

**SPRINGFIELD SCHOOL DISTRICT
PUBLIC HEARING
MINUTES
Monday, November 7, 2016**

The legal voters of the Town of Springfield and Town of Springfield School District met at the Springfield High School Cafeteria in said Town on Monday, November 7, 2016 at 7:00 p.m. (7:00 o'clock in the afternoon) for the purpose of discussing the proposed purchase as presented in Article 1 which is to be voted by Australian Ballot on November 8, 2016, and then to be adjourned to the Riverside Middle School Gymnasium at 8:00 a.m. (8:00 o'clock in the forenoon) on November 8, 2016 to vote by ballot.

Moderator Patrick Ankuda called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and welcomed everyone. This meeting is pursuant of the warning dated September 29, 2016 regarding Article 1 on the ballot. The opening ceremony was performed by the Boy Scouts of America Troup 252 from Springfield who led the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance. Moderator Patrick Ankuda then explained the rules of order and procedure for the meeting. This meeting was broadcasted live on SAPA Television. Article 1 will be voted on November 8, 2016 by Australian Ballot. The Moderator will receive no motions or no long speeches.

ARTICLE 1: Shall the Springfield Town School District authorize the purchase of property located at 47 Union Street for the purposes of enhancing safety, traffic flow, and aesthetics at Union Street School for the purchase price of \$45,000 to be paid from funds received from the prior sale of East School?

The Moderator asked the School Board Chair, Ed Caron to present information regarding this purchase.

Mr. Caron stated that the 47 Union Street property is located directly in front of the Union Street Elementary School. The District wants to purchase it for safety reasons stating that the Police Department have been called to this property multiple times resulting in arrests. The current estimate for clean-up is \$22,400 - \$36,000. The source of funding for this work would come from the remaining Elementary School Bond money.

The Moderator opened the meeting up for discussion.

George McNaughton, Select Board Liaison: Stated that this goes along with what the town is trying to do to clean up the Union Street neighborhood. When people come to visit Springfield, they want to see the schools and the neighborhoods around them. These rundown buildings adversely affect the whole town. He encouraged the support of this article to remove this structure.

Bruce Czwakiel (Plain Hill Road): Asked for clarification on what "clean-up" meant. Ed Caron explained that it involves tearing down the building, cutting the trees, removal of debris and landscaping the property. It will be made into a green space and would not be used for any parking.

Nancy Wiese, Union Street Principal: Stated that one important issue is the line-of-sight and how well the authorities can see the school building. The removal of the building would improve this situation.

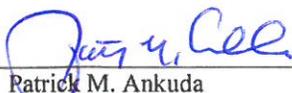
Mike Griffin, School Board Member: Stated that his graduation diploma had a picture of the high school which looks nice. Elm Hill looks good as you drive up to it from Hoover Street, Riverside also looks good embedded into the community. Union Street School can't be seen from the road and with all the work and funds that went into the building, it's a shame that it doesn't have that same opportunity.

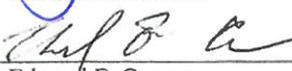
Hearing no further discussion, Moderator Patrick Ankuda adjourned the meeting at 7:09 p.m. to Riverside Middle School at 8:00 a.m. on November 8, 2016 to vote by ballot on Article 1.

Respectfully submitted,



Judy Spaulding, Recording Secretary

Attest: , Moderator
Patrick M. Ankuda

Attest: , Chairman of the Board of School Directors
Edward F. Caron