Chairman Mark Holden called the Regular Meeting of the Board of Education to order at 7:03 p.m.

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

Full Quorum
Board of Education Administration present: 
Superintendent of Schools, Freeman Burr  
Assistant Superintendent of Schools, 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.

Chairman Holden announced that a meeting was held with Mayor Lauretti, leadership of the aldermen and Superintendent Burr, at which an offer was made that contains components that still need to be evaluated by legal counsel and will require action by the Board of Aldermen. He said however, if everything works as we think, we will have full day kindergarten and (elimination of) pay to participate, as well as (provisions for) special education, and increased costs for propane and energy. He stated details need to be finalized, but this collaborative effort between the Mayor, Board of Aldermen and Board of Education is a very favorable development, and the right conversations are happening to make these goals a reality.

Win Oppel moved to adjust the agenda by moving forward item V. Presentations; seconded by Thomas Minotti; motion passed unanimously.

Presentations
Freeman Burr announced the names of the winners of the recent Perry Hill School Spelling Bee, sponsored by the Shelton Education Endowment Fund, and the board congratulated those present. 1st Place – Holly Mosher; 2nd Place – Taaseen Khan; 3rd Place – Elizabeth Porto; 4th Place – Aislynn Kostandini; 5th Place – Haley Penna.
The CABE Student Leadership Award winners were announced and congratulated. Michael Davis and Mia Trafecante of Shelton Intermediate School and Shannon Toole and Patrick Murphy of Shelton High School were presented Award Certificates and congratulatory letters from CABE.

Shelton High School students Patrick Murphy and Victoria Begley were recognized for being named SHS Scholar Athletes for Winter 2013-14 awarded by the Southern Connecticut Conference.

**Public Hearing**
Superintendent Burr made a statement acknowledging there will be speakers seeking to comment regarding staff and that there is an agreement with the Shelton Education Association that anytime a staff member feels that any of his/her rights have been violated, the provisions of the contract allow pursuit of due process. He said any staff member who feels his/her contractual rights have been violated is encouraged to pursue their rights through the contract provisions of due process. He stated both the Board of Education and the Superintendent feel the public forum is not the place for due process hearing and, thus, will not be responding to components related to that.

John Gasiorowski, 48 Kings Highway, SIS grade 8 student, addressed the board concerning his personal situation with bullying and the need to budget for additional social workers.

The following spoke in support of retaining Shelton High School teachers Kaitlin Botsford and/or Carolyn Finley in their current positions. Personal written statements were submitted for the benefit of Board of Education Members. A signed petition was presented. Additionally, a letter from Helen Smith, Executive Director of New England Scholastic Press Association, was read aloud.

- Stephanie Hartmayer, 198 Meadow Street
- Virginia Vancil, SHS Social Studies Teacher
- Alex Gumbs, 15 Red Fern Ridge
- Katie O'Brien, 153 Village Drive
- Johnna Bakalar, 18 Fran's Way
- Courtney Rodrigues, 10 North Hemlock
- Rebecca Zaleski, 8 Shinnacock Trail
- Neel Swamy, 950 Constitution Boulevard, North
- Liam Cummings, 62 Autumn Ridge
- Joelle Schumaker, 24 Misty Lane
- Judith Taylor, 453 Walnut Tree Hill Road
- Meghan Marini, 12 Beardsley Street
- Ryan McCarthy, 50 Daybreak Lane
- Colleen Stewart, 42 Mayflower Lane
- Elida Paiz, 57 Woonsocket Avenue
- Rebecca Ercolani, 100 Richard Boulevard*

*(NOTE: Tape Side B – 8:37 p.m.)*

- Kenneth Giangregorio, 34 Horse Stable Circle
- Carolyn Finley, 53 Greystone
Hilary Vojtek, 25 Hiawatha Trail, spoke in support of full day kindergarten and encouraged the board to continue its pursuit.

Chairman Holden called for a brief recess at 8:47 p.m. The meeting reconvened at 8:59 p.m.

Approval of Agenda
Thomas Minotti moved to approve the agenda; seconded by Timothy Walsh; motion passed unanimously.

Approval of Minutes
Win Oppel moved to approve the minutes of the Special Meeting of April 23, 2014; Regular Meeting of April 23, 2014; Special Meeting of May 21, 2014; seconded by Faith Hack; motion passed unanimously.

Communications to the Board
Freeman Burr said a letter was received from The Connecticut Association of Schools regarding the selection of Beth Smith to the Governor’s Scholars Committee to select thirty of the “brightest and best” from the candidates nominated by CAS member high schools. Dr. Smith was congratulated for this accomplishment.

Instructional Update/Superintendent’s Commentary
Mr. Burr announced the eight winners of the Innovative Teaching Mini-Grants awarded at the Shelton Education Endowment Fund event this week:

- ESS – Kerry Mizak and Kelly Young - $250
- SIS – Dawn Guerriero and Penny Zhitomi - $250
- SIS – Erica McNeil - $150
- SIS – Susan Albright - $250
- SHS – Patty Presutto - $250
- SHS – Mark Clark - $250

Freeman Burr presented a plaque awarded to Shelton Public Schools by Valley United Way for Top Dollars Raised. He acknowledged Sandi Zuraw and Kathy Riddle for having resurrected the Shelton Public Schools fund drive several years ago, which led to this achievement.

Approved Field Trips
Board members were apprised of approved field trips for SHS Student Council to attend a conference in Orlando, June 26-29 and for SHS Robotics Club to attend a competition in Worcester, June 24-25.
Items Presented for a Vote
Win Oppel moved to approve a grant proposal for Valley Regional Adult Education – English Literacy and Civics Education; seconded by Arlene Liscinsky; motion passed unanimously.

Faith Hack moved to approve the request from Elizabeth Shelton School to conduct fundraising activities during the 2014-15 school year; seconded by Jay Francino-Quinn; motion passed unanimously.

Thomas Minotti moved to accept on behalf of Shelton High School 3 grant donations of $500 each for Student Awards Program; seconded by Jay Francino-Quinn; motion passed unanimously.

Timothy Walsh moved to approve the district’s participation in Healthy Foods Certification for 2014-15, with a full blanket exception under Connecticut Nutrition Standards; seconded by Faith Hack; motion passed unanimously.

Comments by the Board Chair
Chairman Holden said the majority of the comments from the public were primarily matters of policy and building management, the latter not being the purview of the board. He said the Policy Committee may want to look at current Policy #4111.2 to see if it is still appropriate. Mr. Holden commented on the appointment of Charlie O’Keefe as CT State DECA President, noting this is the second consecutive year a SHS student has held the position. He made some brief comments concerning the budget, thanking all, including the teachers for their consideration during contract negotiations, and people who worked behind the scenes.

Reports of Standing Committees
Teaching and Learning – Thomas Minotti reviewed the topics covered in the May 20 meeting including the SHS graduation requirement and Capstone Handbook; revised SHS schedule; approval of piloted text for Italian 1. Next meeting is scheduled for June 17 at 4:00 p.m.

Policy – Kathy Yolish gave an overview of the May 20 meeting including updated field trip forms and administrative regulations; updated building use forms; update on 504 Parents Rights; 504 administrative regulations; 504 Policy Revision; revisit comparison of Policy 4118.2 Personnel Student/Staff Relationships; revisit Policy 1212 Community Relations – School Volunteers; revisit Policy 6146 Graduation Requirements. Next meeting is scheduled tentatively for June 17 at 5:00 p.m.

Finance – Arlene Liscinsky stated last week’s meeting was lengthy due to Sodexo’s cafeteria presentation. She commented on the increasing deficit in some line items. Mrs. Liscinsky said the committee plans to review the rental fee structure.
Arlene Liscinsky moved to grant permission to the Elizabeth Shelton Parents Club to renovate the play-scape on the ESS playground to establish a more age-appropriate play-scape; seconded by Win Oppel; motion passed unanimously.

Reports of Special Committees
CES – Meeting notes were included in packets. Arlene Liscinsky said the last meeting before the summer break is scheduled for next Thursday, and the lobbyist for CES will review the legislation from the recent session.

CABE – Kate Kutash mentioned upcoming events: CABE Summer Leadership Conference on July 22 from 2-8 p.m. in Old Saybrook; CABE Convention November 14-15 at Mystic Marriott (applications have been submitted for students to entertain); nominations being accepted for CT Superintendent of the Year.

For Your Information
Chairman Holden referenced the attachments in the packet including Vacancy Report, Staff and Stipend Actions, and Enrollment Report. Chairman Holden read the names of retiring staff members:

Susan Arpin, Long Hill School Principal; Kathleen Bender, Exec. Director of Curriculum & Support Services; Johanna Capria; Patricia Cayer; Karen Devonshuk; Ronnie DeCelle; Betsy Grant; Faylynn Haight; Edward Kacey; Joann Kacey; Robert Karkut; Nancy Kettles; Karin Maffe; Christine Margait; Joan Mas; Diane Parkins; John Pistor; Daria Ploski; Gerald Tabaka; Samuel Tuccio; Wayne Young; Bettina Youngs

Freeman Burr noted the kindergarten enrollment is already at 295 for next year.

Highlights
Thomas Minotti and Faith Hack talked about their attendance at various events including Grandparents’ Day at Elizabeth Shelton School; Book and Achievement Awards; SEEF Spring Social; Healthy Cooking Challenge at SIS (VITAHLs). Freeman Burr expressed appreciation to Kathy Bender and praised her team-building skills. Faylynn Haight was thanked for her handling of the Enrichment/Talented and Gifted Program. Chairman Holden expressed appreciation to Beverly Belden and Rene Giordano for their stunning and heartfelt remarks at the BOA public hearing.

Chairman Holden adjourned the meeting at 9:36 p.m.