

## Special Selectboard Meeting

11/4/19

Board Present: Jared Cadwell, (Jared), Chuck Martel (Chuck), Mike Jordan (Mike).

Selectboard Assistant: Patti Lewis (Patti)

Guests: Tony Italiano and Gail Breslauer

9:00 a.m. - Jared called the Special Selectboard (SB) meeting of Monday 11/4/19 at the Robert Vasseur Town Hall to order.

Jared summarized that there was concern expressed by all of the SB as to whether the HUUSD Board has an accurate and correct legal process for closing a school generally and specifically the Fayston Elementary School. He questions whether they have a fully vetted and solid legal procedure.

Mike stated that the SB has reluctantly gotten to this point as the SB has asked for information and received none.

Chuck concurred and said that rumors are running rampant, that the SB does not have good information, and does not want to wait any longer to get legal advice on next steps.

Jared noted that the HUUSD Board will be meeting tomorrow night and understands that the HUUSD Board has asked for an additional opinion on procedure from a third party that will be presented at this meeting. He suggests that the SB have its own legal counsel review whatever is presented by the HUUSD Board tomorrow evening.

Chuck asked if the SB legal review would be an independent review of the HUUSD Articles of Agreement or just specific pieces of them.

Jared made a motion to engage legal counsel to review the HUUSD legal opinion on closure, the HUUSD Articles of Agreement, and any other related consolidation protocols. Mike seconded. No further discussion, all in favor, motion carried.

Jared further wanted to acknowledge, on camera, that the SB had sent a letter to the HUUSD on 9/26/19 asking a series of questions/concerns. They had received a response from Caitlin Hollister on 10/7/19. The response was very general and did not get into any detailed responses to the SB questions. He stated that in order for the SB, and its constituents, to make informed decision, they need informed responses. Jared plans to ask some of the questions, as a tax payer, at tomorrow night's meeting.

SB discussed possible expenses related to closing one school while adapting others to take more students, why people move to a specific Town and how not having a school could affect that, and what happens to the building itself should it close.

Other Business:

SB discussed some storm related issues on Phen Road (subsequently corrected to Stage Coach Road) and Fayston Farms Road. Stuart would like to meet with one of the SB to walk those areas and discuss possible solutions. Property owners will also be included in the site visit and discussion.

Jared noted that the Road Crew Roundtable that was slated for this Wednesday morning has been postponed due to road crews being too busy with storm cleanup at the moment. Jared will reschedule at a later date.

9:21 a.m. – Jared made a motion to adjourn. Mike seconded. No further discussion, all in favor, motion carried.

Respectfully Submitted:

Patti Lewis

Assistant to Selectboard

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Selectboard Chair

Date