Chairman Kathy Yolish called the Special Meeting of the Board of Education to order at 6:09 p.m.

Roll Call:
John Fitzgerald
Amanda Kilmartin
Kate Kutash
Diana Meyer
Patti Moonan

James Orazietti, Vice Chair
Carl Rizzo
Amy Romano, Secretary
Kathleen Yolish, Chair

Full Quorum

Also in Attendance: Dr. Beth Smith, Interim Superintendent; Kenneth Saranich, Assistant Superintendent; Carole Pannozzo, Human Resources Director; Rick Belden, Finance Director; Daniel DiVito, Technology Director

(There is no audio tape recording of this meeting. It was live streamed on the Shelton Public Schools YouTube channel and is available on the City of Shelton and Shelton Public Schools websites.)

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Approval of Agenda
James Orazietti moved to approve the agenda; motion seconded by Kate Kutash and approved unanimously.

Budget Mitigation Discussion and Possible Vote
Dr. Smith was asked to review the current status of the budget mitigation and shared a document outlining the final round of potential position eliminations. She stated the $343,084,204 was mitigated last meeting with approved reductions of $2,627,231 leaving $456,973 remaining. She stated there were a number of staff reductions that were tabled from the last meeting and there have been some resignations since that time, resulting in greater cost savings. She reviewed the proposed reductions to eliminate $315,000, which if approved will leave $141,973 to mitigate. It was noted that the City has offered to absorb $300,000 worth of costs from maintenance/custodial supplies and technology equipment line items related to COVID. She said once that happens, we will have $158,027 more than needed. Further discussion relative to restoring positions.
Carole Pannozzo discussed revenue that we would recoup from HSA deposits for positions that were eliminated and said $23,000 could be added to the health line or be used to add staffing back.

Rick Belden explained notification was received that once again Shelton is eligible to receive a 2% Set Aside Grant from the State for 2020-2021. The amount of $132,837 is deducted from the Education Cost Sharing funds the City receives and is credited to the Board of Education budget in three installments. Discussion ensued.

Amanda Kilmartin moved to direct Dr. Smith and Rick Belden to submit to the State the paperwork to accept the grant; motion seconded by Kate Kutash and passed unanimously.

Kate Kutash moved to rescind the elimination of the music teacher and fill the position; motion seconded by Diana Meyer. Discussion. Kate Kutash amended the motion to rescind the elimination of the music teacher and fill the position with a half-time music teacher; amended motion seconded by Diana Meyer and passed unanimously.

Kate Kutash moved to restore to the budget the SIS Reading Consultant and Library Media Specialist positions; motion seconded by James Orazietti. Discussion. Motion passed unanimously.


James Orazietti moved to eliminate 1 SIS Language Arts teacher (position through reduction in force will replace an SHS resignation); motion seconded by John Fitzgerald. Motion passed with vote of 8-0-1 (Abstention – D. Meyer).

James Orazietti moved to eliminate 1 SIS Social Studies teacher; motion seconded by Carl Rizzo. Discussion. Motion passed with vote of 8-0-1 (Abstention – D. Meyer).

James Orazietti moved to eliminate 1 LHS teacher, to be determined by the Building Principal; motion seconded by Amy Romano. Discussion. Motion passed with vote of 8-0-1 (Abstention – D. Meyer).


Kate Kutash moved that the $203,864 be established in the 2020-2021 budget as COVID related expenses; motion seconded by James Orazietti. Discussion. Motion passed with vote of 8-0-1 (Abstention – A. Kilmartin).
There was discussion about possibly meeting with the bargaining unions again regarding deferred furlough days, since the City and the Board have established a budget. Mrs. Pannozzo said if the board gives her a direction, she would suggest holding another executive session to discuss the board’s position and how they want to proceed.

**Adjournment**
Mrs. Yolish made closing comments and adjourned the meeting at 8:46 p.m.

*Diane Luther*
Secretary to Board of Education
June 12, 2020