

December 17, 2018

A special joint meeting of the Westfield School Committee and Westfield City Council was held on Monday, December 17, 2018, at 6:30 pm in the City Council Chambers at City Hall, 59 Court Street, Westfield, MA. Present by roll call were: Councilor Allie, Councilor Babinski, Councilor Bean, Councilor Beltrandi, Councilor Burns, School Committee member Diaz, Councilor Emmershay, Councilor Figy, Councilor Harris, School Committee member Mayhew, Councilor Morganelli, School Committee member O'Connor, Councilor Onyski, Councilor Paul, Mayor Brian Sullivan, School Committee member Cindy Sullivan, and Councilor Surprise. At 6:41pm School Committee member Heather Sullivan entered the meeting.

Mayor Sullivan stated that the purpose of the meeting was to fill the one year vacancy on the School Committee. Also, he requested that both candidates be in attendance this evening.

Councilor Surprise stated that he checked with the State and was informed that Mayor Brian Sullivan was not allowed to preside.

Mayor Sullivan replied that he also checked before the meeting, and was informed that as elected Mayor and de-facto chairman of the School Committee, he could chair the joint meeting. However, at this point, he chose to recuse himself.

Vice Chair Cindy Sullivan then presided over the meeting after checking in with City Councilor President John Beltrandi.

At 6:33 pm Vice Chair Cindy Sullivan called the meeting to order.

1. Pledge of Allegiance

Vice Chair Cindy Sullivan asked if anyone was taping the meeting and if so, please state your name and address: none

2. To fill the vacancy of a School Committee member:

Candidates who are interested can submit their letter of interest to the City Clerk's office at City Hall. Deadline to submit a letter is Friday, December 14th.

a. Intro by each Candidate

Mr. Jeffrey Gosselin, Elm Street, Westfield

Mr. Gosselin addressed the group. He stated that he was a registered voter and was employed as a Teacher Assistant in the Northampton Public Schools. Also, he has experience because he was a member of the School Committee in the past. When the vacancy arose, he received phone calls from members of the community, who encouraged him to put his name in. If chosen, he would advocate for policies and legislation that were in the best interest of our youth, schools and community.

Mr. Barry (Bo) Sullivan, Barrister Circle, Westfield

Mr. Sullivan thanked the committees for the opportunity to put his name in to complete the one year remaining on Kevin Sullivan's term. He reported that his brother was one of the best School Committee members who ever served. Also, he spoke about his experiences: morning radio talk show host, development at Westfield State University, the Board of Directors of the Boys and Girls Club of Westfield, and his current position as executive director of the Irish Cultural Center. If chosen, he promised to be a dedicated and hardworking member of the committee.

School Committee member Ramon Diaz moved, Councilor Harris seconded to nominate Mr. Bo Sullivan.

School Committee member Ramon Diaz moved, Councilor Emmershly seconded to nominate Mr. Jeffrey Gosselin.

Councilor Figy moved, School Committee member Ramon Diaz seconded to close the nominations.

The vote was taken in order of the numbers drawn at the start of the meeting. Members were instructed to state the last name of the candidate that they elected when their name was called.

<u>Member:</u>	<u>Candidate:</u>
Councilor Emmershly	Gosselin
School Committee member Diaz	Sullivan
Councilor Harris	Sullivan
Councilor Onyski	Sullivan
School Committee member Heather Sullivan	Sullivan
Councilor Morganelli	Sullivan
School Committee member Cindy Sullivan	Sullivan
School Committee member Diane Mayhew	Sullivan
Councilor Babinski	Gosselin
Councilor Paul	Sullivan
Councilor Bean	Sullivan
Councilor Figy	Sullivan
Councilor Surprise	Gosselin
Councilor Allie	Gosselin
School Committee member Tim O'Connor	Sullivan
Councilor Beltrandi	Sullivan
Councilor Burns	<u>Sullivan</u>

4 votes = Gosselin
13 votes = Sullivan

Congratulations were extended to Mr. Bo Sullivan.

At 6:50 pm School Committee member Ramon Diaz moved, Councilor Onyski seconded to adjourn the meeting. All were in favor. Motion passes.

Mr. Stefan Czapowski, Superintendent of Schools
Clerk – Westfield School Committee

A true copy, Attest:

Diane Mayhew, Secretary
Westfield School Committee

DM/cm