

**GARWOOD BOARD OF EDUCATION
GARWOOD, NEW JERSEY
SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES
MAY 2, 2017**

I. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 p.m. by Board President Christine Guerriero in the all-purpose room of the Lincoln School.

PLEASE TURN OFF CELL PHONES

Adequate notice of this meeting has been provided to the Westfield Leader, the official newspaper of the Garwood Board of Education. The News Tribune, Courier Home News, Westfield Leader, Star Ledger, Suburban News and Clark Patriot are approved for use for legal notices. Notice of this meeting was sent to the Borough Clerk, and a copy of this meeting notice is posted on the front door of Lincoln School.

II. ROLL CALL

E* Mrs. S. Groning P Ms. K. Patterson P Mrs. T. Simitz
E Ms. L. Koenig P Mr. S. Piarulli NP Mr. A. Watkins
P Mrs. A. Langston P Ms. T. Roland P Miss C. Guerriero

*Mrs. Groning arrived at 8:40 p.m.

III. OTHERS PRESENT

P Dr. Teresa Quigley, Superintendent
P Mr. Eric Larson, SBA/BS
P Mr. John Geppert, Board Attorney

IV. FLAG SALUTE

V. PRESENTATION - Honor Society Students Third Marking Period

Overview of the proposed budget for the 2017-2018 school year.

General Fund	\$8,363,629.
Special Revenue	\$ 125,045.
Debt Service	<u>\$ 519,850.</u>
TOTAL BUDGET	\$9,008,524; and

Budget shall include the local tax levy for the 2017-2018 fiscal year as follows:

General Fund	\$7,648,762.
Debt Service	<u>\$ 519,850.</u>
TOTAL TAX LEVY	\$8,168,612; and

VI. HEARING OF CITIZENS

The following is a summary of the Board’s understanding of comments made by members of the public. This is not a verbatim transcript.

Mrs. Blumenstock, 316 Spruce Ave. – asked what the tax increase was for 2016, the prior tax year.

WHEREAS, the Garwood Board of Education adopted a tentative budget on March 20, 2017 to be submitted to the Executive County Superintendent of Schools for approval; and

WHEREAS, the tentative budget was approved by the Executive County Superintendent of Schools; and

WHEREAS, the tentative budget was advertised in the legal section of the Westfield Leader on April 20, 2017; and

WHEREAS, the tentative budget was presented to the public during a public hearing on May 2, 2017; and

WHEREAS, the total amount of the budget for General Fund Expenses shall be \$8,363,629 of which \$7,648,762 shall be raised by tax levy; and

WHEREAS, the total amount of the budget or Special Revenue Fund Expense shall be \$125,045 of which zero dollars shall be raised by tax levy; and

WHEREAS, the total amount of the budget for Debt Service Expense shall be \$519,850 of which \$519,850 shall be raised by tax levy.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Garwood Board of Education hereby adopts the 2017-2018 School Year budget; and

BE IT RESOLVED that there should be raised for the General Funds \$7,648,762 for the ensuing School year 2017-2018; and

BE IT RESOLVED that there should be raised for Debt Service Funds \$519,850 for the ensuing School Year 2017-2018.

WHEREAS, pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-5.2, a board of education must establish a maximum dollar limit for professional services and public relations, as defined in N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-9.3(c)14.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Garwood Board of Education hereby establishes the following maximums for the 2017 – 2018 year as follows:

- Architecture/Engineering \$ 7,500.
- Legal \$ 28,000.
- Audit \$ 22,000.
- Physician \$ 2,000.

For a total amount of \$59,500.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the School Business Administrator track and record these costs to insure that the maximum amount is not exceeded.

WHEREAS, the Garwood Board of Education recognizes school staff and Board members will incur travel expenses related to and within the scope of their current responsibilities and for travel that promotes the delivery of instruction or furthers the efficient operation of the school district; and

WHEREAS, N.J.A.C. 6A:23B-1.1 et seq. requires Board members to receive approval of these expenses by a majority of the full voting membership of the Board and staff members to receive prior approval of these expenses by the Superintendent of Schools and a majority of the full voting membership of the Board; and

WHEREAS, a Board of Education may establish, for regular district business travel only, an annual school year threshold of \$1500 per staff member where prior Board approval shall not be required unless this annual threshold for a staff member is exceeded in a given school year (July 1 through June 30); and

WHEREAS, travel and related expenses not in compliance with N.J.A.C. 6A:23B-1.1 et seq., but deemed by the Board of Education to be necessary and unavoidable as noted on the approved Board of Education Out of District Travel and Reimbursement Forms; now

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Board of Education approves all travel not in compliance with N.J.A.C. 6A:23B-1.1 et seq. as being necessary and unavoidable as noted on the approved Board of Education Out of District Travel and Reimbursement Forms; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Board of Education approves travel and related expense reimbursements in accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A:23B-1.2(b), to a maximum expenditure of \$20,000 for all staff and Board members.

ROLL CALL:

<u> </u> M <u> </u> Mrs. S. Groning	<u> </u> Y <u> </u> Ms. K. Patterson	<u> </u> Y <u> </u> Mrs. T. Simitz
<u> </u> E <u> </u> Ms. L. Koenig	<u> </u> N <u> </u> Mr. S. Piarulli	<u> </u> NP <u> </u> Mr. A. Watkins
<u> </u> Y <u> </u> Mrs. A. Langston	<u> </u> S <u> </u> Ms. T. Roland	<u> </u> Y <u> </u> Miss C. Guerriero

VII. OLD BUSINESS

None

VIII. NEW BUSINESS

Mrs. Langston suggested that information on the next board election (the number of open seats, etc.) could start being published for the public.

IX. EXECUTIVE SESSION

None

X. ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn made at 8:50 p.m.

Moved by: S. Piarulli
Seconded by: A Langston
Motion carried: All ayes

Legend: E = Excused P = Present M = Moved motion S = Seconded motion
 Y = Yes Vote N = No Vote AB = Abstain NP = Not present

Respectfully submitted,

Eric Larson, SBA/BS