MINUTES
REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT #10
BOARD OF EDUCATION
BUDGET HEARING
APRIL 5, 2010
LEWIS S. MILLS AUDITORIUM

Members Present: Joseph Arcuri, Noel Carmody, Kathy Deprey, Jeanne Doerr, Beth Duffy, Paul O'michinski, Phil Penn, Raymond Sikora, Elaine Schiavone, Ted Scheidel

Absent:

Also Present: Alan Beitman - Superintendent of Schools
              Michael Landry - Assistant Superintendent
              David Lenihan - Business Manager

I. Call to order – The District budget hearing was held at the Lewis S. Mills High School auditorium, and was called to order at 7:31 pm by Chairperson Joseph Arcuri.

II. Pledge of Allegiance – The Pledge was recited.

III. Election of Moderator – A motion to nominate Reid Matusek as meeting moderator was made by Mr. O'michinski was seconded by Mrs. Duffy. No other nominations were made. All in favor none opposed. (10/0/0)

A motion to nominate Mary Spitz as recording secretary for the meeting was made by Mr. Penn and was seconded by Mrs. Duffy. No other nominations were made. All in favor none opposed. (10/0/0)

IV. Secretary read the call of the meeting as follows “Legal Notice. Warning, Budget Hearing, Regional School District #10, Towns of Harwinton and Burlington. A Public Hearing for the purpose of presenting the proposed 2010-2011 Regional School District #10 Budget will be held on Monday, April 5, 2010 at 7:30 pm in the Lewis S. Mills High School auditorium in Burlington, CT.

Joseph Arcuri
Regional School District #10
Board of Education

This notice appeared in the Hartford Courant on March 22, 2010 and was posted at both town halls on March 16, 2010.

V. Discussion of Budget – Mr. Beitman reviewed his recommended 2010-2011 Estimate of Expenses in the amount of $33,812,459 or a 1.448% increase over last year. This reflects an increase of $482,525 over the 2009-2010 Estimate of Expenses.
The moderator opened the floor for questions and comments by the public asking that comments be limited to three (3) minutes, and that participants clearly identify themselves and the town they are from.

Kathy Czarnecki - Burlington – Thanked the Board for putting together a thoughtful Estimate of Expenses. She expressed concern that the quality of education will suffer due to a second year with a 1% increase. She also expressed concern over the adjustment of the freshmen athletic teams.

Christina Niziolek – Burlington – Stated that her family made the decision to live in Burlington based on the school system. She expressed concern over the budget cuts. She also expressed concern over the adjustment to the freshmen athletic teams.

Janet Burrett - Harwinton – Stated that her late husband sat on the Board of Education and that she served on the Board of Selectmen in Harwinton. She commented that she is able to see both sides. She believes strongly in education. She feels it is time for the parents of the children who are participating in extra curricular activities to step up and pay for it themselves. She urged the Board to consider additional Advanced Placement courses.

Bruce Guillemette - Burlington – Thanked Mr. Beitman for the revised Estimate of Expenses and for restoring the elementary assistant principals to 12 months.

Michele Shingleton - Burlington – Thanked Mr. Beitman for the revised Estimate of Expenses and for restoring the elementary assistant principals to 12 months. She urged the Board to approve the recommendation.

David Marcone - Burlington – Indicated that he moved to Burlington a couple of years ago because of the school system. He applauded the Board for being fiscally responsible. He encouraged them to not be afraid to spend money on education.

Art Johanson - Burlington Board of Finance– Asked a few questions and for clarification on a few items in the recommended Estimate of Expenses. He also presented the Board with information about the impact of last year’s increase and the projected increase for next year and what impact it will have on the mill rate in Burlington. He encouraged the Board to consider the replacement of the HCS roof sooner rather than later.

As no additional comments or questions were forthcoming, a motion to adjourn the public hearing was made by Mrs. Duffy and was seconded by Mr. Sikora. All in favor none opposed. (10/0/0)

The meeting ended at 8:28 pm

Jeanne Doerr, BOE Secretary  Date