

Date Approved/Released: 8/3/17

Approved/Hold: \_\_\_\_\_

School Committee Chair: *[Signature]*

JOINT MEETING OF THE  
SCHOOL COMMITTEE AND THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN  
MONDAY, JUNE 12, 2017  
TOWN HALL AUDITORIUM

1. Call to order: 6:34 P M.

Present:

School Committee: Janet Corbosiero (Acting Chair), Dawn Fronte, Danielle LaPointe,  
Felicia Nurmsen  
Steve Haddad-Superintendent  
Richard Ikonen-School Business Manager

BOS: Barbara Anderson, Michael Barbaro, Audrey LaBrie, Austin Cyganiewicz, Amy Salter

Keith Hickey-Town Manager  
Rick Morin - Town Moderator

6:35 PM B. Anderson called the Board of Selectman (BOS) to order. The assembly recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

J. Corbosiero called the School Committee meeting to order.

Video/Audio recording disclosure.

M. Barbaro thanked Burton Gould for his 40 years of service as the Winchendon Representative on the Montachusett Regional Technical School (Monty Tech) District Committee, noting Mr. Gould helped shepherd countless public and private projects in town during his tenure.

1. Appointment of Winchendon's Representative to the Montachusett Regional Vocational Technical School District: Candidate and Selectman Austin Cyganiewicz removed himself from the table during the interviews to avoid any conflict of interest.

Greg Vine also thanked Burton Gould for his service, commending his worthwhile projects. Mr. Vine read a statement outlining his reasons for deciding to apply for the position, adding he would act in the best interest of Winchendon students who want to avail them of the services. He believes the Monty Tech contract/agreement should be re-examined, noting B. Gould did his best to see that the proposal went nowhere. He is in favor of a more fair method, such as a lottery, to give kids who are really seeking and would benefit from a trade school degree, a better chance of placement. He would also recommend that the committee rotate their meeting places. He stated the proposal Mayer Hawke put forward is a

good starting place, stressing the process needs to be modernized. Mr. Vine spoke about the importance of getting to know the current committee member and presenting goals to initiate change, adding change takes time and he will work toward it during the 4-year term.

Corey Bohan stated he is a lifelong resident of Winchendon and the President of his graduating class at Monty Tech. He noted he was passed over for admittance once but was a student who needed that kind of school. He would represent students in an open, positive fashion, and work to make sure the right kids are in the right seats. His civic pride started at Monty Tech, and that helped him in his teen years when he needed it most. He stated the district is not suffering financially, and does not account for the manner in which the dollars are spent. He is a proponent of user fees, which as an indirect education cost should not be covered by state, local aid or the town fee-per pupil cost. He would attend BOS and FinCom meetings to be more informed and educated, and be able to vote better. He wants available seats to be filled by kids who require or want a vocational education. Understanding his is only 1 vote, he stated that as the 2<sup>nd</sup> largest contributor, Winchendon is a sword to wield and is a louder or more resounding vote than some realize. He agrees that 50 year old contract needs to be looked at. He stated it is an important position and he has the time to dedicate to it, adding he would be available for questions and comments. He has pursued this position for 10 years. He reviewed his activity in various town committees and projects, noting the importance of clear channels of communication.

F. Nurmsen stated students should decide where they want to go, adding the workforce and manufacturing has changed and has to meet the needs of the community and employers. She stated she would never limit our children's opportunities. Mr. Bohan agreed that collaboration with the Town and Monty Tech is important to be part of the positive change.

Austin Cyganiewicz noted that he has also looked forward to this opportunity for several years. He echoed M. Barbaro's praise of Mr. Gould's efforts to improve Winchendon. He agreed the 50-year old district agreement needs to be reviewed by an independent committee and would respect the majority opinion, adding that Monty Tech needs to be held accountable. He stressed that Monty Tech students are also Winchendon students, noting the representative must make sure they have what they need and are supported by their rep. He would make communication a key and send a written report every month, not just quarterly if asked. He noted he was a Monty Tech student and disapproved of special education students being separated from the shop experience, stating the need to integrate them more. He also noted that he wanted to learn a trade, graphic communications, and uses it currently. As a Student representative on the Monty Tech Committee, he feels that he already has their respect, can start a dialogue and understands the importance of those relationships.

Responding to A. LaBrie, Mr. Bohan stated he would vote in the interest of Winchendon students, and believed that would also be in the best interest of the town. He stressed the importance of collaboration. Mr. Cyganiewicz stated he would represent the constituents of Winchendon responsibly and make sure they have everything they need.

B. Anderson thanked the 3 very qualified applicants and explained the process for nominations and voting.

Moderator Rick Morin nominated Austin Cyganiewicz. Second by M. Barbaro.

J. Corbosiero nominated Greg Vine. Second by D. LaPointe.

F. Nurmsen nominated Corey Bohan. Second by J. Corbosiero.

Moderator R. Morin moved the nominations be closed. Second by A. Labrie. Approved unanimously.

R. Morin voted for Mr. Cyganiewicz.  
A. Salter voted for Mr. Cyganiewicz.  
M. Barbaro voted for Mr. Cyganiewicz.  
A. La Brie voted for Mr. Vine.  
J. Corbosiero voted for Mr. Vine.  
D. LaPointe voted for Mr. Vine.  
D. Fronte voted for C. Bohan.  
F. Nurmsen voted for Mr. Cyganiewicz.  
B. Anderson voted for Mr. Cyganiewicz.

Austin Cyganiewicz - 5; Greg Vine - 3 and Corey Bohan - 1.  
The newly appointed member to the Montachusett Tech School District Committee is Austin Cyganiewicz.

Rick Morin noted the town is very fortunate to have a school like Monty Tech; adding it fulfills the needs since technology is changing and schools evolve greater with technology. He urged residents to support the local school and dovetail with Monty Tech to our benefit.

Discussion of Filling School Committee Vacancy-

Janet Corbosiero noted that she resigned effective the date her spot is filled, July 1, 2017 or after. The vacancy will be posted tomorrow for 14 days. B. Anderson thanked J. Corbosiero for her work. M. Barbaro asked for the posting to be delayed until July 1<sup>st</sup>, when the seat is vacant.

Mr. Hickey stated the advertising process can begin now and continue with the interviews and selection of a candidate.

D. LaPointe moved to post the vacancy tonight. Second by D. Fronte for discussion. F. Nurmsen stated she will not vote until she finds out what the process is.

F. Nurmsen-abstained; D. Fronte-Aye; D. LaPointe-Aye; J. Corbosiero-Aye.

A. Cyganiewicz-Aye; A. LaBrie-No; A. Salter-No; M. Barbaro-No; B. Anderson-abstained.

Approved 4-3-2.

J. Corbosiero stated that she would resign by a specific date if required. Superintendent Haddad will check with legal counsel tomorrow to confirm the process.

7:43 PM D. LaPointe moved to adjourn. Second by D. Fronte. Approved 4-0-0.

A. LaBrie moved for the BOS to take a 5-minute recess. Second by M. Barbaro. Approved 5-0-0.

Respectfully submitted: \_\_\_\_\_  
Barrie E. Martins, School Committee Recording Secretary