

MINUTES  
CABOT ANNUAL SCHOOL DISTRICT MEETING - MARCH 3, 2009

Pursuant to the Warning as recorded and legally posted, the legal voters did meet at the time and place indicated and the following business was transacted:

The March 3, 2009 Cabot Annual School Meeting was called to order at 1:00 p.m. by the School Board Chairperson, Chris Tormey.

Article 1 – Motion made and seconded to elect a Moderator for the ensuing year. Ed Smith nominated; seconded. Declared nominations closed; Ed Smith elected Moderator unanimously by voice vote. Caleb Pitkin moved to adjourn School meeting until adjournment of Town Meeting; seconded. Motion approved by voice vote. Meeting adjourned at 1:07 pm.

Meeting called to order at 3:30 p.m. by the School Board Chairperson, Chris Tormey.

Article 2 – To elect two school directors by Australian ballot - one for 2 years and one for 3 years; Australian ballot results: School Director for 2 years, Ann Cookson (write-in) 79 votes. Ann Cookson was declared elected. School Director for 3 years, Linda Gabrielson (write-in) 45 votes. Linda Gabrielson was declared elected.

Article 3 – Shall the voters of the Town School District approve the minutes of the March 4, 2008 Annual School District Meeting? Moderator read the article; moved by Walter Bothfeld, Jr. and seconded. No discussion. Moderator stated the question. Article 3 adopted by unanimous voice vote. Moderator entertained a motion to approve the minutes of the May 12, 2008 special School District meeting; Walter Bothfeld, Jr. moved and seconded. Motion to approve the minutes of the May 12, 2008 special School District meeting adopted by unanimous voice vote.

Article 4 - To hear a report by the School Directors. Moderator read the Article; moved by Cedric Alexander and seconded. No discussion. Moderator stated the question. Article 3 adopted by voice vote. Chris Tormey provided a Power Point presentation of the proposed Cabot School Budget for FY2010; Gemma Yamamoto discussed the woodchip plant and performing arts building; Roman Kokodyniak discussed the 2008 energy summit and farm to school program; Regina Quinn discussed student learning; Chris Tormey discussed the proposed budget, George Burlison's retirement, and the request for the first \$15,000 of the Town approved \$75,000 contribution to the performing arts program, the \$60,000 remainder to be obtained by loan. Cedric Houston stated that he felt the student teacher ratio was too high and asked if the total cost per student was over \$17,000? Chris responded that it was the total per student cost, then we minus out the State payments. Jessica Miller stated that the new budget was nearly \$300,000 more than last year; asked how much over the State threshold are we to require a second vote and how much the equalized per pupil ? Chris explained that they can't compare the current year, but in FY08we expended about \$800 per student over state limits. Jessica asked why the \$75,000 was not included in the previous year tax bill? Chris explained that by the time tax bills were cut they had not achieved the \$75,000 in matching funds the school was obligated to secure and therefore didn't request the Town portion. RD asked for an explanation of an equalized student? Chris explained that it was the average student count over two years and the age of the student modified the average; Cecilia Gulka clarified. Cedric Alexander asked how much has to be raised from taxpayers? Chris responded that the FY10 budget proposes \$1,776,869 in taxes. Judy Pransky noted that Question 2 of Article 5 would be moot if the total budget was reduced by \$50,999. Jessica noted that if Question 1 of Article 5 fails, Question 2 automatically fails. No further discussion.

Article 5 – Question 1 - Shall the voters of the Cabot School District approve a total budget in the amount of \$3,660,125 which includes the Maximum Inflation Amount of education spending? Moderator read the article; moved by RD Eno and seconded. No discussion. Moderator stated the question. Meeting called for paper ballot; required seven people to stand. Results from paper ballot: Yes – 79, No – 42. Article 5, Question 1 passed. Question 2 – If Question #1 is approved, shall the voters of the school District also approve additional

education spending of \$50,999? RD Eno moved and seconded. Moderator read the article; moved by RD Eno and seconded. Jill Alexander moved to amend the amount to \$1; seconded. Moderator stated the question as amended; amendment defeated by voice vote. No further discussion. Moderator stated the question. Meeting called for paper ballot; required seven people to stand. Results from paper ballot: Yes – 72, No – 46. Article 5, Question 2 passed.

Article 6 – Shall the voters of the Town School District appropriate the audited fund balance as of June 30, 2009 for deposit in the Reserve Fund? Moderator read the article; moved by RD Eno and seconded. No discussion. Moderator stated the question; Article 6 adopted by unanimous voice vote.

Article 7 – To transact any other business that may legally come before this meeting. Moderator read the article; moved and seconded. It was announced that Gemma Yamamoto and Tim Gochey were resigning this year as School Directors. No further discussion.

Article 8 – To adjourn this meeting. Moderator read the article; moved by Tim Gochey and seconded. No further discussion. Motion passed unanimously and meeting was adjourned at 5:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

Tara Rogerson, Town Clerk

Approved by:

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Ed Smith, Moderator

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Chris Tormey, School Board Chair