

**Merrimack School Board Special Meeting
Merrimack Town Hall Meeting Room
February 18, 2013
PUBLIC MEETING MINUTES**

PRESENT: Chairman Ortega, Board Members Barnes, Markwell and Schneider, Student Representative Crowley and Superintendent Chiafery, Assistant Superintendent McLaughlin, Business Administrator Shevenell.

1. Call To Order

Chairman Ortega called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

2. Pledge of Allegiance

Chairman Ortega led the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. Bond Hearing on Warrant Article for Construction of New Special Services and Central Office Consolidated Building

Chairman Ortega introduced Planning and Building Committee Chairman Rich Hendricks and Vice Chairman Gage Perry.

Chairman Hendricks reported that in December 2008 the School Board charged the Planning and Building Committee with the task to research strategies required to consolidate the various functions and space of the school district administration and special services department into one combined location.

Mr. Hendricks reported the committee studied the following options:

- Lease available space
- Purchase a new building
- Use portable structures
- Renovate existing school buildings
- A combination of the above

Mr. Hendricks presented the Planning and Building Committee's recommendation for a proposed new building which is the best long-term, workable and affordable solution to the current overcrowding and unsafe conditions existing in the current central office and Special Services buildings.

Chairman Ortega stated that Warrant Article 2 is the Construction of a New Special Services and Central Office Consolidated Building. Chairman Ortega reported that the School Board voted 5-0-0 to recommend Article 2 and the Budget Committee voted 9-2-0 to recommend Article 2. He also reported that the Planning Board upgraded the project on the Capital Improvement Plan from a necessary project to an urgent project.

4. Public Comments

Stan Heinrich, 8 Edgewood Road, asked how much lower the payments would be and how much more would be paid over the term of a 15 year bond.

Business Administrator Shevenell responded that for a ten year bond, the first year \$30,000 for the half year interest payment. The payments go from \$206,000 down to \$152,000 on the tenth year. On that amount approximately \$294,000 is interest. A fifteen year bond, the first year \$33,321 for half year interest payment. The payments go from \$161,000 down to \$100,000 on year fifteen. On that amount approximately \$455,000 is interest.

Business Administrator Shevenell would recommend the ten year bond.

Stan Heinrich spoke in support of Article 2 and he would prefer a ten year bond.

The Bond Hearing adjourned at 6:50 p.m.