

MINUTES OF JOINT SPECIAL MEETING

Saturday, February 24, 2016

AT 8:00 AM

PERSONS PRESENT

TOWN BOARD Supervisor, Merilee Walker  
Councilperson, Bill Mann  
Councilperson, Mike Hillier  
Councilperson, James Forrester  
Councilperson, Randy Morris

RECORDING CLERK Cheyenne DeMarco

VILLAGE BOARD Mayor, Bob Cox  
Trustee, Darren Snyder  
Trustee, Fritz Amrhein, *Absent*  
Trustee, Mel Allen  
Trustee, Jack Morgan

RECORDING CLERK LeRoy Wood

SCHOOL BOARD President, Todd Galton  
Member, Pat Long, *Absent*  
Member, Christie Crandall-Bean  
Member, Ken Weaver, *Absent*  
Member, Jeff Bugman, *Absent*  
Member, Terry Lowell  
Member, Jill Burley, *Absent*

PERSONELL

KESHEQUA SCHOOL SUPERINTENDIANT Thomas Kopp

GUESTS None

At 8:00 AM Todd Galton called the meeting to order.

**SRO – School Resource Officer**

School Superintendent, Tom Kopp, addressed the agenda and the main reason for this meeting is to discuss over the village and town board's reaction to the letter Tom Kopp sent to each board regarding Keshequa's School Resource Officer (SRO).

Mr. Kopp's letter addresses that their current resource officer, Deputy Ross Gerace, from Livingston County Sherriff's department that was placed in Keshequa Central School (KCS) three years ago when the school received grant funding to pay for his full salary and benefits package. The grant will end this school year on June 30<sup>th</sup>.

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The school is looking for financial partnering from the Town and Village boards.

Supervisor Walker stated it was discussed at their regular board meeting on whether or not the town is legally allowed to provide this funding from their Town budget to a separate entity like the School. Supervisor Walker reached out to Association of Towns for advice and is disappointed to say they have not given a response back in time for this meeting.

Mike Hillier asked what has the school done in the last three years in preparation of this grant's expiration? Terry Lowell answered that they were hoping it would be re-approved for furtherer grant coverage. Mike asked if they contributed to a reserve in their budget in anticipation of the end of this grant? Tom Kopp stated that the School budget cannot create a reserve specifically for an SRO, it can only create reserves for a capital project. Mike asked why are they all sitting here now debating this instead of three years ago? Terry Lowell answered they were hoping to secure a continuing grant.

Supervisor Walker stated that the Town just started their new fiscal year in January and just kept it under the tax cap. Sheriff Dougherty sent an e-mail to Supervisor Walker which stated that several other municipalities in the county use their municipal police department including: Avon, Caledonia, Geneseo and Mount Morris, and they do so at a much lower cost. For instance, when you choose a Livingston County Sheriff's Department's SRO, you would be paying for the County car as a part of it, when the Nunda Police Department already have two cars available. Supervisor Walker stated that when it is a \$75,000-dollar figure where you're requesting aid from other entities for, you should treat it like a bidding process.

Jim Forrester stated that he has no interest in using the Nunda Police Department as the school's SRO. The Sheriff's department has a has a level of professionalism with training beyond the local Police Department.

Mel Allen asked why aren't the other school boards from the Keshequa district here? Tom Kopp stated he will extend an invitation to them for the next meeting.

Todd Galton stated the School does have money in the budget to cover the salary and benefits for the SRO for the next year, but they still need financial help which is why they've brought the Town and Village Boards here.

Randy Morris asked what is the dollar figure they are looking for?

Todd answered \$7,500 from both Village and Town, but any funds would be appreciated.

Bill Mann stated that the initial reason the Tri-Board meetings began in 2016 was to look into shared services between the three entities. The SRO provides community service by responding to priority calls, making home visits when necessary and providing juvenile intervention. The community bares some of the responsibility for the SRO who does contribute to the Nunda community outside the school.

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Darren Snyder stated he is not for raising the taxes, but is willing to look in to using the Nunda police budget to cover the requested figure.

It was asked how much is in the Nunda Police Budget? Mike answered \$136,000.00

Jim Forrester suggested the four police commissioners sit down and look over the police budget to investigate if giving funds in available.

Todd Galton said in the meantime, the school board will reach out to the other entities.

Jack Morgan stated that community organizations may be able to help. For instance, Trinity Church can give \$10,000.00. Tom Kopp stated he will reach out to other community organizations.

**Capital Project: School**

Tom Kopp gave a brief review on the Dalton, Keshequa and Bus Garage buildings that all need updates.

Surveys have been done where the results showed 15-16 infrastructure concerns that need to be fixed.

Tom Kopp gave out a District Estimated Expenses Summary Form to all members present.

The Next Joint School/Town/Village meeting was set for March 24<sup>th</sup>, 8:00 AM.

The special meeting ended at 9:10 AM.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED,

CHEYENNE DEMARCO

NUNDA TOWN CLERK