Chairman Mark Holden called the Special Meeting of the Board of Education to order at 7:16 p.m.

Roll Call:
Mark Holden, Chairman
John Francino-Quinn
Thomas Minotti, Vice Chairman
Faith Hack
Arlene Liscinsky, Secretary
Kate Kutash
Win Oppel
Kathleen Yolish
Timothy Walsh

Full Quorum

Board of Education Administration present:
Superintendent of Schools, Freeman Burr
Assistant Superintendent, Lorraine Rossner
Finance Director, Allan Cameron
Human Resources Director, Carole Pannozzo

(1 tape on file in City/Town Clerk’s office)

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Approval of Agenda
Win Oppel moved to approve the agenda; seconded by Arlene Liscinsky. Thomas Minotti moved to adjust the agenda by moving Item V. Presentations/Recognitions to the next item on agenda; seconded by Win Oppel. The adjusted agenda was approved unanimously.

Presentations/Recognitions
Freeman Burr said John Hunter, Class of 2014 Valedictorian, was unable to attend due to his selection to play on the Senior All-Star Volleyball team. A communication from John was shared. Salutatorian Hudson Boles was recognized and addressed the board. Dr. Beth Smith commented on Hudson’s character and his scholastic and athletic achievements at Shelton High School.

The Shelton High School Gaelhawks Robotics Team presented the board with a trophy for the team’s first place win in the First Robotics Competition 2014 New England Region Championship and a medal “For Inspiration and Recognition of Science and Technology.” Members of the team gave a unique presentation accompanied by a demonstration of the robot.

At 7:36 p.m., Chairman Holden declared a brief recess for the purpose of honoring retirees Allan Cameron and Kathy Bender. The meeting reconvened at 7:49 p.m.
**Public Hearing**
John Anglace, 676 Long Hill Avenue, President of the Board of Aldermen, spoke also on behalf of John Papa and commented on budget remarks made by Chairman Holden and recorded in the minutes of the May 28, 2014 Board of Education meeting. A copy of Mr. Anglace’s remarks is attached.

Judson Crawford, 8 Jordan Ave, spoke of his work experiences with Allan Cameron and thanked him for being a good source of information. Mr. Crawford recognized the activities and obligations at this time but was surprised that no one from the Board of Education, except for one board member, was in attendance at the SIS Grade 8 Awards Ceremony held last night.

**Approval of Minutes**
Win Oppel moved to approve the minutes of the Special Meeting of May 28, 2014; Regular Meeting of May 28, 2014; Special Meeting of June 2, 2014; seconded by Jay Francino-Quinn; motion passed unanimously.

**Communications to the Board**
As previously noted, Valedictorian John Hunter sent an email with regrets to invitation to attend the meeting.

**Superintendent’s Reports & Action Items**
Superintendent Burr made some personal comments on departing Central Office staff members Allan Cameron and Kathy Bender, thanking each of them for their contributions. Mr. Burr noted the year is winding down and thanked teachers, students, school leaders and Central Office staff for enduring challenges with this year’s weather and expressed appreciation to parents for their continued support.

**Approved Field Trip**
The board was apprised of an approved field trip for SHS World Language students to travel to France and Spain, April 9-17, 2015.

**Comments by the Board Chair**
Chairman Holden stated the budget is a finalized at this point. He said he respectfully disagrees with the statements made earlier by Alderman Anglace and stated he believes the aldermen thought they were funding full day kindergarten and Pay to Participate but did not check with us first and didn’t explain how they thought it would work. Ultimately, the City agreed to fund the excess propane, which freed up $275,000. The $500,000, which was not mentioned in their budget report, came back into play, and the City found some items they were willing to accept on that side. Mr. Holden stated he is happy with the outcome and it’s time to move on.

Chairman Holden said he is pleased with the accomplishments over the past year and is very impressed with what he has seen throughout the district. He said he regrets that we are losing two talented people at Central Office.
JFA COMMENTS RE: May 28, 2014 BOARD OF EDUCATION SPECIAL MEETING

I am here tonight to comment on The BOE Special Meeting Minutes of May 28, 2014, specifically the paragraph titled, “Budget Discussion.”

Chairman Mark Holden made the following statement: “Chairman Holden stated ‘this afternoon an offer was made for a proposal for additional funding’ that contains components the board feels are likely adequate for the funding of full day kindergarten, the elimination of the Pay to Participate program, and increased special education, propane and electric costs.”

That statement is incorrect, inaccurate and misleading.

On May 28, 2014 Mayor Mark A. Lauretti met with Superintendent Freeman Burr, BOE Finance Director Alan Cameron, Alderman John Papa and myself to “explain” why the budget adopted by the BOA on May 22, 2014 would fully fund ADK, P2P and SPED.

- No “OFFER” was made...
- No “PROPOSAL” was made... and
- No “ADDITIONAL FUNDING” was made.

The Mayor identified three existing BOE budget accounts that could be capitalized and used to fund up to $500,000 for other BOE 2014-15 operating budget use. This is the same $500,000 Capital offer that the Mayor made in his budget presentation back on March 21, 2014. Following discussion, this was understood.

The BOE representatives explained that they had found a way to cover the propane costs for 2013-14 and asked if the City would indemnify the 2014-15 propane costs in excess of $226,000. That was agreed.

That meeting contained no reference to “electric costs” as mentioned by Chairman Holden.

Well meaning but inaccurate statements, especially when reported in your minutes and then carried electronically contributed to an ill-informed constituency making this budget process much more difficult than it had to be.

We respectfully request that this statement appear in the BOE minutes.

John F. Anglace, Jr.  
President, BOA

John S. Papa  
V.P., BOA
Reports of Standing Committees

Teaching and Learning – Thomas Minotti said there was no meeting this month due to items that were unavailable for the meeting. Mr. Minotti thanked Kathy Bender for her work with Teaching and Learning and Allan Cameron for his participation on Finance and said both were strong, contributing committee members. The next meeting is tentatively set for July 15 at 3:30 p.m.

Policy – Kathy Yolish reviewed the topics addressed at the June 17 committee meeting including Policy 1212 Community Relations; Field Trips Abroad Administrative Regulations; SHS Graduation Requirement update; update Graduation Policy Statement for Veterans; BOE Policy 1325 Advertising and Promotion – agreed that Superintendent will further investigate items for possible resolution to concern that had been presented; suggestions for bylaws on meeting conduct regarding public portion of BOE meetings presented to address the time element for speakers – agreed on 3 minutes per speaker. The next meeting is tentatively scheduled for July 15 at 4:30 p.m.

Finance – Arlene Liscinsky expressed appreciation of Allan Cameron, having worked with him on and off for almost 20 years in various capacities. She said the committee met prior to the Board Meeting.

Arlene Liscinsky moved to approve the revised meal prices, as submitted by the Finance Director, for the 2014-15 school year; seconded by Thomas Minotti. Vote 8-0-1 (abstention Jay Francino-Quinn); motion passed.

Arlene Liscinsky moved to empower the Superintendent to negotiate and execute a new Food Service Management contract with Sodexo; seconded by Thomas Minotti. Vote 8-0-1 (abstention Jay Francino-Quinn); motion passed.

Win Oppel moved to instruct the Superintendent to inform the Board of Aldermen, as the Fiscal Authority of the City of Shelton, that the Board of Education anticipates it will over-expend its current 2013-2014 budget as a result of excess costs in our Health Care Self-Insurance Account to cover a portion of this projected over-expenditure. Further, the Superintendent should notify the Board of Aldermen of a need for a supplemental appropriation to cover this anticipated overrun. The Superintendent should also notify the Board of Aldermen that the Board of Education anticipates drawing funds from our Medical/Dental Reserve Account to cover a portion of this projected over-expenditure; seconded by Faith Hack; motion passed unanimously.

Arlene Liscinsky moved to adopt the preliminary allocation of the 2014-2015 budget of $67,845,000; seconded by Win Oppel. Discussion: Chairman Holden said there are various adjustments due to full-day kindergarten, the elimination of Pay to Participate, and also recognizes that the City has agreed to assume certain costs that are normally BOE responsibility, notably textbooks and equipment up to $500,000, and also covers special education costs. Motion passed unanimously.
Reports of Special Committees
CES – Handouts with notes from the last CES meeting were provided. Arlene Liscinsky highlighted updates from the CES RESC lobbyist including unfunded mandates for Eppi Pen administration; sudden cardiac arrest; dyslexia identification; teen dating violence. Also, legislation will be introduced and discussed in next session regarding consolidation of resources; separating municipal and BOE budgets and giving BOE taxing authority. Mrs. Liscinsky mentioned Shelton teachers Victoria White and Jamie Weber participated in the CES Administrator Aspirant Program and passed a pamphlet.

CABE – Kate Kutash mentioned the upcoming Summer Leadership Conference is wait-listed.

For Your Information
Chairman Holden mentioned the attachments in the packet including Vacancy Report, Staff and Stipend Actions, and Enrollment Report.

Highlights
Kathy Yolish, Faith Hack, Kate Kutash and Thomas Minotti each spoke about various school events they attended during the past month. Dominic Barone was recognized and officially will begin his position as Director of Finance and Business Services on July 7.

Chairman Holden adjourned the meeting at 8:32 p.m.

Diane Luther
Diane Luther
Secretary to Board of Education
June 23, 2014