

**MINUTES**  
**AMHERST SCHOOL BOARD**  
**August 10, 2006**  
**Souhegan High School – Room 222A**  
**5:30 p.m.**

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Chairman Dwight Brew called the meeting to order at 5:35 pm.

**CALL TO ORDER**

Board Members: Dwight Brew, Nancy Head, Jim O’Mara, Pam Dudoff, and Deborah Cort

**ATTENDANCE**

Administration: Dr. Mary Jennings

Nancy Head moved, seconded by Pam Dudoff, to go into non-public session under RSA 91-A:3 II(b), personnel. By a roll vote, Brew – yes; Dudoff – yes; Head – yes; Cort – yes; O’Mara – yes, all members voted to go into non-public session. The board went into non-public session.

**NON-PUBLIC  
SESSION**

Personnel nominations were discussed.

Pam Dudoff moved, seconded by Nancy Head, to come out of non-public session at 5:45pm. By a roll call vote, Brew – yes; Dudoff – yes; Head – yes; Cort – yes; O’Mara – yes, all board members voted to come out of non-public session. The board came out of non-public session.

Mary Jennings nominated Debra Husbands and Keely McGovern to work as special education para-professionals and Karen Urbanik as a long-term substitute teacher.

**PERSONNEL  
Nominations**

Nancy Head moved, seconded by Pam Dudoff, to accept the superintendent’s nominations. All voted in favor and the motion passed.

Mary Jennings reviewed that the Board had interviewed 2 firms: Soule, Leslie, Kidder, Sayward & Loughman and Flygare, Schwarz & Closson for the purposes of assisting with collective bargaining agreement negotiations this fall. She mentioned the Board had requested she investigate Attorney Mike Elwell’s availability during the timeframe of the upcoming negotiations. Mary reported to the Board that Attorney Elwell would be available to represent the Board during negotiations if the firm of Soule, Leslie, Kidder, Sayward & Loughman was chosen.

**Legal Council Review**

Deborah Cort indicated that working with Tom Flygare had been very productive for the Board and the District, but that she believed it made sense to shift to the firm of Soule, Leslie, Kidder, Sayward & Loughman because that firm also represented the school district and SAU.

Deborah Cort moved, seconded by Pam Dudoff, to hire the firm of Soule, Leslie, Kidder, Sayward & Loughman based on the understanding that Attorney Mike Elwell will be available to represent the Board during the upcoming contract negotiations. The Board voted 4 in favor, one opposed (Jim O'Mara), the motion passed.

Jim O'Mara stated that Attorney Tom Flygare had a history with the District, that keeping him as our labor attorney would provide continuity and that he had done a good job for us.

Pam Dudoff agreed with Jim, but also stated that the new firm will provide full service support especially in negotiation preparation.

Dwight Brew mentioned that Attorney Flygare's services had benefited the District. He also indicated that by using the firm of Soule, Leslie, Kidder, Sayward & Loughman, we could tie contracts, policies and other legal matters together.

Jim O'Mara made the recommendation that the Board send a letter to Flygare Schwarz & Closson thanking them for their service to the board.

Pam Dudoff requested that the wellness policy be considered for a future agenda.

Jim O'Mara moved, seconded by Deborah Cort, to recess the Board meeting. All voted in favor and the meeting was recessed at 6:00 pm.

**BOARD RECESS**

Dwight Brew reconvened the Board meeting at 9:04 pm.

Nancy Head updated the Board with regard to the Master Plan.

**MASTER PLAN  
UPDATE**

Pam Dudoff moved, seconded by Nancy Head, to adjourn the meeting. All voted in favor and the meeting adjourned at 9:15 pm.

**ADJOURNMENT**