

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

Minutes of Newton Falls Exempted Village Regular Meeting

Held March 15, 2018, at 6:00 p.m. – Jr./Sr. High School Board Room

President Debra Davis called the regular meeting of the Newton Falls Board of Education to order at 6:01 p.m.

FLAG SALUTE

ROLL CALL: Mrs. Crowder, Mrs. Davis, Mr. Kline, Mr. Powell, Mrs. Urbania

Hearing of Individuals

Chief Doug Theobald was running late. We will be going forward until he arrives.

Susan Thompson: 592 Pat Ann Drive, Warren, OH

I teach here at the middle school. I know there is a lot of shifting, cutting going on here at the school, and realize that this has to happen. I like to hope that we consider leaving technology at the middle school and having Mr. Giesy continue with the technology. Today I had my students do a practice AIRS testing and now they are on the chrome books. Half of them were lost, but if Mr. Giesy hadn't done what he has done with them. Things like the drop and drag and a lot of this has gone over with in his technology classes. That is something that you cannot afford to get rid of. I think we need to focus on reading, math, and technology. Science and social studies, I am not saying those are not important, but for elementary and middle school they are not as important. Science and social studies are important, but they hit a lot of science and social studies through reading and technology. Right now, where the world is going, we need to focus on reading, math, and technology. We need to make sure that we keep Mr. Giesy teaching technology. It would be great to have them not start at fourth grade, but earlier. In third grade, they start taking those tests and they have no clue where all of those keys are. Even today, they were struggling with the size of the screen and the passages being small. I said, "Let me go ask Mr. Giesy." On the chrome book I wasn't sure how to make it larger and if we didn't have his support it would make our test scores worse. I just want you to consider Mr. Giesy teaching technology at the middle school.

The board and administration thanked Mrs. Thompson for her concerns.

Mr. Woodard: Mr. Theobald is on his way.

Mr. Davis: Is there anyone else that would like to speak?

Megan Perrine, 449 LeMae Avenue Newton Falls, OH

I wasn't planning on speaking tonight. I teach fifth grade social studies. I got in through the title program and I have my reading endorsement K through 12. I know there aren't finalized plans but hearsay. I know because of certification and seniority with everything. I am just worried about where the best fit for some of our teachers are, what they will be teaching, and areas were they have stronger backgrounds. I just hope that you think about placement of teachers for the kids. Thanks.

The board and administration thanked Miss. Perrine.

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Mother of a concerned parent spoke for a brief moment regarding the status of her daughter's expulsion hearing.

Mr. Woodard: The proper procedure would be to have the meeting tomorrow with me, then you have the opportunity to appeal to the board.

Committees and/or Delegations – Related to the Agenda, Education, and Committee Report

Student Achievement

Mrs. Davis started off wanting to make note that she was fortunate enough to go to the National Honors Society ceremony and the induction of the Boys and Girls Buckeye State. I always enjoy it and have gone for the last 10 years or so. It was a great program. We were able to induct 20 new members into the National Honor Society this year. Mrs. Donley does a great job every year. This is her third year. Congratulations to the list I am about to read and thank you Mr. Crowder for the report.

Mr. Woodard: The list was emailed to you and if you did not receive it, I have a hard copy here if you would like it.

Mrs. Davis: There were 60 students eligible and 20 were selected. It is great to see these students strive for excellent education. I felt like I should have brought my National Honor Society pin that I received.

Mrs. Urbania: There were different colored sashes. What was all that about?

Mrs. Davis: The officers had different colored sashes. Mrs. Donley did things different compared to teachers in the past. Mrs. Robinson was the adviser prior and they keep improving. I am going to read off the names of the 20 new inductees in National Honor Society. Angela Agati, Tara Backherms, Taylor Bednarcik, Lauren Boyco, Justin Cool, Spencer Griffiths, Jordan Hawkins, Abigail Houser, Allison Hunt, Victoria Leaghty, Jossette (Josie) Madison, Anthony Mock, Tyler Monroe, Emalea Moore, Zayne Nicholson, Nicholas Persino, Grace Suarez, Elizabeth Tatman, Nathaniel Wainwright, and Christian Yannucci. Congratulations to those students. I also want to recognize the Buckeye Boys and Girls States for this year. I have noticed that they have changed the location for Buckeye Boys and Girls States this year. For the boys it used to be Bowling Green and now it is Miami of Ohio. Congratulations to these young men. Spencer Griffiths, Anthony Mock, Tyler Monroe, Nicholas Persino, Nathaniel Wainwright, and Christian Yannucci. For the girls it used to be at Ashland College and now it is at Mount Union University. Congratulations to Angela Agati, Marinda Ball, Taylor Bednarcik, Abigail Houser, Victoria Leaghty, and Jossette Madison. Congratulations to all these boys and girls that were selected. I'll move on to Newton Falls Elementary and Middle School. Syxx Moore represented the Newton Falls Schools in the annual Trumbull County Spelling bee on Monday. The fourth grade is learning about Ohio history including flags and the meaning of the flag. The flags are displayed around the building. If you happen to go into those buildings, please take a look at those flags. The fourth grade science class is learning about simple machines and we have a picture of Madison Davis who made a water wheel. The fifth grade social studies class has completed the biography project. Students chose a historical figure or cultural group studied in the class and had to make or find 5 objects that represented their chosen figure or group. The fifth grade is studying the solar system. The elementary is going to celebrate Dr. Seuss's Birthday bash. Unfortunately, there was a snow day and it had to be rescheduled. In March, Mrs. Williams' class

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won a trip to the Eastwood Mall.

Mrs. Crowder: I am not sure if they got to go since we had cancelled school that day.

Mrs. Davis: We have the Winter Wonderland Daddy/Daughter Dance. It has been started in the last 6 years and it's a great event. Congratulations to these students who received Students of the Month awards: Kindergarten had Kaylee Stinson, Emma Messenger, Lyla Barratt, and Dakota Lightfoot. First grade had Alexandra Pellin, Alexander Garro, Kayleah Shaulis, Anthony Spencer, Second grade had Quinn Jones, Draven McGarry, Michael Bennett, and Preston Kline. Third grade had Alyia Slovinsky, Calleigh Swiger, and Brynlee Blevins. Fourth Grade had Ellie Falb and Daniel McLaughlin. Fifth grade had Kennedy Howard and Wyatt McGregor. Sixth grade had Emma Baker and Carter Rapczak. Congratulations to those students.

Mrs. Urbania: They all look ornery in those pictures.

The board laughed.

Mrs. Davis: Is there anything else that would you like to add? I know there is a lot of testing going to be happening here in the next couple of weeks. Best wishes on those tests.

Mr. Woodard: I know this could go to Athletic Council or Student Achievement, but announce that Isabella Kline named first team All – Ohio for Division III. I believe she is the only person that has every received that type of honor. They just came out a couple of days ago. I saw it on the OHSA website. When I talked to Mr. Crowder, he wasn't aware of it and he doesn't believe anyone has received this type of honor as well. Congratulations Ken.

Legislative Liaison

Mrs. Crowder: Just watching the house bills float around.

Mrs. Davis: Yes, House Bill 512 is the one that we have been watching. This is something we are not real happy about and most people don't want this to happen. I know a board member from Cortland where there were individual meetings with representatives. She felt like her concerns were heard. They are hopeful too that it won't pass. We will adopt a resolution next board meeting to go against this bill.

Mr. Woodard: I have sent several emails out to our legislators to show we are against this bill.

Finance Committee

Mrs. Urbania: The one thing that was brought up today was about our Cisco system. Our wire network that was installed in 2004 so the fact that it has lasted this long is a miracle because it runs constant. If anything would have to be replaced on the mainframe it would cost roughly \$4,300 for a part. The worst part is they are not making those parts anymore so they are hard to find. Shawn put out bids on replacing the network, training on the new network, and installation of it. He came back with three different companies, all of which have a big price difference. One of these companies is a local company, one of them I know about because my work switched to them, but regardless any of the systems they would use now is not going to be by Cisco. The proposed plan was to replace the entire system. We are looking at a cost of around \$8,500 which includes installation.

Mr. Pusateri: So basically, this is through E-Rate. Category 1 was used for, at the beginning, was used for telephone usage, cellphone usage, internet access, etc. Now that has dwindled down just to internet access. In Category 2, E-Rate pays 80% of the costs and we pick up the other 20%. Category 1 has been very helpful to school districts in the past, now Category 2 is beefed

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up to help school districts with their infrastructure. Things like getting wireless out to all of the computers, back in the day the wires that were plugged in the computer were covered. The main thing right now our switches are failing because it has been 14 years. So we decided to look into Category 2 we would get 80% costs covered. Even though the projects costs range from \$47,000 to \$108,000, we would only have to pay 20% of that cost. We looked at a couple criteria for these vendors. We found a company that is pretty reasonably priced for us. The big thing with this is we need to file the 471 form through our third party. The form will be dependent on board approval. If we look to do this in July and don't have the funds, we can scrap the project. So, we discussed do we want to move to the next step and file form 471 or do we want to shut it down. If we saw all bids were a large amount of money and we were paying a lot out of pocket, we could shut it down right here. Now we are seeing bids that are in our price point, that makes this intriguing. Teachers and students use this technology every day. If we don't have it in the classroom, it's going to be difficult to teach the students now. So now that we are seeing this in our price range, I suggest we move to the next step and file the 471 pending board approval.

Mrs. Urbania: When Shawn said, when one piece goes wrong and it costs \$4,300 to replace that part when we could replace the whole system for \$8,500. It's worth the investment. They are going to file the 471 and the nice thing as well is the vendor is local. That is an advantage because he can teach Shawn how to do things and set up the system properly.

Mr. Pusateri: That was the main thing we discussed at the finance committee meeting today.

Mr. Powell: Well stretching out the life of the hardware for 14 years is really good. 5 to 7 years is the typical life of those switches. The hardware will sometimes fail beforehand, however the big difference is there is no support for it after that either.

Athletic Council

Mr. Woodard: We are going to honor our girls basketball team at the next board meeting. They lost in the regional semifinals in triple overtime. It was the best basketball game I have seen. Isabella Kline had the ball under the basket with about 4 seconds left, Elyria Catholic had 3, six foot girls that surrounded her. With her strength, she put up a shot, but couldn't square her shoulders and it went across the rim as time expired. That team we took to triple overtime, went on Saturday and won the regional finals game. If we would have won, there is a chance we would have been playing in the state tournament tonight. That would be a first for Newton Falls to play in the final four in the state playoffs. It was quite an accomplishment.

Mrs. Davis: Our softball and baseball season will be starting March 26th with weather permitting. Congratulations to the girls basketball team and the boys did well too.

Mrs. Urbania: Are the students for the community day, going down to the ball fields and spend the day?

Mr. Woodard: We have done that the last few years and the city manager and city council plan projects for us to do. We plant trees and we paint.

Mrs. Urbania: It sounds like we are going to update the dugouts because the dugouts need painted.

Mr. Woodard: We did that two years ago too.

Mrs. Urbania: It sounds like they are going to help out all of the ball fields including the youth and softball teams. They are doing a lot of work down there and they are asking the community to help out.

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Mr. Woodard: Whatever they assign us to do, we are like an army of ants. Do what we have to do.

Personnel

Nothing.

Negotiations

Negotiations with the Certified Union will be on April 20th at 2:00 p.m.

Trumbull County Career & Technical Center

Mrs. Davis: First of all, the Northeast Spring Conference will be held at TCTC in Champion this year. So if you know of anyone that would be interested in attending and there is a cost. They recognize board members and keep you up to date on stuff too. So if you are interested, I wanted to let you know it is being held at the TCTC campus this year. As of February 27th, we had 35 sophomores that have made applications to go to TCTC next year. It could be more or it could be less, but as of right now that is the number. I also wanted to congratulate, it was in the Review Newspaper, they had an article on Caitlyn Knowlton . She was selected from a writing contest, which was sponsored by Kent State, for writing about the art of humor. She was given a \$750 scholarship and she is enrolled in the biological technology program at TCTC. So congratulations to her.

Hearing of Individuals

Mrs. Davis: We are going to go back to the hearing of individuals for Chief Doug Theobald.
Chief Doug Theobald: My name is Doug Theobald and I am the fire chief of the joint fire district. My address is 45 East Broad Street. I had spoken to Superintendent Woodard regarding, I'll give you a little history then get into it. I was sworn in as chief a year ago and before that I retired out of east Cleveland after 30 years. When I came here I had three goals. The first was to evaluate our personnel, another was to evaluate our equipment, and the last one was to evaluate our training. While evaluating our equipment, I am here to let you know we are pushing our bounds on our buildings. We are currently in two buildings, we are working with the township for a new building. One of our ladder trucks is being housed at Milton Fire Department because none of our buildings could house that truck. Since I have been here, we have made about 1400 runs and we are on pace to make 1700 runs this year. We have increased our staffing, we went from 2 members running 24 hours a day to 4 members. We run a 24 hour EMS unit and a 16 hour EMS unit so we can cover the runs. Speaking with Superintendent Woodard as we walked our annual inspection of your facility, I mentioned as a joke we would like to build a fire station in front of your school. We are in the very preliminary stages of building a new fire station. We currently cannot expand any of our current buildings or expand our staffing because of the size of the buildings. We could add bunk beds in our current buildings but that would be stretching our ability. We are running 5 people on a day including myself in a building that was never meant for more than 3 people. The first fire station was built during the era of volunteer fire departments. We have begun the preliminary study and information gathering for a new fire

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station. We are using other peoples steps so we don't have to start from scratch. We know a couple other places in the area that have built new stations and we have worked with an architect to get some preliminary thoughts. We are looking at \$1.7 to 2 million dollars for a new fire station that would cover the 4 bays and enough dormitory space to increase our staffing. In the discussion with Superintendent Woodard, we have been gathering information and trying to find the best place to place a fire station that helps the city and township out the most. We have a 105 foot aerial truck that is 40 feet long, another 40 foot tanker, and we have to get these out on the road as fast as possible and the back streets don't fit that as well as a main road would. Our other station number 2 that is right across from the Arby's does not have the ability to be expanded. In the preliminary studies, the central area of our district is right where we are standing. This would be the ideal location to get to the district in a timely manner. Time is vital to us in both fire and EMS. We know we need 4 bays, the building will have a footprint of approximately 12,000 to 13,000 square feet. We have looked at our neighbors Milton and some of the northern fire departments to look at their design and to see if we could incorporate that design for us. The main reason I am here is to discuss possibly placing the fire station in the front lawn. The footprint of our building would be minimal, but it would be in a central location for us. Clearly, we don't want to build a great big skyscraper in front of your buildings, but instead we are looking in the corner of your front lawn. Speaking of technology, we took a footprint of a station similar to what we would build and put it on your front lawn. If you were to be standing in the street looking at the front of your building, the station would be set far left and it would be close to the road to have an apron but not directly next to the street. Whatever negotiations that would take place, we would want to use the right of way to the current driveway to pull our trucks into the rear of the station. There would be a parking lot in front of the building for general parking. I don't think you would hear or see us in the sense of pulling out of here screaming our sirens and we would normally turn the siren on as we reach the end of the apron. I would only project that our runs will continue to rise. We have an auto response which allows us to help our neighbors in a fire and vice versa. I am here to see if the board would be open to a discussion and to see what the terms and price would be for something like this to happen. We would work with the board to approve the aesthetics of the building and it would be a modern building. The architect that we have met with has done this before for other area fire stations and they have a great understanding of what it takes to build a fire station. I would suggest that you guys would consider this proposal, we are talking 2 years plus by the time we enter a contract to when the building is complete. It's about a year for bidding and soil testing to the point we can start building. We will be working with the federal government for funding as well as low interest loans. As well as you know, we don't have that money just laying around in our bank account to shop for a new building. I don't have a design to show you unfortunately. We are trying to do all the preliminary work so we don't have to pay an architect hundreds and hundreds of dollars for something that might not happen where we thought it was. We are hoping to have a good idea of the building itself and the location before we go to an architect. I'll be glad to answer any questions.

Mrs. Urbania: Is it just fire and EMT or is it police, fire, and EMT?

Chief Theobald: Just fire and EMS. As a district we stand alone from the village or the township. We are our own entity. We have not spoken to either one about this. I will tell you this, we have looked at several pieces of property around you. We had some preliminary discussion with the property owner next door and I don't have any dollar figures or values right now. We looked at the old grocery store down there and it is a little over \$800,000 which is out of our budget. That

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would chew major dollars out of our building. We have no way to expand our current locations and the surrounding sites take us back too far into the suburban areas which would defeat the purpose.

Mr. Powell: Are you looking to lease or buy the property?

Chief Theobald: We are looking to see what the feedback would be and then we would go from there. We would certainly love free, but realistically we know that is not possible. We are looking to see what the land would cost us since we know the price of what it would take to build a fire station.

Mr. Powell: How much acreage are we looking at?

Chief Theobald: The dimensions of the station would range, if memory serves me right, 290 and 180 dimension. I could give you a sample of other fire stations and show you what it would look similar to.

Mr. Kline: About the size of a football field.

Chief Theobald: Say we would reach an agreement, we would work together on the look of the building and its positioning for the best interest of both you and us. We won't be able to shrink the building, but we can adjust the apron sizes and parking lot. Right now we are trying to expand and it would not help us to shrink the building. We need to think 10 years out, trying to project runs and have a building that will be able to accommodate those numbers. Those run numbers are not going to diminish and that means our man power has to rise. We have much work to do and we are hoping to get an exact figure and then start working with the federal government. Our goal is to stay within the two year time frame.

Mr. Pusateri: For building purposes, depending on time frame, will that interfere with the school in the aspect of busing?

Chief Theobald: We would write into the proposal that we would not interfere with the school that the building process would not interfere with the operations with the school. We would make a construction entrance. Our thought is we would tie the rear entrance with the school driveway so we can pull the trucks in through the double deep drive through bays. We would only use that to return the apparatus not pull out of that entrance.

Mr. Woodard: Sometime during this process, is there going to be a certain amount of money that you can allocate to purchase the land or lease land?

Chief Theobald: We are right in the beginning, so whatever you feedback to us, we will have a better idea. We kind of have an idea where we would like to be for the building but we have no idea what it is going to cost to buy the land. Whatever is going to make it work, that is what we are going to do. I'll be honest with you, we don't have a plan "B" and we don't have another site. Another problem with some of the sites is that we would have to buy the property and pay someone to tear them down. Your site is a perfect location and we can start building on it with little to no work beforehand. I don't have a figure.

Mr. Woodard: Would you have any interest in Arlington which is by the Covered Bridge and where our soccer team practices?

Chief Theobald: We are open to anything at this time. We are taking other people's ideas and fire stations at this time and seeing if we could make that work for us. Whatever you would propose we would be open to and I do not have a figure at this time. For us the expenses will double as you rise up. We would want to decrease expenses by making it a single story building. Can't mess with the bays but we can do something's with the living quarters to narrow the footprint down. We are going to need 12,000 to 14,000 square feet for a station.

Mrs. Crowder: I take it you are the spokesperson for this project?

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Chief Theobald: I am as well as Mr. Irons, who is the chair of the fire board, who tried to attend but Cleveland traffic had other plans. We have just begun the preliminary investigation. We want to be the best neighbors as possible if this would be something good.

Mrs. Crowder: It's not like those of us who graduated when it was the center school, we had the fire department right out the back door. I mean it's nothing new.

Mrs. Urbania: I don't know those days.

Mr. Powell: We do appreciate you coming in.

The board and administration thanked Chief Doug Theobald for presenting this proposal to the board.

Approval of Minutes

#044-2018

Mr. Powell moved and Mrs. Crowder seconded the following motion:

BE IT RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Treasurer of Schools, the Newton Falls Board of Education approve the minutes from the regular board meeting on February 15th at 6:00 p.m. as presented.

Roll Call: Ayes: Mr. Powell, Mrs. Crowder, Mr. Kline, Mrs. Urbania, Mrs. Davis
Motion Carried

Treasurer's Report and Recommendations

Mr. Pusateri: The first thing on my report was that Newton Falls has received the "Auditor of State Award". This is for a clean audit. A clean audit report means your financial audit did not contain findings for recovery, material citations, material weaknesses, and significant deficiencies. Kudos to Dawn Meeks for her accomplishments and doing a great job. I thought it would be nice with everything else going on, to bring some light into the conversation. The next thing is the timber harvesting project. Russ Corley and myself went and looked at a project that is ongoing in Deerfield. I took some pictures and sent them to you in your board packets. Overall, it looks pretty clean. It is a different situation than what we have. There is a corn and soybean field with a wooded area behind the property. The property was clean overall. No trenches, no tire ruts, and they did a good job of stacking the wood as well. Do you have any questions and what are your thoughts on this?

Mr. Powell: How many trees they are going to take per acre, we are not going to notice after they are done. There is going to be some traffic in and out, but if they do it during summer that won't be a problem. It's a way to generate revenue.

Mrs. Davis: How much did you say it was going to bring in?

Mr. Pusateri: \$ 50,000. The one thing I was concerned about is when and where they set the logs down. In your photos, there is a picture of a spot that was just loaded of logs. There appeared to be no damage to that lawn from those logs. They are going to use their tracks bobcat because it would cause less damage to the yard than the horses. We can add things into the contract about the ruts or the clean up anything we really would want to add they said they would add it in. The next step would be to work out a contract with them.

Mr. Powell: How many days would you say it would take?

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Mr. Pusateri: In and out in 2 weeks. 3 weeks at the most I think. A lot depends on the weather too. We don't want them working when the ground is soft.

Mr. Powell: If we have them wait until the middle of summer like July, not June, it would be best for us. End of July would be good.

Mrs. Crowder: Has there been any thought to having another company come take a look and get a quote?

Mr. Pusateri: There would have to be some investigation into that, I personally don't know of any other company that does this, but we can try to look and see.

Mrs. Davis: Who is the company?

Mr. Pusateri: I don't have the card on me, I apologize. They are a local company out of Hiram, Ohio I do know that.

Mrs. Davis: Where is the site located?

Mr. Pusateri: The site is in Deerfield. There are no owners on the property itself. I believe the owner lives in Canton and he leases the land out for the corn and soy bean harvesting.

Mrs. Davis: Is there a way to get that person's information to discuss if they are happy with the work that this company has done?

Mr. Pusateri: Yes we can try to find that information out. Like I said, it's a little bit of a different situation than ours. Some farmers don't care if there is a tree down next to their harvesting property.

Mrs. Crowder: I am not saying go out and get another bid as well. I am just opening that up for discussion with the board.

Mrs. Urbania: It would be nice to see if their bid is good or not.

Cash Balances

001 - \$ 555,131.53

016 - \$ 126,973.36

Total \$ 682,104.89

Financial Report

#045-2018

Mr. Powell moved and Mrs. Urbania seconded the following motion:

BE IT RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Treasurer of Schools, the Newton Falls Board of Education approve the financial reports for the month of January 2018, and the short term investments made by the Treasurer which yielded \$794.06 for general fund, \$1.22 for the cafeteria fund, and \$52.02 for the scholarship fund.

Roll Call: Ayes: Mr. Powell, Mrs. Urbania, Mrs. Crowder, Mr. Kline, Mrs. Davis
Motion Carried

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Payment of Invoice

#046-2018

Mr. Powell moved and Mrs. Urbania seconded the following motion:

BE IT RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Treasurer of Schools, the Newton Falls Board of Education approve the following invoice for payment:

OSBA

\$4,488.00

Explanation: Mr. Pusateri: This is for the yearly membership to OSBA for the school district.

Roll Call: Ayes: Mr. Powell, Mrs. Urbania, Mrs. Crowder, Mr. Kline, Mrs. Davis

Motion Carried

Fiscal Year 19 Amounts and Rates

#047-2018

Mr. Powell moved and Mrs. Crowder seconded the following motion:

BE IT RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Treasurer of Schools, the Newton Falls Board of Education approve the Fiscal Year 19 Amounts and Rates as presented.

Roll Call: Ayes: Mr. Powell, Mrs. Crowder, Mr. Kline, Mrs. Urbania, Mrs. Davis

Motion Carried

Annual Financial Report – Newton Falls Public Library

#048-2018

Mr. Powell moved and Mrs. Urbania seconded the following motion:

BE IT RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Treasurer of Schools, the Newton Falls Board of Education approve the Annual Financial Report for the Newton Falls Public Library for the year ended December 31, 2017 as presented.

Roll Call: Ayes: Mr. Powell, Mrs. Urbania, Mrs. Crowder, Mr. Kline, Mrs. Davis

Motion Carried

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Superintendent's Reports and Recommendations

Reports

Mr. Woodard : I would like to point out for next Tuesday, March 20th, the Music in our Schools will be at 7:00 p.m. at the high school. Next Monday, March 19th, I will be speaking with city council to discuss the state of the school and answer any questions they might have. The school calendar was in your board packets. I'll go through a little information on that. We put 2 or 3 calendars around the district and let the staff vote on them. Calendar "A", which was in your packet, was the most popular one. There is also a Calendar "A" that I just passed out to you, which is a little different than the other Calendar "A" that was given in your board packet. The TCTC calendar is in there as well as Warren City's calendar. One thing that Warren City is doing is that they are taking a full week next year at Thanksgiving and I don't know anyone else who is taking a full week like they are. Calendars "B" and "C" were the other calendars that we put out there for them to vote on. John Crowder and I have talked to a couple different teachers in our staff the last couple of weeks and are looking into ways we can save money. One idea that we received from Weathersfield was to shorten the school year and extend the amount of time at the school those days. Weathersfield had to do this due to construction a couple years back and have stuck with it ever since. Since Weathersfield has switched to this new calendar, they are saving approximately \$10,000 a year according to their superintendent. Basically, their savings are coming from substitute costs and not having to pay substitutes for those days. There would be some issues to that, this is something that we are not able to do this upcoming year, but if we continue the downward spiral in enrollment we will have to take a look at this to save money. One of the main issues we would have to work with is the classified union and their contract when it comes to hourly pays and the number of days they work. We would have to do a MOU with the teachers dealing with the number of hours and days they teach. We will be looking over this the next six months to see what we could save if we went to a shortened calendar. We will have classified negotiations start up next spring and we are currently in negotiations with our certified staff now. The Calendar "A" in your packet and Calendar "A" I just gave to you are a little different. August 15th in the packet I gave you, that day and May 24th is the last day for the teachers. We spoke about this at our DLT meeting. With us to meet certain requirements with the SST and have professional development days and trying to find time for our teacher based team meetings and building team meetings. We have tried different things, last year we tried the early dismissal and this year we have taken professional development days where we have taken a full day off during the month. Calendar "A" you had in your packet, we discussed eliminating the 15th and on the 24th only have the staff in for about 3 hours. We could then borrow 9 hours and then add an hour to each of the months to help out with TBT time. The SST is not crazy about how often we are doing TBT now or DLT's.

Mrs. Urbania: What's DLT and BLT?

Mr. Woodard: TBT is teacher based teams. BLT is building level teams. DLT is district level teams. We have worked with the state the last couple of years because of our report card and teachers get together in TBT's to work on intervention for these students. Building level teams get together, hopefully, once a month and take a look at what we are doing at the TBT level. The BLT level then relays the message to the DLT level where we look at the whole district. It's challenging to come up with the amount of time they think we should have because of some of our contractual issues we have and each year we examine how we are doing everything. If the

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state would have their methodology of doing this, we would be doing TBT's every 2 weeks, BLT's would be every month, and DLT's would meet every month, every other month, or quarterly. It has been challenging to fit all of these things in. We will either go with Calendar "A" I gave you or the Calendar "A" in your packets. We will be looking at shortening the number of days and we would have to talk to both unions about this impact.

Mrs. Davis: Did Weathersfield have any problems with sports or stuff like that?

Mr. Woodard: That is the one question that we didn't ask. We spoke for about 40 minutes and he didn't bring it up and I forgot to ask.

Mr. Pusateri: The one nice thing too is the wear and tear on the busses. Less fuel and less days on the road.

Mr. Woodard: There are some issues that you will have to work out. Look at people who hold multiple jobs in the district. If we extend the day a half hour does that mess with their schedule. How many hours we have to be in school. We will look at that cost savings over the next six months. Do you have any questions over the calendar?

Mrs. Urbania: We got gypped as kids, we never had 2 weeks during Christmas break.

Mr. Woodard: There are a lot of schools going to that this year.

Mrs. Crowder: That is wonderful. I need clarification, the calendar that we were given in our packet, we have teacher in-service on the 16th and the 20th, what about the 17th?

Mr. Woodard: We have never had, since I have been here and long before my time, we never went to school on that Friday. We have always had that Friday off. Possibly that is our first football game, but we just don't have school on that Friday. Weathersfield did a Monday, Tuesday, took Wednesday off, and started with the students on Thursday. I don't know if that is a Trumbull county thing, I was not used to doing that anywhere else before I came here.

Michele Murphy: We used to, but when we used to come for in-service days they would give us projects to do. We would use that Friday to get that project done, most of us still come in on Friday to work on our classrooms and stuff. It kind of just gave us an extra day.

Mrs. Urbania: We've always went to school before Labor Day, school has never started after Labor Day.

Mrs. Thompson: My personal opinion, if you want it.

Mrs. Davis: We are going to let you speak, even though we usually keep this closed, but to give us some good input.

Mrs. Thompson: At the beginning of the school year, if we would go Monday and Tuesday as teachers, the kids have 3 days that first week to get used to everything.

Mrs. Murphy: Why does TCTC start so early?

Mrs. Crowder: That is a great question.

Mrs. Davis: I can ask them.

Mr. Woodard: Their first day is the 20th, which is the day before we would start under our calendar. Girard is going a full week ahead of that. TCTC gets out a little before us.

Mrs. Urbania: Last day of classes May 21st for TCTC.

Mrs. Crowder: Basically, we have always tried to coincide with TCTC because we are still responsible for those students with the bussing. That's such a valid point, August is so much hotter than May. Our hotter months are July, August, and September, but we are not going to move TCTC.

Mr. Woodard: Many schools have started to push their start time up to prepare for the state test.

Mrs. Thompson: I know, my husband teaches at Bristol and my daughter is at Southington, they do two in-service days before. One is a certain day and the other is a floating day. You have to

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sign in, but this will actually give you a work day to get your room ready and your class list. We usually don't get any time for that.

Mr. Woodard: I've given you time every year.

Mrs. Murphy: The problem is we don't get that class list until right before that Friday.

Mrs. Urbania: Isn't that the day the list goes out is that Friday?

Mr. Woodard: We've moved, since I have been here, we have moved the open house to the 20th so it's not a conference night for the teachers and parents. People aren't coming in and asking how their kids are doing. I gets the jitters out for the students.

Mrs. Murphy: That has been a big improvement.

Mr. Woodard: One day, we are trying to do some stuff with the county for professional development and CPR classes that we have to take every year. That stuff has been thrust upon us the last few years. We usually, try to give them a half day if not a full day to work on their rooms and get prepared for when the students come to school for the 21st. I don't know the reason why we don't go to school on the 20th. I know there has been a push by some legislators the last couple of years to start after Labor Day and to get out before Memorial Day. I know some of the people behind that was Cedar Point and Kings Island. They had some legislators from their region were trying to get something passed but nothing has gotten that far.

Mrs. Davis: I know that is something that has been discussed, but not for 2 years or so.

Mr. Woodard: Talking about our school closing and our community meeting, I was down in Columbus the following week regarding the missile defense at the Arsenal. After that meeting I had the chance to talk to some of the legislators privately. I spoke with Representative O'Brien and I asked them, "I need to talk to you about school funding. Is there anything in the works for changing school funding? It was declared unconstitutional twice in the '90s. I'm going to be honest with you, schools like ours that doesn't have a lot of industry. With districts losing enrollment like us and dropping by 500 or 1000 kids, our districts won't make it. With us passing one levy in the 20 some years, it's hard for us to keep the doors open. We are constantly cutting and trimming. Unless something changes with school funding, you're not going to have schools like us, Waterloo. We are not going to be a school anymore, we are going to have to consolidate. I know that is an agenda that some people have been pushing the last 5 to 10 years in this state. It's going to come true for those people. Myself and some colleagues are more than willing to come down to Columbus to speak to committees and whoever we have to talk to about school funding and get it on the table." They told me there is nothing right now they are even looking at. I know we talked at the community meeting, the cuts we are going to make and just to keep the doors open. We are looking at a drop in enrollment every year and this last year it was very drastic. Our kindergarten sign-ups are going on this week and thankfully 9 kids came in today because we are only at 29 kids right now. The class average in our bottom 4 grades is around 71 to 72 now. If this trend continues, even with the cuts we're making and closing the building saving on the utilities, it might not be enough. We might have to look at deeper and more drastic cuts if this trend continues, just to keep the doors open. We have to start talking about what we are going to go to the people of this community and tell them, as far as a levy is concerned. With the decline in enrollment, our renewals might not be enough. I just wanted to let you know, I went down and talked to some people and I have emailed multiple representatives about this. Representative Boccieri at least emailed me back and we spoke face to face. He understands our concerns and he will do what he can from his end. I hate to have to RIF people, I hate to have to close down a building, we have heard what Mr. Pusateri said about our general fund, if we lose the same amount of kids from this year to next year, we will have to make some drastic

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cuts to keep the doors open and the state from coming in. There is just no new ways for funding, we are looking at cutting trees down and talking to the Chief to put a fire station on our front lawn. There are multiple schools going through the same thing, I mean Poland has been in the news recently for having to close multiple buildings.

Mrs. Davis: They are going to do open enrollment. That is something they have never done. It was only going to be done in lower grades as well, not in the high school.

Mr. Woodard: Southeast, Crestwood where I have been, Waterloo where Mr. Pusateri's father is on the school board, and Windham one year cut 21 teachers. Windham's enrollment has been cut in half since '05, when I was assistant principal at the middle school at Crestwood it was grades 5 through 8 we had 200 kids in a class. Now Crestwood has 125 to 100 kids in a class. It's not just here, it's happening where there is no industry especially in Northeast Ohio. People are moving away for jobs. We have not changed the way funding is here in the state of Ohio. We need to change something or the agenda that some people have pushed for the last 10 years is going to come true. We are going to have to consolidate districts, have county wide schools, and I told both representatives when I spoke with them to talk to someone who was raised in Ohio in the public school system that moved to the south. They raised their kids in the south that have these big county wide schools, ask them what they think. I have personal friend that did that and he hates it. There is 2,000 kids a class and your child gets overlooked. Athletics is a huge difference as well. His son would have probably been first team all-league where we went to school, but he can't even make the team at those schools. He can't stand it and would have rather raised his kids in Northeast Ohio, but his wife's family is down there and they had to move there. Nothing has been done on their end. I feel like we are forging ahead with our plan. We have some RIFs on the agenda tonight and in the next couple of months, close the elementary building.

Mrs. Davis: I wanted to thank you Mr. Woodard for being a great representative of our school and speaking on behalf of our school. We want the community to know that we want the school to be here and we are doing everything we can to keep these doors open.

Mr. Woodard: One last thing before we move on, I know yesterday a bunch of schools participated in walk-outs. Here at Newton Falls, we encouraged something different. We didn't want them to walk out because if it's a planned walk out and a big group of people gathering, that could become a perfect scenario for someone wanting to do something. I wasn't here when this occurred because I had an OIP meeting with the state, they did light 17 candles in the cafeteria, some students spoke with Mr. Kernan, about some issues and some students pledged to do 17 acts of kindness. There is supposed to be another walk-out on April 20th, to protest violence in schools. Student council is meeting to try to plan constructive ideas or activities. We will be doing AIRS testing that week. So maybe after testing, they could do some type of activities.

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Employment - Classified

#049-2018

Mr. Powell moved and Mrs. Urbania seconded the following motion:

BE IT RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Newton Falls Board of Education employ Lisa Shade as ½ custodian for the remaining 2017/2018 school year, effective January 22, 2018.

Roll Call: Ayes: Mr. Powell, Mrs. Urbania, Mrs. Crowder, Mr. Kline, Mrs. Davis
Motion Carried

Resolution Implementing a Reduction in Force of the Classified and Certified Staff

#050-2018

The Board of Education of the Newton Falls Exempted Village School District, Newton Falls, Ohio, met in regular session on March 15, 2018, at the offices of said Board with the following members present:

Amie Crowder
Debra Davis
Brent Powell
Kenneth Kline
Jennifer Urbania

The Treasurer advised the Board that the notice requirements of O.R.C. §121.22 were complied with for the meeting.

Amie Crowder moved the adoption of the following resolution:

WHEREAS, O.R.C. §3319.172 and Article XV of the Negotiated Agreement between the Board and the Newton Falls Association of Classified Employees ("NFACE") provides that the Board may reduce classified staff in the District for certain reasons; and

WHEREAS, O.R.C. §3319.17 and Article XII of the Negotiated Agreement between the Board and the Newton Falls Classroom Teachers Association ("NFCTA") provides that the Board may reduce certified staff in the District for certain reasons; and

WHEREAS, the Board has determined to reduce in force several classified staff positions due to abolishment of positions and reorganization, and several teaching staff positions for financial reasons; and

WHEREAS, the Board has also determined to create classified positions;

WHEREAS, the notice requirements mandated by Article XII and Article XV of the Negotiated Agreements have been met; and

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WHEREAS, the Superintendent has notified and consulted with the President of the NFCTA, and the President of the NFACE, regarding the effects on the bargaining unit of the anticipated staff reduction, and has discussed the nature of and specific reasons for said staff reduction.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Board of Education of the Newton Falls Exempted Village School District, Newton Falls, Ohio, that:

Section 1: The position of full-time EMIS Coordinator is no longer abolished and is hereby recreated effective July 1, 2018.

Section 2: The position of EMIS/Guidance Administrative Assistant is reduced, effective July 1, 2018.

Section 3: The position of Guidance Administrative Assistant/Attendance Administrative Assistant is hereby created effective July 1, 2018.

Section 4: The following positions are reduced effective July 1, 2018 due to abolishment of positions and reorganization pursuant to Article XV of the current bargaining agreement between the Board and the Newton Falls Association of Classified Employees:

- a. Elementary Administrative Assistant;
- b. Daytime custodian at the elementary school;
- c. Evening custodian at the elementary school; and
- d. Three (3) cafeteria positions at the elementary school.
- e. One (1) Cafeteria Van Driver/Cafeteria Helper at elementary school.

Section 5: The following positions are hereby created effective July 1, 2018: Two (2) cafeteria positions and one (1) half time evening custodian at the middle school.

Section 6: The following positions are reduced effective July 1, 2018 for financial reasons pursuant to Article XII of the current bargaining agreement between the Board and the Newton Falls Classroom Teachers Association.

- a. Elementary kindergarten teacher;
- b. Elementary first grade teacher;
- c. Elementary second grade teacher;
- d. Middle school fourth grade teacher;
- e. Middle school fifth grade teacher;
- f. Secondary social studies teacher; and
- g. Secondary English Language Arts teacher.

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Section 7: The Treasurer is hereby directed to furnish the above-named classified and certified employees with written notice of the above-actions pursuant to Articles XV and XII of the Negotiated Agreements.

Section 8: It is found and determined that all formal actions of this Board concerning and relating to the adoption of this Resolution were adopted in an open meeting of this Board, and that all deliberations of this Board and of any of its committees that resulted in these formal actions were in meetings open to the public and in compliance with the law.

Brent Powell seconded the Motion, and upon roll call the vote resulted as follows:

Roll Call: Ayes: Mrs. Crowder, Mr. Powell, Mr. Kline, Mrs. Urbania, Mrs. Davis

Motion Carried

Motion passed and adopted this 15 day of March, 2018.

President, Board of Education

ATTEST:

Treasurer

Items too late for the agenda

Financial Report

#051-2018

Mr. Powell moved and Mrs. Crowder seconded the following motion:

BE IT RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Treasurer of Schools, the Newton Falls Board of Education accept the following donation:

Newton Falls Youth Baseball and Softball League	Athletics	\$4,523.61
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Discussion: Thank you from the board and administration.

Roll Call: Ayes: Mr. Powell, Mrs. Crowder, Mr. Kline, Mrs. Urbania, Mrs. Davis

Motion Carried

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Payment of Invoice

#052-2018

Mr. Powell moved and Mrs. Urbania seconded the following motion:

BE IT RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Treasurer of Schools, the Newton Falls Board of Education approve the following invoice for payment:

Trumbull County ESC

\$6,388.28

Explanation: Mr. Pusateri: This is from the previous year's shared service agreement. I am not sure why this wasn't paid yet.

Roll Call: Ayes: Mr. Powell, Mrs. Urbania, Mrs. Crowder, Mr. Kline, Mrs. Davis

Motion Carried

Supplemental Contracts

#053-2018

Mr. Powell moved and Mrs. Urbania seconded the following motion:

BE IT RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Newton Falls Board of Education employ the following for supplemental positions for the 2017-2018 season:

Dale Huff

Sixth Grade Boys Basketball Coach

Rodney Hedge

Sixth Grade Girls Basketball Coach

Roll Call: Ayes: Mr. Powell, Mrs. Urbania, Mrs. Crowder, Mr. Kline, Mrs. Davis

Motion Carried

Old Business

Mrs. Davis: What is going on with the lights project?

Mr. Woodard: We have 3 LED lights that just came in this week that are going to get those installed as a test.

Mr. Pusateri: We were approached by a business that did work for another business in town. We will talk with them and discuss with them what they offer. The one company that we were talking to stopped communicating with us unfortunately.

Mr. Powell: Is there a good chance we can get grant money?

Mr. Pusateri: If we were with First Energy, we would have had a grant already through them. We have the City of Newton Falls for electricity so we are stuck in that aspect.

New Business

Mr. Woodard: We will be putting on a resolution for House Bill 512 at the next board meeting. Did anyone have any questions regarding the resolution for school safety. Please read through that

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carefully and let me know there may be a point or two that you may feel you might not agree with. Please read it carefully and let me know your comments.

Mrs. Crowder: The only thing I wanted to throw out there was after our community meeting and after receiving all of the input from the community, I would want the board to consider on their personal thoughts about, for the lack of a better term, a steering committee. This would include people from the community, teachers, board members, etc. just to help to extend the olive branches and to help filter in some information. Just a thought, but it can be an outreach to become as transparent as we can be and embrace the community as much as we can. So if you could think about this for next board meeting and bring your thoughts on the idea.

Communications

Mrs. Davis: Did everyone get their email from Mr. Hill about the varsity and junior high track team selling cookie dough? You can place your order today. Mr. Hill sent out a mass email to everyone I thought regarding the cookie dough sale.

Mrs. Urbania: I got the email.

Executive Session

#054-2018

Mr. Powell moved and Mrs. Urbania seconded the motion to enter into executive session at 7:48 p.m..

WHEREAS, as a public board of education may hold an executive session only after a majority of the quorum of this board determines by a roll call vote to hold such a session and only at a regular or special meeting for the sole purpose of the consideration of any of the following matters:

- A. To consider one or more, as applicable, of the check marked items with respect to a public employee or official:

1. _____ Appointment
2. X Employment
3. _____ Dismissal
4. X Discipline
5. _____ Promotion
6. _____ Demotion
7. _____ Compensation
8. _____ Investigation of charges/complaints (unless public hearing requested)

- B. To consider the purchase of property for the public purposed or for the sale of property at competitive bidding.

- C. Conferences with an attorney for the public body concerning disputes involving the public body that are the subject of pending or imminent court action.

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- D. Preparing for, conducting, or reviewing negotiations or bargaining sessions with public employees concerning their compensation or other terms and conditions of their employment.**
- E. Matters required to be kept confidential by federal law or rules or state statutes.**
- F. Specialized details of security arrangements where disclosure of the matters discussed might reveal information that could be used for the purpose of committing or avoid prosecution for a violation of the law.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Newton Falls Exempted Village Schools District Board of Education, by a majority of the quorum present at this meeting, does hereby declare its intention to hold an executive session on item A2, A4, D, and E as listed above.

ROLL CALL: Ayes: Mr. Powell, Mrs. Urbania, Mrs. Crowder, Mr. Kline, Mrs. Davis
MOTION CARRIED

Exit Executive Session

#055-2018

Mr. Powell moved and Mrs. Crowder seconded the motion to come out of executive session at 9:10 p.m.

ROLL CALL: Ayes: Mr. Powell, Mrs. Crowder, Mrs. Urbania, Mr. Kline, Mrs. Davis
MOTION CARRIED

Adjournment

#056-2018

Mr. Powell moved to adjourn the meeting at 9:10 p.m., and Mrs. Crowder seconded the motion.

ROLL CALL: Ayes: Mr. Powell, Mrs. Crowder, Mr. Kline, Mrs. Urbania, Mrs. Davis
MOTION CARRIED

Treasurer

President