

**Official Minutes of the
Holland Township Board of Education
Milford, NJ 08848**

**Special Joint Board and Holland Township Committee Meeting
Holland Twp Fire House, 971 Milford-Warren Glen Road
May 11, 2010 7:30 P.M.**

A. Roll Call

Board Members Present: McDowall, Moebus, Schneider, Scott, Somers, Soucie,
Vandenburg, Geissler, Scheibener

Board Members Absent: None

School Personnel Present: Mr. Suarez, Superintendent, Mrs. Postma, SBA

Public: 36

B. Discussion of Defeated 2010/2011 Holland Township School Budget

Mayor Burdzy opened the Township Committee Meeting. *President Scheibener* opened the Board of Education Meeting. The Township Committee presented a list of questions (Attachment A) for the Board and Administration to answer publically with regards to the school budget and district.

Mayor Burdzy reviewed the proposed reduction of \$105,754 by the Township Committee to the 2010/11 school budget as an obligation to the taxpayers of Holland.

Vice President Geissler asked if a reduction could be considered near a penny (\$85,000) to lessen the impact on the school district staffing and negative impact on increasing class size due to the budget cuts, and also if the township could contribute funds to offset the tax levy.

Mayor Burdzy stated that if the township contributed funds from surplus, it would almost certainly result in a township municipal tax next year.

C. Public Comments

Alan Harvey, Hill Hollow: Questioned the Board if shared services for administration has been considered and if the Preschool Program is necessary

Tom Scheibener, Whaley St: Questioned if the Township Committee has considered reducing their budget by the same percentage the Board of Education has reduced the school budget.

Jerry Bowers: Questioned the Board for an updated statement of the current status of the union negotiations.

Lisa Mickey: Questioned the Board for an updated statement of the current status of the union negotiations and asked of the possibility of pay freezes to save money.

Roberta Beriont: Stated that the offset of the school tax levy by applying township surplus would be financially irresponsible due to the future impact on a potential introduction of a municipal tax.

Mark Miller: Stated that the overall taxes have increased over the years and once the tax base increases, it never goes less. Encouraged that the township and school district needs to come to an overall agreement on behalf of the taxpayers in Holland.

Board Member, Mr. Soucie stated that the school budget and school system will continue to erode due to the loss of state funds, continued defeated budgets which will then create poor quality education; the board is working to protect the best interests of educating the students of Holland.

D. Adjournment

MOTION by Mr. Moebus, seconded by Mr. Somers to adjourn the joint meeting.

MOTION APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY

Respectfully Submitted,

Abigail Postma, RSBA/Board Secretary