

LITCHFIELD BOARD OF EDUCATION
SPECIAL MEETING
4/1/2019

A special meeting of the Litchfield Board of Education was held on Monday, April 1, 2019, at 7:30 p.m. in the L.C.S. gym.

Present were: Ms. Carr, Chairperson; Ms. Stone; Mr. Clock; Mr. Falcetti; Mr. Morosani; Mr. Pavlick; Mr. Shuhi; Mr. Simone; and Mr. Terzian.

Also present were: Superintendent Turner; Mr. Fiorillo; the press and members of the public.

New Business

a. **Health Insurance.**

Board request was made to have a further discussion of Health Insurance issues including: changing health insurance; change from self-insured to fully insurance plan through ConnectiCare; issues with possibly hindering town employees from joining plan; change from 140 BOE employees to 140 BOE employees and 35 town employees; the more the merrier; could lower the cost significantly with larger group numbers; negative evidence shared at last meeting that showed issues with having town join Board in insurance coverage; town was never not encouraged to investigate joining ConnectiCare; important to have our own insurance coverage going forward.

MOTION made by Mr. Morosani and seconded by Ms. Stone: to agree to have ConnectiCare consider a health insurance policy with town employees while following HIPAA guidelines.

Board members discussed: issues with costs going up for our employees; BOF needs to agree to keep budget intact even if costs for insurance go up; issues with co-pay; BOF said 3.87% is ok; if insurance costs go up could result in losing staff and/or programs for students; need to find out if option there; usually more numbers results in lower costs; insurance savings \$250,000; town costs up \$180,000; pool spreads risk; chance of increasing is low; possibly ConnectiCare refusing to allow town; municipal plan issues; input from Mr. Fiorillo; health insurance to town employees expected to rise; input from article in paper; need to get numbers to see if insuring ourselves is better than combining with town; issues for next year; possible merging with Region 6; questions for renewal; keeping separate might be better; who would negotiate renewal, BOE or BOS; dissatisfied that town did not get quote on own; not up to BOE; look at as one town; struggles with town in past practice; not happy how funded pool; issues with town when working jointly; custodial issues; maintenance agreement issues; beating a dead horse; need to get pricing to go forward; possible insurance expert needed; input from LEA needed very positive; issues with ConnectiCare from other people; tit for tat not healthy; need to focus on kids; input from BOF; issues with services provided for students cut; need to represent kids; areas we agree with town vs. what disagree; issues over past 5 years; have had combined insurance for 28 years; have had shared

services; need to share in good faith; bid with them; who subsidizes whom; need to get together and get a quote as one unit; \$250,000 is significant savings; need for input from First Selectman; will affect kids; saved money for budget; need for no services reduced; possibly using another service next year; two-step process to remove from town; need to vote on submission; issues with hurting kids; need to research quotes; get info to make better choices; possible olive branch to town; need to try joint venture; memo from Mr. Fiorillo; audit involved; impact on administrators; challenging BOE; viability questions; ambushed BOE; health insurance debates; new insurance agreement; can have insurance or have services; insurance saves taxpayers money; different percentages in possible options; dollars in reserve fund; re-appropriate with town; town option to go to State Partnership Plan; need to consider that; need to get quotes; need to go back to unions; possible multiple solutions; nothing in jeopardy just looking; BOE should not be negatively impacted; wait to see quote then decide; need for more information from town; input from Bill or Leo; questions for doing this again; if add numbers to pool should not be worse numbers; need to work together and call ConnectiCare and get quotes; might be savings; see what process looks like; town broker reach out to our broker to discuss combining; need for town to participate; issues with being with town in a year or two if partner with another entity; can be overcome; as long as it doesn't have an impact with BOE budget is critical issue; have two brokers start process; issues in future; not much of a downside; concerns if want to separate; need flexibility for Board going forward; issues with town need to be worked out; have 12 months before finalize; different reasons to leave plan; different plans have different thresholds but in same pool; not approve if it diminishes funds in budget for schools; need to be better for educational needs and vote only to get a quote.

MOTION carried. Ms. Stone; Mr. Pavlick; Mr. Clock; Mr. Falcetti; Mr. Morosani; Mr. Shuhi; and Mr. Terzian voted in the affirmative. Mr. Simone voted in the negative. There were no abstentions.

MOTION made by Mr. Simone and seconded by Mr. Falcetti: to move to Executive Session at 8:10 p.m. to engage in an:

- a. Employment Discussion

MOTION carried. All votes were in the affirmative. There were no abstentions.

Executive Session

Present were: Ms. Carr, Chair; Mr. Clock; Mr. Simone; Mr. Terzian; Mr. Falcetti; Mr. Shuhi; Ms. Stone; Mr. Morosani; and Mr. Pavlick.

Returned to public session at 8:37 p.m.

- a. Superintendent Search – discussion and possible action - Tabled

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MOTION made by Mr. Simone and seconded by Mr. Terzian: to adjourn the meeting at 8:40 p.m.

MOTION carried. All votes were in the affirmative. There were no abstentions.

Respectfully submitted,



Matthew B. Terzian, Secretary
Joanne Bertrand, Recording Secretary