

ICHABOD CRANE CENTRAL SCHOOL  
VALATIE, NEW YORK 12184

BOARD OF EDUCATION

MINUTES

JANUARY 30, 2007

A Budget Development Meeting of the Board of Education of the Ichabod Crane Central School was held on TUESDAY, JANUARY 30, 2007 in the Middle School Library at 7:00 p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT

Gary Bagnato	William Murphy, MD (arrv 7:15)
Landra Haber	Andrew Pellettieri
Andrew Kramarchyk	John Phillips
William Martin (arrv 9:10)	Kevin Reis

MEMBERS ABSENT

Edward Helfer

SCHOOL DISTRICT OFFICIALS PRESENT

James Dexter, Superintendent, Gregory Giammarco, School Business Administrator, Steve Marotta, Director of Facilities, Todd DiGrigoli, Food Service Director, Sherrill Phillips, Transportation Supervisor, and Tamara Proniske, District Clerk

President Bagnato announced the fire exits and called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m.

President Bagnato conducted the Pledge of Allegiance and read the Mission Statement as follows: *"In our quest for excellence, the Ichabod Crane Central School District is dedicated to preparing all students to meet the challenges of our future and to appreciate the value of their own lives by nurturing each individual's unique talents, instilling a desire for life-long learning, and fostering a strong spirit of community."*

MOTION HABER 2<sup>ND</sup> KRAMARCHYK

To approve the agenda as prepared  
Carried, 6-0

Dr. Murphy arrived at 7:15 p.m.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT/COMMENTS

Jim said the purpose of this meeting was for the Board to receive a presentation from three of our supervisors on their budget proposals which were developed using a format available through Finance Manager. There is a component to this system that allows for entry of specific comments and amounts, within the budget draft, and allows for a display of past budgets and expenditures.

MEETING OPEN FOR PUBLIC PARTICIPATION ON DEVELOPMENT  
OF THE 2007-2008 BUDGET

(8) members of the public were in attendance.

- Sabine Murphy asked the board to consider a number of items as the budget is developed: smaller class size for the lower grades; offering additional A.P. courses at the high school; need for French textbooks in the Middle School; and to increase the number of guidance counselors in the high school.
- Sue Chiafullo stated she was concerned with the continued increase in school taxes and the need for the district to find support from other areas.
- Amy Sample asked for an explanation of the new budget format headings.
- Veronica Mangione said she would like to see smaller size classes for the Primary School; adding foreign language in the lower grades; and a continuation of sign language in the elementary schools

## 2007-2008 BUDGET PRESENTATIONS

### TRANSPORTATION DEPARTMENT

Sherrill Phillips, Transportation Supervisor discussed the budget proposals for the transportation department and the bus garage building. Sherrill said the appropriation for parts has been increased in light of the fact that last year's bus proposition failed, and the need for more extensive repairs has made the increase necessary. Greg Giammarco stated that most of the costs associated with the transportation costs are eligible for transportation aid.

Sherrill then discussed her recommendation to purchase seven buses for a total cost of approximately \$515,000. She is requesting (5) 66 passenger buses, (1) 28 passenger bus and (1) flexible floor plan bus. After much discussion, the board determined that it would discuss this item again at the February 6<sup>th</sup> meeting.

### FOOD SERVICES PRESENTATION

Todd DiGrigoli, Food Services Manager presented his draft food service budget. Todd stated that although the participation rate has been increasing; there is a recommendation for a transfer from the general fund, in the amount of \$31,000, to cover the deficit. Also, he will be recommending a \$.10 increase in the price of student lunches for next year.

William Martin arrived at 9:10 p.m.

### FACILITIES PRESENTATION

Steve Marotta, Facilities Director discussed his draft budget which he said was indicative of all of the requests that he had received from building principals and teacher leaders as well as other needs that have been identified in the district. Following an in-depth discussion, Steve agreed to the following prior to the next review of his budget:

- 1) Any proposed projects will be indicated if they are noted in the district's five year facilities plan
- 2) He will develop a list of priorities
- 3) He will review his supply codes to determine if any reductions are possible,

and he will provide the Board with information about the impact of these potential reductions

MOTION REIS 2<sup>ND</sup> PELLETTIERI

To extend tonight's budget meeting at 10:10 p.m. for an additional 30 minutes.

BAGNATO	YES	MURPHY	YES
HABER	NO	PELLETTIERI	YES
KRAMARCHYK	YES	PHILLIPS	YES
MARTIN	YES	REIS	YES

Carried, 7-1

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION – AGENDA ITEMS ONLY

- Amy Sample urged the board to ask more in depth questions during the budget development process and she also asked if the board could pay more attention to staying on schedule so the meetings would end earlier.
- Sue Chiafullo asked the board to do a better job in selling the budget to the public.

FEBRUARY BUDGET DEVELOPMENT MEETING:

02/13/07 - 7PM - ICMS LIBRARY

MOTION MARTIN 2<sup>ND</sup> REIS

To adjourn to Executive Session at 10:30 p.m. to discuss the employment history of particular individuals.

MOTION REIS 2<sup>ND</sup> MARTIN

To appoint ANDREW KRAMARCHYK as Clerk Pro Tem

Carried, 8-0

MOTION HABER 2<sup>ND</sup> MARTIN

To adjourn the meeting at 10:49 p.m.

Carried, 8-0

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Andrew Kramarchyk, Clerk Pro Tem

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Tamara N. Proniske, District Clerk

