



**WESTBROOK CITY COUNCIL  
SPECIAL CITY COUNCIL WORKSHOP MINUTES  
WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 9, 2022 AT 5:30 PM  
WESTBROOK PERFORMING ARTS CENTER  
471 STROUDWATER ST.**



## **I. ROLL CALL**

**Call to Order.** The School Committee portion of this Joint meeting was called to order by School Committee Chair Suzanne Salisbury at 5:33pm, which was followed by the Pledge of Allegiance. The City Council portion of the Joint City Council & School Committee meeting was called to order at 5:34pm by City Council President Anna A. Turcotte.

**School Committee Members Present:** Katy Rice (Ward 1), Elizabeth Schultz (Ward 5, Vice Chair), Noreen Poitras (Ward 3), Jessica Foley (Ward 2), Andrea Mancuso (Ward 4), Suzanne Salisbury (At-Large, Chair), Jeremy McGowan (At-Large)

**School Committee Members Absent:** None

**City Councilors Present:** David C. Morse (Ward 1, Vice President), Victor Chau (Ward 2), Gary Rairdon (Ward 4), Jennifer Munro (Ward 5), Claude Rwaganje (At-Large, arrived at approximately 6:45pm), Anna A. Turcotte (Ward 3, President)

**City Councilors Absent:** Michael Shaughnessy (At-Large)

**Other City & School Officials Present:** Jerre Bryant (City Administrator), Michael T. Foley (Mayor), Angela Holmes (Asst. City Administrator/City Clerk), Suzanne Knight (City of Westbrook Finance Director), Brandon Krupski (School Facilities Manager), Dr. Peter Lancia (School Department Superintendent), Kelsey Ledoux (Executive Assistant), Dr. Brian Mazjanis (School Department Finance Director), Dr. Kim O'Donnell (Asst. School Department Superintendent), Martha Sumner (School Department Human Resources Director)

## **II. UPDATE ON SCHOOL DEPARTMENT BUDGET**

Prior to the start of the meeting, Chair Salisbury distributed copies of the State of the School to be read into the record, attached to these minutes for reference.

School Committee Chair Salisbury gave the floor to Dr. Lancia, who provided an update on the school budget development process.

Dr. Lancia noted that the budget process is progressing. The School administration intends to present the department budgets to the School Department Finance Committee on March 9, 2022, with the School Committee review slated for the first two weeks of April. They anticipate presenting the final school budget to City Council at the end of April.

School Committee Chair Salisbury opened the floor for comments and/or questions. No one spoke.

### **III. UPDATE ON THERMAL UNITS AT WESTBROOK MIDDLE SCHOOL**

School Committee Chair Salisbury gave the floor to Dr. Lancia, who introduced Mr. Krupski.

Mr. Krupski provided an update on the heating and cooling systems at Westbrook Middle School. One of the two boilers has recently been replaced following a failure, and the second boiler subsequently failed. In addition, the heat pumps and wells have been problematic since the building was opened, which is why the building relies upon boilers. Ongoing issues with the heat pumps and wells exist, and they cannot provide adequate heating and cooling for the building.

School Committee Chair opened the floor for comments and/or questions. The following individuals spoke: School Committee Member McGowan, Mr. Krupski, School Committee Chair Salisbury, School Committee Member Poitras, Councilor Rairdon, Mayor Foley, School Committee Vice Chair Schultz, School Committee Member Rice, Council President Turcotte, Councilor Chau

School Committee Chair Salisbury noted that the School Department legal counsel would look into any warranties that might exist relating to the heating and cooling systems at Westbrook Middle School, including boilers and wells.

### **IV. UPDATE ON SCHOOL DEPARTMENT TAX ID NUMBER**

School Committee Chair Salisbury gave the floor to Dr. Lancia, who introduced Ms. Sumner and Dr. Mazjanis.

Dr. Lancia noted that the School Department is working to establish a tax ID number separate from the City's number. The goal is to have this separate tax ID number in place for Quarter 2, around the end of March or beginning of April. Ms. Sumner and Dr. Mazjanis have been coordinating this effort.

Ms. Sumner noted that they are assessing the items that will be affected by a change in tax ID number, and are coordinating with the School Department's legal counsel and City's Finance Department to ensure that all necessary items are incorporated in the switch.

School Committee Chair Salisbury opened the floor for comments and/or questions. The following individuals spoke: Mayor Foley, Dr. Lancia, Ms. Knight

### **V. GENERAL UPDATES**

School Committee Chair Salisbury gave the floor to Mayor Foley, who presented a municipal update on residential development, census data, and FY 2023 budget goals and challenges. The slides presented are attached to these minutes.

School Committee Chair Salisbury opened the floor for comments and/or questions. The following individuals spoke: School Committee Chair Salisbury, Mayor Foley, School Committee Member Rice, School Committee Member Mancusco, School Committee Vice Chair Schultz, City Council Vice President Morse, Dr. Lancia, School Committee Member McGowan, Councilor Chau, City Council President Turcotte, Councilor Rwaganje

### **VI. ADJOURNMENT**

Motion to adjourn the City Council portion of the Joint meeting at 7:32pm.

Moved by Councilor Rairdon, seconded by Councilor Munro.

**Motion carried by a show of hands. None opposed.**

Motion to adjourn the School Committee portion of the Joint meeting at 7:33pm.

Moved by Committee Member Schultz, seconded by Committee Member Rice.

**Motion carried by a show of hands. None opposed.**