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MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL SCHOOL MEETING

TOWN OF EDEN

MARCH 5, 2013

School Board Present:

Warren Earle
David Whitcomb
Amy Fitzgerald

Civil Board Members

Donna Whitcomb
Walter Earle
Jeffery Carter
John Touchette

Moderator: H. Bruce Burnor:

The Moderator, H. Bruce Burnor at 1:00 pm, called the Annual School Meeting to order with saying the Pledge of Allegiance. The moderator said there is a seed sale going on to benefit the playground up front. Senator Richard Westman was given permission to speak. David Whitcomb at this time explained that Richard was the one who had Eden put back into Lamoille County. He spoke on the new taxes that they are trying to pass, how tight the budgets are, and that the education taxes are up 5%. Everyone thanked him for the updates.

Article I: To elect by ballot: a Moderator;

Warren Earle served as the moderator. David Whitcomb nominated H. Bruce Burnor. Amy Fitzgerald seconded. Hearing no more nominations, David Whitcomb moved to have nominations cease; and the clerk cast one ballot for H. Bruce Burnor. This was passed by voice vote.

Article II: To hear and act upon the reports of the Town School District officers;

Bruce Shields moved as written. Walter Earle seconded. At this time the board chair, Warren Earle, gave a presentation with the overhead projector. Handouts were also passed out to follow. The budget is up 5.72%. Student enrollment is up. Some of the things that are up include: Base Education amount, health insurance, equalized pupil spending, and increases in salaries. They discussed sharing some of the positions with other schools. Revenues are down. Transportation brought in \$58,012.00. What portion of the health insurance is paid for by the staff? The CLA and COD were discussed. What happens when the budget doesn't pass? It was suggested that the busses have good tires on them. Gary Wright offered his help in getting new tires. The bus maintenance is done at Katy Win now. Some of the major projects that need to be done were discussed. David Whitcomb said that last year at this time he was disappointed in the Superintendent. She is now gone and they are very happy with the new one but they are losing him. He was only here temporarily. Hearing no more discussion, the moderator called the question. This article was passed by voice vote.

Article III: To establish compensation for the elected officials of Eden Town School District, if any;

Walter Earle moved to pay them the same as last year. Warren Earle seconded. This passed by voice vote.

Article IV: To see if voters of said District will authorize its Board of Directors to borrow money to pay current expenses and debts of the District in anticipation of the collection of taxes;

Walter Earle moved as written. Warren Earle seconded. This article was passed by voice vote.

Article V: Shall the School District authorize the Board of School Directors to establish a reserve fund and hold the audited fund balance as of June 30, 2012, in the amount

of \$10,000.00 in the reserve fund to be expended under the control and direction of the School Directors for the purpose of capital needs in operation the School.

Walter Earle moved as written. Warren Earle seconded. Warren explained that this is their generator fund. Hearing no more discussion, this article was passed by voice vote.

Article VI: Shall the School District authorize the Board of School Directors to hold the audited fund balance as of June 30, 2012, in the amount of \$71,401.00 in the already established Bus Transportation Reserve Fund to be expended under the control and direction of the Board of School Directors for the purpose of paying incurred expenses related to the purchase/lease and operation of transportation.

Walter Earle moved as written. Warren Earle seconded. This money is to be used for bus purchasing/leasing expenses only. Part of this \$71,000 is the money that is made during the year for the transportation fund. This article was passed by voice vote.

Article VII: To receive from the Board of School Directors of said District, its estimate of expenses of the District for the ensuing year and to appropriate such sum, expressed in dollars, as the school district deems necessary for said expenses, together with the amount required to pay any balance left unpaid for the preceding year; and if so, provide for the fixing the same thereof, the time and manner in which the same shall be payable and delinquent;

Walter Earle moved to have the school budget be \$2,649,857.00 with the same time and dates as last year. Warren Earle seconded. At this time there were 116 voters present. They were asked to prepare their ballots.

Total votes – 55	Needed for majority – 28
Yes – 33	No – 22

The budget has passed.

Article VIII: To elect by ballot the following officers:

An Eden Town School District board member to serve for three (3) years.

Warren Earle nominated David Whitcomb. Warren Earle moved to have nominations cease and the clerk cast one ballot for David Whitcomb. Brian Long seconded. So voted.

A Lamoille Union High School District#18 board member to serve for three (3) years.

Judy Langlois nominated David Whitcomb. Warren Earle moved to have nominations cease and the clerk cast one ballot for David Whitcomb. Jason Heath seconded. So voted.

Article IX: To do any other business that may legally come before the meeting.

Warren Earle stated that all school board meetings are open to the public and encouraged everyone to attend one. They are held on the first Thursday of the month at 6:00 pm. He thanked EPIC for the swing set out back. (Eden People Inspiring Community). He talked about how the children need mentors after school hours. Mentors need to be background checked. Peter Wright feels the School board and Principal need to look into more security at the school. The board said that they have been doing that. We have security cameras in place now and are looking into a lock down system with a push of a button. Warren explained that after this meeting is over he will resign due to personal reasons. The group gave Warren a hand at this time.

Warren Earle moved to adjourn at 2:30 pm. John Touchette seconded. So voted.

Dated at Eden, Vermont this 14th day of March 2013.

Donna Whitcomb, Justice of the Peace

