

**AMESBURY SCHOOL COMMITTEE
SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES
AMESBURY HIGH SCHOOL
February 22, 2016**

Present at 3:50 p.m. were Mayor Gray, Chair; Deb LaValley, Tom McGee, Peter Hoyt, Rob Chamberlain, Nick Wheeler, and Dr. Gary Reese, Interim Superintendent of Schools.

Gretchen Marinopoulos arrived at 4:00.

Mayor Gray called the meeting to order at 3:50 p.m.

Amesbury Public Schools Mission Statement

The Amesbury School District is unconditionally committed to every child, ensuring that all students experience success through the development of attitudes and skills necessary for lifelong learning by providing the highest quality staff, meaningful learning experiences, and a vitally involved community.

II. COMMENTS BY VISITORS, DELGATIONS

- Ms. LaValley thanked Dr. Reese for the process that was used in hiring the high school principal - using the community forum for thier input.
- Mr. Hoyt spoke regarding the interviews for the Director of Student Services – down to 2 well deserving candidates – will be having a community forum on March 1st in the high school library from 6:30 -8:00.
- Mayor Gray welcomed Nick Wheeler, the newest member of the committee. Mr. Wheeler is replacing Mr. Scorzoni who is now a member of city council.

III. SUPERINTENDENT’S CONTRACT

Mr. McGee spoke regarding Dr. Reese’s 3 year contract. A copy of the contract was distributed to the committee. He pointed out that the only change that was made from the initial contract was: *“In the event a vacation request is denied by the Chair, the Superintendent may appeal to the full School Committee. The Superintendent will advise the School Committee for all vacation plans in advance.”*

Michelle McNulty, Attorney, stated that she felt the change was duplicate language.

Motion by Mr. Hoyt, seconded by Ms. LaValley to accept the changes as stated above to Dr. Reese’s contract. Vote: Yes, Unanimous.

Motion by Mr. McGee, seconded by Mr. Hoyt to accept Superintendent Dr. Reese’s three year contract as presented. Vote: Yes, Unanimous.

After the vote, the committee took turns thanking Dr. Reese for all that he has done in the past 6 months. They stated that Amesbury was lucky to have him at the helm, and looking forward to the beginning of a long relationship here in Amesbury.

Dr. Reese stated that he is thrilled to continue in this role. The community has been so supportive and welcoming. Thank you.

The contract was then signed by Dr. Reese.

IV. WARRANT

1. \$281,772.82 (2/18/16)

Motion by Mr. McGee, seconded by Mr. Hoyt to accept the Warrant dated February 18, 2016 in the amount of \$281,772.82. Discussion: Mayor Gray stated that he had looked into what their signatures met on these warrants. Are funds available, is money allocated at proper funds? Dr. Reese stated that at his previous school, the finance sub-committee reviewed warrants first before going to the School Committee as a whole. Ms. LaValley stated that the warrants are received in PDF before bills are in the folder to be signed.

Vote: Yes, Unanimous.

V. EXECUTIVE SESSION

- a. Executive Session for the purpose of discussing strategy as it relates to negotiations with AFSCME and for the purpose of negotiation with AFSCME, as an open meeting would have a detrimental effect on the Committee's bargaining position.
- b. For the purpose of discussing strategy as it relates to negotiations with non-unit personnel, being the Assistant Superintendent for Business, Human Resources and Administration

Motion by Mayor Gray to go into Executive session. Roll Call was taken.

Vote: Yes, Unanimous.

VI. ADJOURNMENT

Adjourned at 4:05 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,



Tom McGee, Secretary