

Northport-East Northport Union Free School District Public Hearing on District-wide School Safety Plan and Special Meeting to Discuss Proposed 2021-2022 Budget - Northport High School (Thursday, March 25, 2021)

Generated by Beth M Nystrom on Tuesday, April 6, 2021

Members present

David Badanes, Victoria Buscareno, Larry Licopoli (remote, left at 9:00 p.m.), Thomas Loughran, Donna McNaughton, Allison C Noonan (arrived at 6:10 p.m.), David Stein

Members absent

None

Also present

Mr. Robert Banzer, Superintendent of Schools

Ms. Irene McLaughlin, Assistant Superintendent for Human Resources

Dr. Dana Boshnack, Assistant Superintendent for Teaching and Learning

Mr. Robert Howard, Assistant Superintendent for Business

Mr. Louis Bonadonna, Assistant Superintendent for Special Education and Student Services

Public Attendance: 10 people in-person, approximately 114 virtually

1. CALL TO ORDER – President Badanes called the meeting to order at 6:10 p.m.

2. IF NECESSARY, THE CHAIR MAY ENTERTAIN A MOTION TO ENTER INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION - Note: It is anticipated that the Board will meet in public in the Faculty Dining Room at Northport High School at 6:00 p.m. to act upon a resolution, upon majority vote, to immediately convene into Executive Session to discuss matters pertaining to the employment history of particular persons, matters pertaining to NASA contract negotiations, and matters pertaining to LIPA litigation.

Action: 2.01 Motion to convene into Executive Session to discuss matters pertaining to the employment history of particular persons, matters pertaining to NASA contract negotiations, and matters pertaining to LIPA litigation.

Motion by David Badanes, second by Thomas Loughran.

Final Resolution: Motion passes

Yes: David Badanes, Victoria Buscareno, Larry Licopoli, Thomas Loughran, Donna McNaughton, David Stein

Not Present at Vote: Allison C Noonan

At 7:29 p.m. the Board reconvened in public session in the auditorium at Northport High School.

3. Mr. Badanes led those present in the **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**; and

4. Pointed out the **EMERGENCY EXITS**

5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Recommendation to approve the following minutes:

5.01.1 March 4, 2021 - Special Meeting

5.01.2 March 11, 2021 - Special Meeting

Motion by David Badanes, second by Thomas Loughran.

Final Resolution: Motion Passes

Yes: David Badanes, Victoria Buscareno, Larry Licopoli, Thomas Loughran, Donna McNaughton, Allison C Noonan, David Stein

6. STUDENT AND STAFF RECOGNITION/ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

Mr. Robert Banzer, Superintendent of Schools, stated that the Northport High School Mock Trial Team earned back to back Suffolk County Championships. The venue was held virtually. Mr. Banzer stated that the preparation, time and ability to think on their feet was awe-inspiring. Mr. Banzer congratulated the teachers and the mock trial members.

Information: 6.01 School Closure Advisory Task Force Update

Dr. Dana Boshnack, Assistant Superintendent for Teaching and Learning, stated that the committee held their 5th meeting on Tuesday. The focus of the meeting was on social emotional learning and transitions. The meeting began with prior questions, which are submitted by committee members anonymously, and answered at every meeting. Mr. Lou Bonadonna, Assistant Superintendent for Special Education, and Ms. Shannon Dantuono, Director of Student Support Services, presented at the meeting.

Mr. Bonadonna stated that they were also joined by the six elementary school principals. They shared examples of initiatives they would be implementing moving forward. Ms. Dantuono spoke about focusing on resiliency, relationships and routines. The principals gave examples of support at the building levels and what the next steps would be to support the 5th and 6th graders going into the middle school.

Dr. Boshnack stated that the committee wants to make sure students have support with regards to nurses and counselors.

Ms. McLaughlin, Assistant Superintendent for Human Resources, stated that the required components of the educational impact statement were reviewed with the committee. The EIS will include a background and overview, review of task force committee meetings including feedback that came out of larger group discussions with questions and answers regarding the presentations as well as after breakout sessions. Ms. McLaughlin stated that the minutes are extremely comprehensive. The next part will be a final summary of the EIS which is a high level overview of all the work. The majority of what will be included in the appendices are the presentations, minutes, discussion pieces, components of the future study committee which includes a lot of data that the committee has reviewed.

Dr. Boshnack stated they are adding another meeting to wrap up the discussion and to have Mr. Robert Howard, Assistant Superintendent for Business, back for questions and a final cost analysis about transportation, and the two middle school principals to talk about arrival and dismissal.

7. PUBLIC HEARING ON DISTRICT-WIDE SCHOOL SAFETY PLAN

Discussion: 7.01 Public Hearing on District-wide School Safety Plan - Opportunity for public comment regarding the District-wide School Safety Plan

Superintendent Banzer stated that every year the district is required to submit a district-wide school safety plan for review.

Ms. McLaughlin stated that the district-wide school safety team, appointed at the annual reorganization meeting, reviews the district-wide emergency management plan. Governor Cuomo requested that districts add three components to the plan, specifically in regards to COVID. The continuity of operations plan was in the original plan, and continuity of instruction plan and appendix are about the response to

infectious disease. The revisions were made to the plan and shared with the district-wide emergency management team and there was a requirement to share it with all unit members and presidents. The addendum has to be filed with the state by April 1st.


There was a Board discussion regarding the opportunity to revise the plan, the emergency plan being enacted once the district was instructed to close down, and the education of homeless children.

<u>Name</u>	<u>Comment</u>
Nicole Raganella	Asked about the door ajar full implementation, anonymous reporting, attendance of Director of Security at drills, the threat assessment team, mental health staff, stop the bleed training, and background checks on veteran teachers,

8. DISCUSSION OF SUPERINTENDENT'S PROPOSED 2021-2022 BUDGET

Discussion: 8.01 Discussion of Revenue, Fund Balance, Reserves


Mr. Robert Howard, Assistant Superintendent for Business, presented the Revenue, Fund Balance and Reserves.



**Northport-East Northport
UFSD**

Board of Education Meeting

March 25, 2021



NORTHPORT-EAST NORTHPORT SCHOOLS
A Tradition of Excellence

Mission:

Educate, inspire and empower all students to pursue their aspirations and contribute as responsible members of society.

Vision:

Excellence in all areas without exception.

Core values & beliefs:

- Students are our first priority.
- Everyone can learn and grow.
- Students, families, staff and community are essential partners.
- We collaborate in a spirit of trust to make thoughtful and informed decisions.
- We value creativity and innovation.
- We challenge and support the whole child.
- We embrace the uniqueness of every student.
- We treat everyone with dignity, empathy and respect.
- We provide a safe, secure and supportive environment.
- We use district resources effectively and responsibly.

Financial Considerations

- Future state aid may be unreliable putting more stress on the local tax levy
- 2020-2021 budget had a 0% tax levy
- Contracts and unfunded mandates continue to increase costs to the district
- School closure plan allows district to realize significant savings, fund all contractual and mandated cost increases, enhance instructional program and be tax cap compliant
- Increase funding to the capital fund will serve two functions
 - Allow the district to staff the two closed buildings with the minimum staff needed to reopen and or support alternative learning models that may be required due to COVID-19
 - Fund capital projects like Roof & HVAC Replacements

REVENUE

CATEGORY	2020-21	PROPOSED* 2021-22	\$ CHANGE	% CHANGE
TAX LEVY	\$149,717,642	\$151,672,981	\$1,955,339	1.31%
STATE AID	\$15,939,423	\$16,096,546	\$157,123	0.99%
ASSIGNED FUND BALANCE	\$4,391,473	\$2,300,000	(\$2,091,473)	-47.63%
USE OF RESERVES	\$336,721	\$336,721	\$0	0.00%
MISC. REVENUE	\$2,367,500	\$4,298,500	\$1,931,000	81.56%
TOTAL	\$172,752,759	\$174,704,748	\$1,951,989	1.13%

Use of Reserves

Reserve Allocation	Amount
Worker's Comp	\$140,000
Unemployment	\$ 5,000
ERS Reserve	\$141,721
EBALR	\$ 50,000
TOTAL	\$336,721

State Aid

State Aid	Per Executive proposal 1-19-2021			
	2020-21	2021-22	Change \$	Change %
Foundation Aid	8,994,301	8,994,301	-	0.00%
Services Aid	4,261,050	4,788,299	527,249	12.37%
UPK	67,372	67,372	-	0.00%
BOCES Aid			-	0.00%
High Cost Excess Cost Aid	507,555	610,842	103,287	20.35%
Private Excess Cost Aid	477,317	500,369	23,052	4.83%
Software, Library, Textbook Aid			-	0.00%
Transportation Aid			-	0.00%
Building Aid	1,165,253	1,202,735	37,482	3.22%
High Tax Aid			-	0.00%
Pandemic Adjustment	(184,685)		184,685	-100.00%
Federal CARES Act Restoration	184,685		(184,685)	-100.00%
Local District Funding ADJ.		(551,285)	(551,285)	0.00%
COVID-19 SUPPL. Stimulus		551,285	551,285	0.00%
TOTAL	15,472,848	16,163,918	691,070	4.47%
General Fund Aid (Excludes UPK)	15,405,476	16,096,546	691,070	4.49%

Revenue Sources- Tax Levy

Year	Tax Levy Increase	Allowable Levy Limit (Capital Projects)
2016-17	0.50%	0.55%
2017-18	1.46%	1.67%
2018-19	2.10%	2.38%
2019-20	2.56%	3.22%
2020-21	0%	1.01%
2021-22*	1.31%	1.68%

*Proposed Levy- not yet finalized

RESERVES & FUND BALANCE

	Actual 6/30/2017	Actual 06/30/18	Actual 06/30/19	Actual 06/30/20	Projected 06/30/21
Restricted Reserves					
Capital	3,193,323	2,802,966	1,671,067	1,692,155	1,700,000
Unemployment Insurance	824,190	821,008	825,922	831,073	835,000
Insurance	49,694	49,957	50,564	51,189	52,000
Employee Benefit Accrued Liability	3,860,578	3,006,311	2,992,231	2,978,612	2,980,000
Workers' Compensation	2,408,599	2,695,673	2,637,332	2,528,212	2,530,000
Retirement Contribution	2,611,114	2,780,992	3,523,720	3,423,818	4,125,000
TOTAL RESTRICTED RESERVES	12,947,498	12,156,907	11,700,836	11,505,059	12,222,000
Fund Balance					
Assigned - reduce tax levy	2,500,000	2,400,000	2,375,000	4,391,473	2,300,000
Assigned - encumbrances	1,034,901	527,824	661,527	501,594	500,000
Unassigned	6,532,273	6,672,414	6,843,106	5,754,880	6,988,189
TOTAL FUND BALANCE	10,067,174	9,600,238	9,879,633	10,647,947	9,888,189
FUND BALANCE & RESERVES	23,014,672	21,757,145	21,580,469	22,153,006	22,110,189

Budget History

Year	Budget	% Increase
2016-2017	\$161,380,883	1.12%
2017-2018	\$163,306,840	1.19%
2018-2019	\$166,810,381	2.15%
2019-2020	\$171,077,668	2.56%
2020-2021	\$172,752,759	.98%
2021-2022*	\$179,731,516	4.04%
Preliminary	\$176,905,785	2.40%
	*174,704,748	1.13%

*PRELIMINARY BUDGET

- ❖ Includes Savings from retirement incentive and reorganization
- ❖ Includes expenditures for pandemic contingencies

Expenditure Summary

CATEGORY	2020-21	Proposed 2021-22	\$ CHANGE	% CHANGE
SALARIES	\$92,183,144	\$89,702,991	-2,480,153	-2.69%
EQUIPMENT	\$1,241,647	\$1,355,024	113,377	9.13%
CONTRACT SERVICES	\$32,130,153	\$32,374,645	244,492	0.76%
MATERIALS & SUPPLIES	\$1,993,449	\$2,123,516	130,067	6.52%
DEBT SERVICE	\$5,352,603	\$5,501,359	148,756	2.78%
EMPLOYEE BENEFITS	\$38,390,013	\$40,282,800	1,892,787	4.93%
INTERFUND TRANSFERS	\$1,461,750	\$3,364,414	1,902,664	130.16%
TOTAL	\$172,752,759	\$174,704,748	\$1,951,989	1.13%

Capital Projects to Consider for 2021-2022 – General Fund

PROJECT	ESTIMATED COST
ROOF REPAIR/REPLACEMENT	
HVAC REPAIR/REPLACEMENT	
DISTRICTWIDE	\$2,474,414
TOTAL	\$2,474,414

Capital Reserves

- Capital Reserve
 - Requires voter approval to establish
 - Requires voter approval to expend
 - 10 Year funding limit
 - Maximum funding level set by the voters
- Existing Reserves
 - 2012 Capital Reserve
 - Established September 19, 2012
 - Maximum limit \$12 million with an annual contribution not to exceed \$1.5 million
 - 2018 Capital Reserve
 - Established May 15, 2018
 - Maximum limit \$20 million with an annual contribution not to exceed \$2 million
- Recommendation
 - 2021 Capital Reserve
 - Proposition to the voters to establish a new reserve on May 18, 2021
 - Maximum limit \$20 million with an annual contribution not to exceed \$2 million
 - Replace expiring reserve

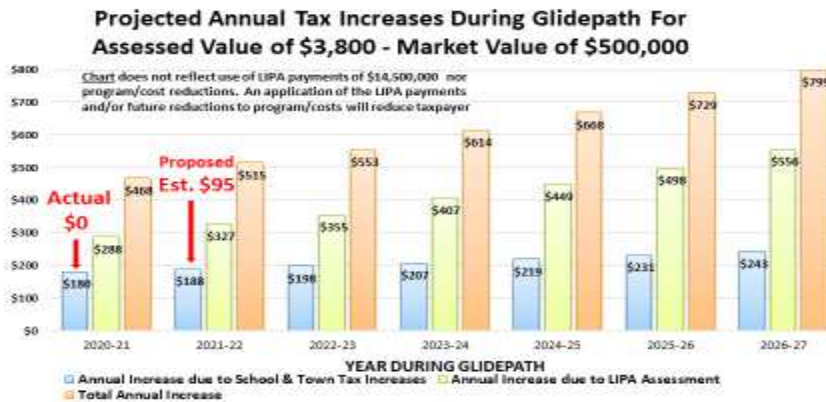
Estimated Tax Rate Calculation

Tax Levy / Assessed Valuation =
 Tax Rate per \$100

\$151,672,981 / \$77,901,186 =
\$194.699 per \$100

Estimated increase of **\$95.38** per year for property assessed at 3800

For questions about your tax bill please contact: Julian Guthman Town of Huntington Receiver of Taxes
 Phone: (631) 351-3217 jguthna@huntingtonny.gov



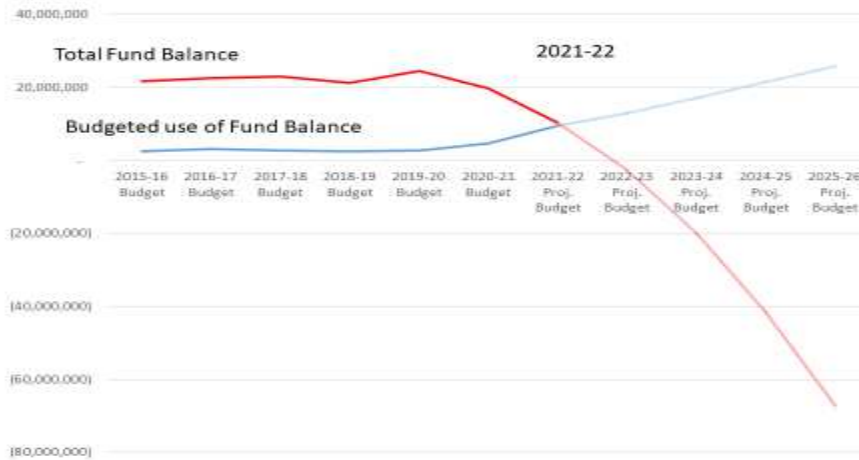
Tax Levy History under the “Tax Cap”

Year	Tax Levy Increase	Allowable Levy Limit	% Under Levy Limit	\$ Under Levy Limit*
2012-13	1.68%	2.43%	-0.75%	(1,363,411)
2013-14	1.98%	3.43%	-1.45%	(1,940,056)
2014-15	1.99%	2.18%	-0.19%	(258,358)
2015-16	1.15%	1.81%	-0.66%	(912,917)
2016-17	0.50%	0.55%	-0.05%	(77,000)
2017-18	1.46%	1.67%	-0.21%	(298,989)
2018-19	2.10%	2.38%	-0.28%	(397,381)
2019-20	2.56%	3.22%	-0.66%	(965,166)
2020-21	0.00%	1.01%	-1.01%	(1,510,417)
TOTAL	13.42%	18.68%	-5.26%	(\$7,723,695)
Average	1.49%			

*As reported on the NYSED Property Tax Report Card

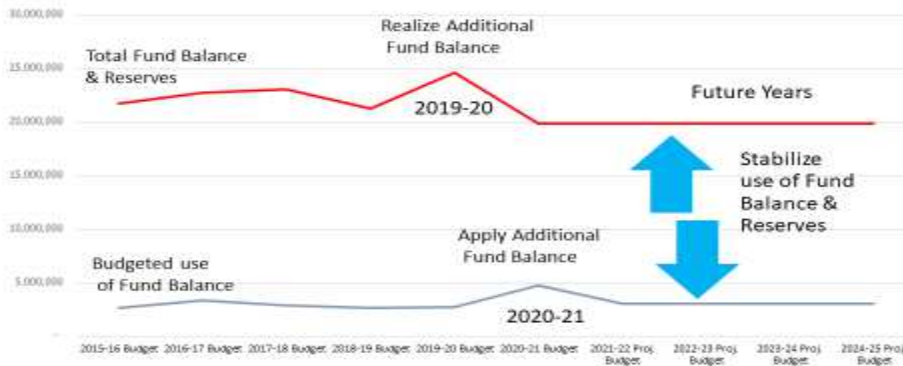
Financial Planning- Projected Impact on Fund Balance & Reserves

Projected Trajectory if status quo remains



Financial Planning- Projected Impact on Fund Balance & Reserves

Stabilized use of Fund Balance & Reserves



Budget Development

January 21 Budget Overview

March 4 Buildings & Grounds + Transportation,

March 11 Instruction, Technology, BOCES, Special Ed.

March 18 Personnel & Benefits

March 25* Revenue+ Fund Balance & Reserves

**Preliminary Public Hearing to Receive Public Input*

April 8 Committee of the whole to consider & discuss public input at Preliminary Hearing and reconvene into public session to finalize budget

May 6 Hearing on finalized budget.

May 18 Budget Vote

Mr. Banzer thanked the administrative team. A great deal of thought and planning went into preparing the budget. They worked with various units, in particular the UTN regarding retirement incentives. Because of the careful planning and retirements, the level of excessing we would have to do is very close to zero and we could be in a situation where we may have to hire teachers to get to the levels expected this year. They were extremely sensitive to the community as well as the school community to be able to fund programs in the past and in the future and be mindful of the financial concerns and realities our families and community face.

There was a discussion of money received from the Cares Act, additional State Aid, assigned fund balance, 2% tax cap, capital reserves, LIPA glide path and payments from LIPA, capital projects, unfunded mandates, and the possibility of adding solar projects to the capital reserve.

9. BOARD AND COMMUNITY DISCUSSION OF SUPERINTENDENT'S PROPOSED 2021-2022 BUDGET

Discussion: 9.01 Opportunity for public input regarding the school budget for 2021-2022

<u>Name</u>	<u>Comment</u>
Christina Karman	Stated that she is advocating for keeping Bellerose Elementary School open. It is not worth closing schools to save \$7 million. 5 th graders do not need enhancements, they need stability. Asked where are all the savings, the budget shouldn't increase at all.
Maria Martello Angelo	Asked what is the rush to close both Dickinson and Bellerose by the fall of this year. There are so many unanswered questions, reassurances are needed in what the realignment is and changes they are comfortable with. If we put a pause on it what will happen?
Scott Lewis	Asked what expenses are specifically related to COVID. What will happen to money if we don't have COVID. The Budget is \$2 million higher than last year and there doesn't seem like there is enough savings for two schools being closed.
Denise Schwartz	Stated that it is not financially prudent to repair the portables to be used. If we are closing two buildings and want to save money we are re-appropriating too much staff and salaries and benefits are too high. We are not in the business of retaining taxpayer money for future use.
Moriah Heuer	Stated that Northport Middle School should not be closed and should never been closed. If the plan to put 5 th graders into the middle school goes forward, she would like a full time counselor for each 5 th grade class at each middle school. It is important to support young kids who are being put in a new environment they have not been prepared for.

There was a discussion regarding having to pierce the tax cap if they have to keep Bellerose Avenue School and Dickinson Avenue School open.

10. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT, GENERAL - FOR BOARD ACTION

Action: 10.01 District-wide School Safety Plan
Recommendation to approve the District-wide School Safety Plan

Motion by Thomas Loughran, second by David Badanes.

Final Resolution: Motion Passes

Yes: David Badanes, Victoria Buscareno, Thomas Loughran, Donna McNaughton, Allison C Noonan, David Stein

Not Present at Vote: Larry Licopoli

Action: 10.02 Policies - Second Read and Adopt

Recommendation to receive for a first read, revisions to the following policies:

10.02.2 #5420 "Student Health Services"

10.02.3 #5460 "Child Abuse, Maltreatment or Neglect Outside the Education Setting"

Motion by Thomas Loughran, second by David Badanes.

Final Resolution: Motion Passes

Yes: David Badanes, Victoria Buscareno, Thomas Loughran, Donna McNaughton, Allison C Noonan, David Stein

Not Present at Vote: Larry Licopoli

Recommendation to sever the following policy:

10.02.1 #5150 "School Admissions"

Motion by Allison C Noonan, second by David Badanes.

Final Resolution: Motion Passes

Yes: David Badanes, Victoria Buscareno, Thomas Loughran, Donna McNaughton, Allison C Noonan, David Stein

Not Present at Vote: Larry Licopoli

Recommendation to table the following policy:

10.02.1 #5150 "School Admissions"

Motion by David Badanes, second by Allison C Noonan.

Final Resolution: Motion Passes

Yes: David Badanes, Victoria Buscareno, Thomas Loughran, Donna McNaughton, Allison C Noonan, David Stein

Not Present at Vote: Larry Licopoli

Action: 10.03 Legal Notice for the Budget Vote and Election of Trustees

Recommendation to approve the Legal Notice for the Budget Vote and Election of Trustees to be held on Tuesday, May 18, 2021.

Motion by Thomas Loughran, second by David Badanes.

Final Resolution: Motion Passes

Yes: David Badanes, Victoria Buscareno, Thomas Loughran, Donna McNaughton, Allison C Noonan, David Stein

Not Present at Vote: Larry Licopoli

Action: 10.04 Personnel Actions Report

Recommendation to approve the attached Personnel Actions Report

Motion by Thomas Loughran, second by David Badanes.

Final Resolution: Motion Passes

Yes: David Badanes, Victoria Buscareno, Thomas Loughran, Donna McNaughton, Allison C Noonan, David Stein
Not Present at Vote: Larry Licopoli

11. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT, FINANCIAL - FOR BOARD ACTION

Action: 11.01 Johnson Controls

Recommendation to approve a Service Solution Agreement between the Northport-East Northport Union Free School District and Johnson Controls for a wireless cellular device to communicate with the Northport Fire Department for alarm signals. (B&G)

Motion by David Badanes, second by Allison C Noonan.

Final Resolution: Motion Passes

Yes: David Badanes, Victoria Buscareno, Thomas Loughran, Donna McNaughton, Allison C Noonan, David Stein

Not Present at Vote: Larry Licopoli

12. ADJOURNMENT - Board policy requires adjournment by 10:30 pm, unless meeting is extended by vote.

Information: 12.01 Upcoming Meetings

SPECIAL MEETING TO FINALIZE BUDGET

Thursday, April 8, 2021

7:00 p.m.

Northport High School Auditorium

SPECIAL MEETING TO VOTE ON BOCES ADMINISTRATIVE BUDGET & TRUSTEES AND PUBLIC HEARING ON EDUCATIONAL IMPACT STATEMENT

Tuesday, April 27, 2021

7:00 p.m.

Northport High School Auditorium

SPECIAL MEETING TO RENDER A DETERMINATION ON PROPOSED SCHOOL BUILDING CLOSINGS

Thursday, April 29, 2021

7:00 p.m.

Northport High School Auditorium

President Badanes announced that there will be a special meeting on Tuesday, April 13th for the Board to receive the Educational Impact Statement from the School Closure Advisory Task Force.

Action: 12.02 Adjournment

Recommendation to adjourn the meeting

Motion by David Badanes, second by Allison C Noonan.

Final Resolution: Motion Passes

Yes: David Badanes, Victoria Buscareno, Thomas Loughran, Donna McNaughton, Allison C Noonan, David Stein

Not Present at Vote: Larry Licopoli

At 9:42 p.m., the Chair declared the meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Beth M. Nystrom
District Clerk