

The Johnstown-Monroe Local School District Board of Education met in a special session on January 23, 2025, at the Johnstown Middle School, Library located at 401 S. Oregon Street, Johnstown, Ohio 43031. Vice President, Amanda Davis, called the meeting to order at 4:04 p.m. Responding to roll call were: Alan Benton, Ruth Ann Booher, Amanda Davis, and Anne Thomas. Also present were Philip Wagner, Superintendent, and Felicia Drummey, Treasurer. Tim Swauger was absent.

These written minutes, with resolutions passed and any attachments, in combination with an audio recording of the work sessions of Board proceedings, which is available upon request to the Treasurer, together constitute the official minutes of the meeting of the Johnstown-Monroe Local School District Board.

## **1. Opening of Meeting**

Procedural: A. Silent Prayer

Procedural: B. Pledge to the Flag

Procedural: C. President Calls on Treasurer to Take Roll

Information, Procedural: D. Reading of the Notice of the Meeting  
By Philip Wagner

## **2. Presentation of the Agenda**

Procedural: A. Additions or Deletions to the Agenda  
None

Action: B. Resolution #25-01-018: Adoption of the Agenda  
Motion to adopt the agenda.

Motion by Alan Benton, second by Anne Thomas.  
Final Resolution: Motion Carried  
Yea: Alan Benton, Ruth Ann Booher, Amanda Davis, Anne Thomas

## **3. Presentation of Prepared Remarks by the Public**

Information: A. Public Remarks  
None

## **4. Topics for Discussion**

A. Consideration of entering into a lease and purchase contract with the City of Johnstown.

Phil Wagner advised the board that the City Council voted as a majority to move forward with the purchase/lease agreement and shared that during public comments at the city meeting, Monroe Township came forward with a proposal for a shorter term and smaller square footage lease that does not meet the needs of the city. This restriction on the city will impact the school's purchase of the city building.

Mrs. Booher inquired if moving the city administrative offices would be easier than the police department. Mrs. Booher also shared concerns about the 15-year lease being too long and the language in the lease does not encourage the city to leave the property.

Mrs. Thomas reminded the board that the school also needs to use the area where the street department equipment is located. She also shared concerns about student safety with the multi-purpose building being constructed so close to the existing city building.

Mrs. Davis said that while the district has a good relationship with the city, a contract must also protect future board interests.

Mr. Benton shared that the city would benefit from a comprehensive plan and could use the money from sale purchase to propel the plan.

Mrs. Booher expressed interest in moving now to provide facilities due to space needs and cannot wait 15 years for the city to vacate the premises.

Dr. Wagner focused attention on the potential sale to create options with the city to move forward.

Mr. Benton shared that the value is the location and land, not the building. The board agreed to change Monday's work session to a special meeting and invite the City to participate in the meeting to further explore this issue.

### **B. Construction Projects**

Jeremy Johnston of Robertson said the project is targeting a mid-February commencement date. Currently, the team is working through paperwork on GMP 01, and GMP 02, for electronic signatures. He said we need to set up a pre-construction meeting with the city. The meeting should be scheduled within the next couple of weeks.

Ruth Ann asked how the district is going to use this new space. Dr. Wagner shared that Debbie Seibel and Michael Shipton are looking at curriculum use options. They are also working on a survey for parents to gain interest in course offerings. Dr. Wagner introduced another option would be to partner with C-Tec to offer a bio-medical career path. The health track has a strong interest in the preliminary survey results. Dr. Wagner will bring the survey results to the curriculum committee for consideration to build a program of studies. Ruth Ann Booher shared concerns about not having enough storage areas.

The construction topic switched focus to North Campus opportunities and options for development. Dr. Wagner displayed rendering of Option A and Option B which differ only by the concessions. The cost of \$4.6M is the high-water mark for all options.

## **5. Board Comments**

Information: A. Board Comments

Mrs. Thomas was amazed and impressed by the students presenting at the last board meeting and board members agreed.

## **6. Superintendent Comments**

Information: A. Superintendent Comments

None

## **7. Meeting Closing**

Action: A. Resolution #25-01-019: Adjournment

Motion that the Board of Education meeting is hereby adjourned at 5:46 PM.

Motion by Anne Thomas, second by Ruth Ann Booher.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Yea: Alan Benton, Ruth Ann Booher, Amanda Davis, Anne Thomas

---

**Board President**

---

**Treasurer**