

**BOARD OF EDUCATION
LEVITTOWN UNION FREE SCHOOL DISTRICT
LEVITTOWN, NY**

DATE: MARCH 25, 2015

SPECIAL MEETING

MINUTES

THE SPECIAL MEETING OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION, was duly called and held on Wednesday, March 25, 2015 in the Board Meeting Room of the Levittown Memorial Education Center.

CERTIFICATION:

The District Clerk certified that pursuant to Section 104, Open Meetings Law, notice of meeting was sent to the local newspapers, the Public Library and posted on the district's website. Further, all members of the Board of Education had due notice of said meeting.

I. CALL TO ORDER

BOARD OF EDUCATION

PRESENT:

Ms. Peggy Marenghi, President
Mr. Ed Powers, Vice President
Mr. Frank Ward, Secretary
Mr. James Moran
Mr. Michael Pappas
Ms. Karen Quinones-Smith
Mr. Kevin Regan

ADMINISTRATION

Dr. Tonie McDonald - Superintendent of Schools
Ms. Darlene Rhatigan - Assistant Superintendent
Ms. Debbie Rifkin - Assistant Superintendent
Mr. William Pastore – Assistant Superintendent

OTHERS

Ms. Christina Reilly– Division Avenue High School Student Liaison

- A. Pledge of Allegiance
- B. Mr. Marenghi, President, called the Budget Planning Session/Special Meeting to order at 6:30 PM. On a motion by Mr. Moran, seconded by Mr. Regan and approved (7-0) that the Board adjourn to Executive Session to discuss the following items: contracts and personnel matters.
- C. The Board reconvened to Public Session at 7:30 PM on a motion by Mr. Regan, seconded by Mr. Powers and approved (7-0). Ms. Marenghi asked everyone to stand for the Pledge of Allegiance and a moment of silence to remember all those fighting overseas for our freedom.

- D. On a motion by Karen Quinones-Smith, seconded by Mr. Powers and approved (7-0). the Budget Planning Session Meeting was adjourned.
- E. Immediately following the Budget Planning Session Meeting, Mr. Marengi called the Special Board Meeting to order at 8:45 PM on a motion by James Moran, seconded by Kevin Regan and approved (7-0).

II. PUBLIC BE HEARD

Comments appear at the end of the minutes.

III. ACTION ITEMS: NEW BUSINESS**1. Appointment of Treasurer****RESOLUTION # 14-15-217**

MOTION: RESOLVED, that the Levittown Board of Education does, hereby, appoint Rafael Garcia to the position of Treasurer, effective March 30, 2015 to replace Ping-Yann Chou at no additional salary, with the amount of bond fixed at \$1,000,000.”

NOTE: The Board congratulated Mr. Garcia.

RESULT:	MOTION CARRIED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Kevin Regan
SECONDER:	Ed Powers, Vice President
AYES:	Powers, Ward, Moran, Pappas, Quinones-Smith, Regan, Marengi

2. Appointment of Assistant Treasurer**RESOLUTION # 14-15-218**

MOTION: RESOLVED, that the Levittown Board of Education does, hereby, appoint Ping-Yann Chou to the position of Assistant Treasurer, effective March 30, 2015, to replace Debbie Rifkin at no additional salary, with the amount of bond fixed at \$1,000,000.”

RESULT:	MOTION CARRIED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Frank Ward, Secretary
SECONDER:	Karen Quinones-Smith
AYES:	Powers, Ward, Moran, Pappas, Quinones-Smith, Regan, Marengi

NOTE: Mr. Pappas shared that each of these appointments are at no additional salary.

3. Adoption of 2015-16 Budget for May 19, 2015 Annual Vote

RESOLUTION # 14-15-219

MOTION: “RESOLVED, that the Levittown Board of Education does, hereby, adopt a school district budget authorizing a total expenditure of \$ **201,817,794** and an associated tax levy of \$ **135,702,305** for the 2015-2016 school year, said budget to be presented to the voters of the District on May 19, 2015; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that at least fourteen days before the 19th day of May, 2015, copies of the aforesaid mentioned budget shall be prepared and made available, upon request, at the office of the Superintendent, and at offices of the Principals in all the schools of the District.”

NOTE: Mr. Pappas remarked that this year’s budget increase is the lowest for last few years. Mr. Moran stated that no services or programs had been cut.

RESULT:	MOTION CARRIED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Kevin Regan
SECONDER:	Ed Powers, Vice President
AYES:	Powers, Ward, Moran, Pappas, Quinones-Smith, Regan, Marengi

4. Schedules

RESOLUTION # 14-15-220

MOTION: “That the Levittown Board of Education approve schedule:

1001 2014-H-No. 12g

Designation – Coaches

RESULT:	MOTION CARRIED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Frank Ward, Secretary
SECONDER:	Ed Powers, Vice President
AYES:	Powers, Ward, Moran, Pappas, Quinones-Smith, Regan, Marengi

IV. MOTION TO ADJOURN THE SPECIAL MEEETING

RESULT:	MOTION CARRIED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	James Moran
SECONDER:	Frank Ward, Secretary
AYES:	Powers, Ward, Moran, Pappas, Quinones-Smith, Regan, Marengi

The Board adjourned the Special meeting at 9:12 PM.

Elizabeth Appelbaum

District Clerk

PUBLIC BE HEARD

PLEASE NOTE: COPIES OF ATTACHMENTS SUBMITTED ARE GIVEN TO THE BOARD OF EDUCATION AND THEN KEPT WITH THE OFFICIAL MINUTES IN THE DISTRICT CLERK'S OFFICE.

The guidelines pertaining to Public Be Heard were read by the Board President.

Salvatore Castelloneso

3698 Richard Lane, Wantagh, NY

Mr. Castelloneso, a small business owner, shared that he is being priced out of his house due to the school and property taxes. He had questions about the budget. Mr. Castelloneso wanted to know why school employees do not contribute more to their health benefits. He is concerned for his retirement and being able to stay in his house.

Mr. Pappas reported that the tax increase for the Levittown school district this year is 1.54% and last year was 1.62%. He explained the tax savings over the last few years. Ms. Marengi stated that she was aware of Mr. Castelloneso's concern and commented that the Board works very hard to keep the taxes low. Mr. Powers commented that the County manages the assessment system which we have no control over.