

**Haines Borough**  
**Special Borough Assembly Meeting**  
**JOINT SESSION WITH THE HAINES BOROUGH SCHOOL BOARD**  
**March 31, 2009**  
**MINUTES**

**Approved**

**A. Call to Order/Pledge to the Flag:** Mayor HILL called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. in the Haines Borough High School Commons and led the pledge to the flag.

**B. Assembly Roll Call: Present** - Mayor Jan HILL and Assembly Members Jerry LAPP, Doug OLERUD, Pete LAPHAM, Scott ROSSMAN, Steve VICK, and Norm SMITH.

**Borough Staff Present:** Tom BOLEN/Borough Manager, Julie COZZI/Borough Clerk, and Jila STUART/Chief Fiscal Officer.

**C. SCHOOL BOARD ROLL CALL: Present** - Chairman Carol KELLY and members Stacie TURNER, Sarah SWINTON, Brian CLAY, Greg STUCKEY, and Kate LINDSLEY/student member. Absent - Daymond HOFFMAN.

**School District Staff Present:** Michael BYERS/School Superintendent, Ashley SAGE/Administrative Assistant, Patty BROWN, and Lindsey MOORE.

**Visitors Present:** Ann PETERSON/CVN, Donnie TURNER, Bill and Libby KURZ, Janet KURZ, Michelle BYER, Nelle GREENE, and others.

**D. Approval of Agenda**

**Motion** by LAPP: Approve the meeting agenda. It was seconded by STUCKEY. The motion carried unanimously.

**E. Business**

**1) District Goals and Priorities**

**a. Facility Issues**

- Long Term Maintenance
- Major Maintenance
- HS Roof repair (when was it last redone?)
- HS locker room remodel including heating system, ventilation, plumbing, fire sprinklers, lighting and wiring.
- ML Heating CIP
- ML Paving CIP
- Plumbing and heating work for the Voc-Ed building that was removed in the construction planning process and was not added back.
- Take care of icing behind school due to water coming from bank.

between the Borough and the School District would be a great start. **LAPP** asked if **BYER** is trying to take the maintenance money out of the school budget? **BYER** said that is not his intention. Regular maintenance will continue to be the District's responsibility and a part of the school budget. However, the big projects and long term maintenance issues are a different story. **BOLEN** said his perspective is a little different. It's important to define major and minor maintenance. State statute clearly spells out that it is the School District's responsibility to maintain the buildings it occupies. The District should seek to build its capacity to have a little more managerial capacity on its staff to put out RFPs and to seek needed design work and engineering. The borough should only be involved in the super major items. There must be a way to determine what's major and what's minor, because he can envision a time when **BYER** might say a project is major but he believes it is minor. The new Director of Public Facilities has an incredible amount of projects on his plate at this time. He's willing to help and the Borough's willing for him to help, but he's not going to be as available to the School District as they might like. **VICK** asked if this is something that **BYER**, **BOLEN**, and the Director of Public Facilities can work out together. **STUCKEY** agreed that clear expectations are very important, and he'd like to see the three of them hammer it out.

**c. Instructional Initiatives**

▪ **Strategic Planning**

- Voc-Ed expansion
  1. Upgrade and Expand Work Experience
  2. Resurrect Trade and Industry class
  3. Natural Resource Careers class
  4. Cooking Classes
  5. Financial Literacy class
  6. Tying classes to Careers
- Lunch Program

**BYER** explained some new programs and classes planned for the next school year. The District is working hard to tie classes to careers so that students graduate with skills they can use right away. They're also trying to hold student interest. **LINDSLEY**, who is a graduating senior, said she wishes she could experience the new programs next year.

important for the School District to develop. **ROSSMAN** suggested a joint facilities maintenance fund that both the Borough and School District would contribute to. **BOLEN** suggested a regular ongoing maintenance committee might be an option as well.

**b. Budgetary**

- **Safe & Secure School Funding**
- **Putting aside \$150,000 in savings**

**BYER** said since the Secure School funding program will eventually go away, the Borough and School District should work together to develop a transition plan and budget cushion to counter the affects of leaner times.

**4) APOC Discussion**

**COZZI** discussed the continued issues with the State's financial disclosure laws as it applies to municipalities and said she was able to confirm that there is no legal reason why the assembly could not choose to put the exemption question on the ballot again this November. Based on many discussions with the general public, a strong education effort would most likely result in favorable voter ratification. Voters generally did not understand the issues. The general mood of those present at the meeting was to put the question to the voters again.

**5) Resolution 09-03-159**

**A joint resolution of the Haines Borough Assembly and Haines Borough School Board supporting an increase of the compulsory school attendance age from 16 to 18 years of age.**

**KELLY** explained the bill currently before the state legislative and said one child lost is one child too many. **TURNER** said she has a 16-year-old and wholeheartedly supports this resolution.

**Motion by OLERUD:** Adopt Resolution 09-03-159. It was seconded by **VICK**.

**SMITH** asked how this will be enforced. **KELLY** said the legislature is coping with that question. This change would at least give parents some leverage to keep their teenagers in school. **BYER** added that there are too few tools that exist to enforce this, but since it will set an expectation it is important. **LINDSLEY** said it's going to do kids a favor to force them to stay in school. **BROWN** agreed with the added motivation to stay in school. It also helps to provide interesting programs and classes.