

TOWN COUNCIL  
**Town of Trumbull**  
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TOWN HALL  
Trumbull

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MINUTES  
November 19, 2013

**CALL TO ORDER:** Chairman Carl A. Massaro, Jr. called the special meeting to order at 8:02 p.m. at the Trumbull Town Hall. The Chair asked all present to remember the family of Attorney Johanna Malinowski. Ms. Malinowski was a long time resident of Trumbull, treasurer of the League of Women Voters and served the council on three different building committees, School Code Building Compliance, Vo-Ag School and most recently the Jane Ryan Roof Building Committee. All present joined in a moment of silence and the Pledge of Allegiance.

**ROLL CALL:** The clerk called the roll and recorded it as follows:

**PRESENT:**

Ann Marie Evangelista	Jeff S. Jenkins	Carl A. Massaro, Jr.
Debra A. Lamberti	Fred Palmieri, Jr.	Kristy Waizenegger
Michael J. London	Jeffrey Donofrio.	James F. Meisner
David R. Pia	Tony J. Scinto	Vicki Tesoro
Suzanne S. Testani	James Blose	Mark LeClair

**ABSENT:** Gregg Basbagill, Jane Deyoe, Martha A. Jankovic-Mark, Chadwick Ciocci, John A. DelVecchio, Jr. and Thomas Whitmoyer.

**ALSO PRESENT:** BOE Labor Counsel Floyd Dugas

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The Chair commended the Saint Joseph's High School Women's Soccer team for a job well done. They are the new 2013 reigning champions of the Fairfield County Athletic Conference, Class LL State Champions and had a an undefeated season. Each of the players introduced themselves to the council, told the council their moSt memorable moment of the season and where they will be attending school next year. The Chair congratulated the team.

\*The Chair reserved the right not to vote unless otherwise noted.

1. **RESOLUTION TC24-165:** Moved by Mr. Palmieri, seconded by Mr. Pia.  
BE IT RESOLVED, That funding for a labor agreement between the Town of Trumbull Board of Education and the Trumbull Educators Association (TEA) beginning July 1, 2014 and ending June 30, 2017 is hereby rejected.

**Committee Report:** The Legislation & Administration Committee met on November 14, 2013, amended the resolution unanimously and motion failed 0-3.

The Chair recognized the amendment in committee.

Moved by Mr. Meisner, seconded by Mr. Palmieri to amend the resolution by striking the phrase a labor agreement and replacing it with an arbitration award to read as:

**RESOLUTION TC24-165: BE IT RESOLVED, That funding for a ~~labor agreement~~ an **arbitration award** between the Town of Trumbull Board of Education and the Trumbull Educators Association (TEA) beginning July 1, 2014 and ending June 30, 2017 is hereby rejected.**

**VOTE: Motion CARRIED unanimously.**

Atty. Dugas noted for the record that the insurance waiver is being phased out completely by the third year of this contract. This is part of a substantial savings of this contract. There were no changes to sick leave during negotiations of this contract, what had been included in the previous contract is included in this contract. Pay out of accumulated sick leave had been previously phased out for new hires after July 1, 2007. The contract does not include health insurance in-network deductibles. In-network coinsurance was discussed, but was something the teachers were not interested in. There were extensive discussions on moving to an HAS. The teachers were supportive of the concept, but unfortunately the board's expert and the teachers' expert failed to agree on the structure of the proposed HSA. Atty. Dugas noted that they did agree to discuss and explore it in the future. There was some discussion in cutting down the number of steps, although there is an issue with doing so. The only way to cut steps is actually very expensive because you would have to move people up a step. The starting step could be eliminated in order to reduce the number of steps over time. They have started that process in this contract. If during the budgetary process the BOF and the Town Council gave the BOE approximately \$2 million it would cover the cost of moving teachers up a step during the process of reducing the number of steps. The practical realities of budgets these days would not allow for an additional \$2 million for that purpose. The goal included in the contract for the maximum number of students in a class is 28, (K-12). Mr. Scinto noted that at Hillcrest there is a social studies class with 54 students.

Ms. Evangelista spoke in favor of the contract and extended her gratitude to the teachers. This is a fair contract, co-pays and deductibles were increased, and the increase is less than the State average. Teachers are taking home less than two years ago due to insurance premium costs rising. Ms. Testani echoed Ms. Evangelista's comments. Atty. Dugas confirmed for Ms. Testani that the insurance waiver compensation is completely phased out by the third year of the contract and will save the BOE approximately \$800,000.

Mr. Jenkins recused himself from the resolution due the fact that his wife works for the BOE. Mr. Jenkins extended his gratitude to all of the teachers in the district.

Atty. Dugas suggested further amending the resolution and explained under the statute if approving a contract funding would need to be approved, but this is an arbitration award and the council's only option is to reject the contract.

Moved by Ms. Testani, seconded by Ms. Evangelista to amend the resolution by striking the words "funding for" the resolution would read the following:

**RESOLUTION TC24-165: BE IT RESOLVED, That ~~funding for~~ an arbitration award between the Town of Trumbull Board of Education and the Trumbull Educators Association (TEA) beginning July 1, 2014 and ending June 30, 2017 is hereby rejected.**

**VOTE: Motion CARRIED unanimously.**

The Chair clarified that a vote of no supports the arbitration award and a vote of yes is to reject the arbitration award.

Ms. Tesoro extended her gratitude to the teachers for everything they do in classroom and keeping the students safe.

VOTE: Motion as amended FAILED 0-13 (AGAINST: Ann Marie Evangelista, Debra A. Lamberti, Fred Palmieri, Jr., Kristy Waizenegger, Michael J. London, Jeffrey Donofrio, James F. Meisner, David R. Pia, Tony J. Scinto, Vicki Tesoro, Suzanne S. Testani, James Blose , Mark LeClair.)

There being no further business to discuss the Legislation and Administration Committee adjourned at 8:37 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

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Margaret D. Mastroni  
Town Council Clerk