

TYRONE AREA SCHOOL BOARD

SPECIAL SESSION

September 13, 2016

Members Present: Mollie Bakhsheshe; Rose Black; Brian Bressler; James Crawford; William Hartsock; Luther Laird; Randy Miles; James Raabe.

Members Absent: None.

Board Positions Vacant: One.

Student Representatives Present: None.

Media Present: Sean Sauro, *Altoona Mirror*; Julie White, *The Daily Herald*.

Administration and Deans Present: John Clark; Leslie Estep; Cathy Harlow; Lisa Hartsock; Thomas Yoder.

Others Present: Jennifer Bryan; David Fusco; Stephen Grot; Wendy Grot; Bill Lash; Jeff Long; Tanya Sharer; Gary Sorensen.

OPENING EXERCISES

President James Crawford called the meeting to order at 6:01 p.m. All present were asked to stand and pledge allegiance to the American flag, followed by a moment of silent meditation. President Crawford announced that the meeting was being audio taped and welcomed everyone present, with the reminder that all guests are required to sign the meeting roster.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Mr. Brian Bressler, in the form of a motion, recommended board approval to the proposed agenda for the September 13, 2016 Special Session meeting. The motion was seconded by Ms. Rose Black and carried with a roll call vote of 8-0-0. (Brian Bressler, yes; Luther Laird, yes; James Raabe, yes; Randy Miles, yes; William Hartsock, yes; Rose Black, yes; Mollie Bakhsheshe, yes; James Crawford, yes.)

PUBLIC INPUT

None.

ADOPTION OF RESOLUTION

In the form of a motion, Mr. Brian Bressler recommended board adoption of a resolution "Recognizing the Contributions, Expressing Gratitude, and Honoring Rev. Norman E. Huff for His 21 Years of Faithful Service on the Tyrone Area School Board." The motion was seconded by Mr. Luther Laird and carried with a roll call vote of 8-0-0. (Mollie Bakhsheshe, yes; Rose Black, yes; William Hartsock, no; Randy Miles, yes; James Raabe, yes; Luther Laird, yes; Brian Bressler, yes; James Crawford, yes.)

On behalf of the Tyrone Area School Board, President James Crawford presented the framed Resolution to the family of Rev. Norman E. Huff. Mrs. Huff was also presented with a single white rose placed in a vase in honor of Rev. Huff.

INTERVIEWS FOR BOARD VACANCY

In response to public advertisement of a vacancy on the Tyrone Area School Board created by the passing of Rev. Norman E. Huff, the following five (5) Tyrone residents submitted letters of interest for the position:

- Jennifer L. Bryan of 1112 Lincoln Avenue, Tyrone, PA 16686
- Dr. David J. Fusco of 2505 Edgewood Drive, Tyrone, PA 16686
- William D. Lash of 3677 Serenity Drive, Tyrone, PA 16686
- Jeff S. Long of 1916 Hileman Road, Tyrone, PA 16686
- Dr. Gary L. Sorensen of 802 West 13th Street, Tyrone, PA 16686

Interviews were conducted with each candidate responding to the following nine (9) questions with the maximum time allowed per candidate per question being two (2) minutes:

- (1) Why are you interested in serving on the school board?
- (2) What do you believe to be the responsibilities of the local school board?
- (3) What do you see as the greatest challenges facing public education in the state and local school district today?
- (4) What are the challenges facing our local school district?
- (5) How would you, as a board member, address these challenges?
- (6) What would you find most difficult about being a member of the school board?
- (7) How do you see yourself working with the other members of the board and the superintendent?
- (8) If you were faced with a tough issue as a board member – i.e., raising taxes or cutting programs – what kind of data would you need to help you make your decisions?
- (9) What qualities, skills, and experience would you bring to the board?

ADJOURNMENT

With the completion of the candidate interview process and there being no further business, Mr. James Raabe motioned to adjourn the meeting. Ms. Rose Black seconded the motion and it carried with an affirmative vote. The meeting adjourned at 6:59 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Tanya L. Sharer

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Board Secretary