

**ZEELAND PUBLIC SCHOOLS
BOARD OF EDUCATION
REGULAR MEETING AGENDA AND MINUTES
December 12, 2016
Zeeland West High School Cafeteria
3390 100th Avenue
6:00 PM**

PRESENT: Board of Education: Todd Brennan, Linda Bush, Rick Dernberger, Tom DenHerder, Ron Scott, Carol Slagh, Mark Snyder

Administrators: Cal De Kuiper, Lynn Van Kampen, Jon Voss

ABSENT: Board of Education:

GUESTS: Brett Geertsma

I. CALL TO ORDER: 6:02PM

Ron Scott

A. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

Cal De Kuiper

B. RECOGNITION:

The board honored exiting Zeeland Rec board members: Dan Vandenberg, Jim Zwiers, and Gary Corsbie. Gary Corsbie passed away unexpectedly just after retirement in October. Members of Mr. Corsbie's family were in attendance to accept his recognition.

The board honored exiting fellow member, Carol Slagh, for 16 years serving the Zeeland Public School district. Carol thanked the community to continuing to vote for her, past superintendent Gary Feenstra, Cal De Kuiper and the board of education. Each board member spoke and thanked Carol for her years of dedication and her passion for the district and its students.

C. ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF VISITORS: April DeWitt was introduced as the newest board member, filling the vacancy left by Carol Slagh.

II. SUPERINTENDENT COMMENTS

None are anticipated at this time.

III. AGENDA MODIFICATIONS

IV. CONSENT AGENDA

A. Minutes of the November 21, 2016 special board meeting, truth in budget hearing and regular board meeting were approved.

B. Approved bills paid as of November 2016. Checks #116415-116898

ACCOUNTS PAYABLE	\$1,087,408.67
PAYROLL	\$3,912,403.76
TOTAL	\$4,999,812.43

Tom DenHerder moved and Mark Snyder supported the motion to accept the Consent Calendar as presented.

VOTE: All Yes (7)

V. **DISCUSSION**

A. January 16, 2017, Organizational meeting - Cal DeKuiper & Ron Scott

Here is a primer on organizational meetings, terms of office, election cycles, dates, etc.

For many years, school board elections were held in May, terms of office were four years from July 1 of the election year to June 30 four years later, and the district fiscal year was July 1 through the following June 30. There was one organizational meeting, held in July. All of the officers, committees, and fiscal responsibilities were updated at this meeting.

Legislation changed school board elections from May to November of even years. School boards had the option of four-year terms or six-year terms. Most school districts, including ZPS, chose six-year terms to prevent a majority turnover for board seats in any one year, often an unhealthy situation.

With November elections, school board terms now begin on January 1 and expire on December 31, six years later. Our board terms are now completely phased in to this new schedule. Terms for members as of January 1, 2017, are shown here:

Todd Brennan	Trustee	2020
Tom DenHerder	Treasurer	2020
Ron Scott	President	2020
Rick Dernberger	Vice-President	2022
April DeWitt	Trustee	2022
Linda Bush	Secretary	2018
Mark Snyder	Trustee	2018

As a result, most districts, including ZPS, now have two organizational meetings, one in January and one in July. The January meeting includes all financial and

day-to-day business oriented decisions that correspond to the school year calendar which is also the fiscal year calendar. The January organizational meeting includes appointment of officers and a re-discussion of committees corresponding to the state election cycle. At our December, 2014, meeting, we reaffirmed our intent to elect officers at the January session with terms of office set for February 1 through January 31 of the following year. This will always be a little confusing because of the overlap of election, fiscal, and education calendar years.

The Board President Ron Scott is assigned the responsibility to appoint committee members. Membership can change at any time; we have been re-discussing it at the December and June meetings with potential changes occurring in January and July. Ron Scott requests conversation on this topic. Current committee assignments are:

Finance Committee
Tom DenHerder - chair
Mark Snyder
Carol Slagh

Curriculum Committee
Rick Dernberger - chair
Todd Brennan
Linda Bush

Co-Curricular Committee
Ron Scott
Mark Snyder
Tom DenHerder

Agenda Planning
Ron Scott
Tom DenHerder
Rick Dernberger

As we prepare for the January, 2017, board meeting Action items regarding officers, Board President Ron Scott also asks that we discuss this topic at this meeting.

B. Policies Vol. 31, No. 1 – First Reading - Cal DeKuiper

Our protocols for policy development are in process. I have met with our NEOLA representative, met with administrative or other staff as needed, and then met with the Agenda Planning Committee on December 2, 2016. This committee has approved the policies to be ready for full board discussion in December with potential action in January. I recommend you preview the policies before Monday's December meeting discussion item; I am prepared to give a brief update on each policy. [Policy Update](#)

C. [Summer Tax Resolution](#) - Lynn VanKampen

As discussed in Finance on December 9, I recommend you approve the attached resolution. This resolution has been used for quite a few years, is less than one page and is self-explanatory.

D. [Bid Approval](#) - Lynn VanKampen & Chad Geenen

Bids for construction projects scheduled for spring through fall, 2017, were opened on November 29 and 30 depending on the project. With the assistance and guidance of GMB, GO Construction, and various ZPS staff, the bids were reviewed and recommendations were made for post-bid interviews. Interviews were

conducted on Wednesday, December 7. The Construction Committee met on Thursday, December 8, followed by the ZPS Finance Committee on Friday, December 9th. A summary of the recommendations are provided here: Members of GO Construction will attend our meeting to assist. ZE Electric bid will be awarded to Town & Country, the second lowest bid. We are not required to take the lowest, and the difference was minimal.

VI. ACTION

A. SUMMER TAX RESOLUTION:

Carol Slagh moved and Tom DenHerder supported the motion to approve the resolution imposing a summer property tax levy on one-half of the school property taxes for 2017 and requests each city and township in which Zeeland Public Schools is located collect those summer taxes.

ROLL CALL:

YEA: Brennan, Bush, Dernberger, DenHerder, Scott, Slagh, Snyder

NAY:

B. CONSTRUCTION BID APPROVAL

Mark Snyder moved and Carol Slagh supported the motion to approve bid packages as discussed above.

ROLL CALL:

YEA: Brennan, Bush, Dernberger, DenHerder, Scott, Slagh, Snyder

NAY:

VII. SUPERINTENDENT & REPORTS - Cal DeKuiper

The regular meeting of December 12, 2016 adjourned at 6:57 P.M.