recommends the *approval* of the employment of Mr. Enrico (Hank) Fattorusso as a substitute school bus/van driver, as needed, at the hourly rate of \$15, effective February 2, 2017 to June 30, 2017. Mr. Fattorusso is currently employed by the HBOE and has previously cleared a criminal history background check and completed all required district paperwork.
- o. The Superintendent recommends the *approval* of the employment of Ms. Michelle Urban as a substitute school bus/van driver/aide, as needed, at the hourly rate of \$15.00, effective February 23, 2017 to June 30, 2017, contingent upon completion of required district paperwork and successful approval of the state mandated criminal history background check.

Motion to approve items 18a-18o:
Motion made by Mrs. Smith, seconded by Mr. Fasano

Philip DiStefano	Absent	Warren Gallagher	Yes	Peter Karpiak - not present to vote
Alex McLean	Yes	Robert Nicholson	Yes	Sarah Schindelar
Candice Smith	Yes	Carol Trumpore-	not present to vote	Anthony Fasano Yes

Dr. Schindelar abstains from 18n but approves all others in section 18.
Motion carried.

HOPATCONG BOARD OF EDUCATION
Regular Meeting Minutes – Board Meeting Room
March 20, 2017

19. **PUBLIC COMMENT - GENERAL DISCUSSION**

Ruth Fouda – Appreciate the passion of putting budget together; if we had done a powerpoint there would not be so many questions. Town doesn't have tendency to trust board members

Michele Perrotti (former board member)- When did you find surplus – no transparency.

Frank Farruggia (former board member)– Legal fees and audit fees are included in administrative costs. How are we going to reduce those costs. Facilities need to be improved.

Joe Bongiorno - If we think federal funding is going down, why would we give money back.

Sue Hill - gave a list of questions to board members and wants answers in writing by April 3.

Norma Sudak – Was hung up on; very disappointed that she is not allowed to see budget

Nicole Shubert –meeting is a fail, no details

Jackie Turkington for Patty Poland – were able to get a crossing guard for DA & TT and was pleased by response of Cindy and the Board. Thank you. Also Jackie says she would happily give money back to children.

Gina Bongiorno – we need a new football field

Brian Collins - what are non-essential services – anything not promoting student achievements

Erin Jacobus – new resident; this meeting is alternative transparency

Mr. Landshof- AP calculus – we can always do more with more money. Strive for 5.

Marilyn Volpe –Home Ec room needs appliances, seniors are leaving early, no school spirit

20.. **BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS**

- Pete Karpiak-Make investments in programs and children and be fiscally responsible.
- Candice Smith – constituents are children, parents, community. Love of Literacy was a huge success.
- Rob Nicholson – Thank you for coming. Money should stay in district.
- Warren Gallagher – Clearly everyone in room cares; proud of budget
- Carol Trumpore – This is a preliminary budget. Believes in budget but is listening.
- Sarah Schindelar - constituents are entire community and we all need to work together. Community thrives and prospers when school and students thrive and prosper.
- Alex McLean – Will work hard to make sure powerpoint answers questions asked tonight. This is a preliminary budget.
- Anthony Fasano – Tough meeting. Trying to keep current programs and advance student achievement. We have a lot of work to do.

23. **ADJOURNMENT**

Motion to adjourn:

Motion made by Mr. McLean, seconded by Mr. Karpiak

All in favor

Time: 10:18 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Carolyn B. Joseph
Board Secretary