

**MINUTES**  
**AMHERST SCHOOL BOARD**  
**January 9, 2007**  
**Souhegan High School Annex**

**Page 1579**

Chair Dwight Brew called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

**CALL TO ORDER**

Present:

**ATTENDANCE**

Amherst School Board: Dwight Brew, Deborah Cort, Pam Dudoff, Nancy Head and Jim O'Mara.

Administrative Team: Porter Dodge, Dr. Mary Jennings, Elizabeth Shankel, and Gerry St. Amand.

Ways and Means Committee: Peg Bennett

Minutes Recorder: Deborah Cort

Deborah reviewed the items of the tentative agreement reached between the Amherst School Board and the Amherst Education Association on 1/8/2007.

**TENTATIVE  
TEACHER  
AGREEMENT**

- » Three year contract
- » Salary increases of approximately 5% total COLA and Step per year average according to Step
- » Health insurance concessions by the AEA
- » Elimination of one of 4 health care options
- » Change in language regarding early retirement
- » Some housekeeping in terms of contract language
- » Kept sidebar regarding item 5.5

An approximation of the total costs associated with the contract:

FY2007-2008:	\$462,014
FY2008-2009:	\$502,008
FY2009-2010:	\$531,253

Deborah Cort moved, seconded by Jim O'Mara, to ratify a 3 year collective bargaining agreement between the Amherst School Board and the Amherst Education Association with average salary compensation at 5% each year for three years which includes COLA and step; cost items approximately \$462,014 in FY08, \$502,008 in FY09, and \$531,253 in FY10.

**ACTION ITEMS**

Jim O'Mara thanked the negotiating team for their efforts in reaching an agreement with the AEA at mediation. The Board agreed and thanked Jim for his role in the negotiating process.

All voted in favor of the motion and the motion passed.

Pam Dudoff shared the Board's appreciation of the AEA negotiation team in reaching an agreement. She also wanted the record to show that the Board was very pleased with negotiator Attorney Michael Elwell.

Mary Jennings distributed a sheet of the warrant articles that will be presented at the Budget Hearing on 1/15/2007. Attention was given to the wording of the cost item warrant article specific to the CBA just ratified by the Board.

Deborah Cort moved, seconded by Jim O'Mara, to bring the AEA cost item warrant article to the Budget Hearing on 1/15/2007.

There was no discussion. All voted in favor and the motion passed unanimously.

Jim O'Mara moved, seconded by Deborah Cort, to present the backup article that allows a special meeting if the cost item article fails to the Public Hearing.

There was no discussion. All voted in favor and the motion passed unanimously.

Betty Shankel informed the Board that the building aid for the renovation project, which was previously believed to be 40%, will actually only be 40% toward the AMS portion of the project. The Clark and Wilkins renovations will only receive 30%. AMS receives 40% because that building houses students from Mont Vernon in grades 7 and 8.

**OTHER**

Pam Dudoff moved, seconded by Nancy Head, to adjourn. All voted in favor and the meeting adjourned at 7:00pm.

**ADJOURNMENT**