

**MAHOMET-SEYMOUR  
COMMUNITY UNIT SCHOOL DISTRICT #3  
Champaign County, Illinois  
BOARD OF EDUCATION  
Joint Session with the Village of Mahomet**

**Held in the Middletown Prairie Board Room**

**September 8, 2015**

1. **Call To Order**

The meeting was called to order at 6:31 p.m. by Vice-President Max McComb.

2. **Roll Call**

Present from the Mahomet-Seymour School District for the roll call were: Max McComb, Cheryl Melchi, Nezar Kassem, Jenny Park and Becky Ryherd and Merle Giles. Terry Greene was absent from the meeting. Also present were Rick Johnston and Board Recorder Jennifer Farm. Present from the Village of Mahomet were: Brian Metzger, Bill Olinger, Donald Lynn, Andy Harpst, Vicki Cook, Bruce Colravy, Patrick Brown and Sean Widener.

3. **Pledge of Allegiance**

4. **Public Comment**

Vice-President McComb called for any public comments. There were none.

5. **Study Session: Joint Meeting with Village of Mahomet Trustees & Administration**

**A: Update of fiber installation project:** This initiative has been in the works for over 1 ½ years in trying to develop the triangular agreement between Central Illinois Rural Broadband Network, MS Schools and the Village. Farm Credit Services and the Mahomet Library have already connected to the high speed fiber network citing strong reliability and cost effectiveness as major factors. Mr. Johnston shared recent news that a lease agreement with MetroLink (the company that installed fiber along Route 150 from downtown past Prairieview Road) is in the works.

**B: MS Schools Phase II Overview:** Superintendent Johnston reviewed the history of Vision 2025 Facilities Planning with the Village. Village personnel had previously seen the overall plans for the 77 acre east campus two years ago. Specifically, Phase II was discussed in more detail. The district has long held the tax rate level and that remains the directive from the Board of Ed as the administrative team develops Phase II. The scope of the work includes the addition of Grades 1 and 2 at Middletown Prairie Elementary (MPE). This would include the sale of the downtown Sangamon property. All other buildings would receive upgrades. Air conditioning at the Middle School would be completed (approx. 15 classrooms), a new heating and air conditioning system similar to the new school systems would be installed at Lincoln Trail, and the MSHS auditorium and library would be renovated. “This is the moment in time when the district can address these needs in a comprehensive long term plan while still keeping the tax rate level,” Johnston stated. “This plan was put into place in 2010 and we continue working on implementation to address our facility needs for the future”.

**C: Sub Division Growth Trends:** Sean Widener, Acting Village President, shared some information on the growth of the residential areas of Mahomet, saying “we are experiencing another growth spurt-it is happening”. He shared that houses are being built at a current rate of 1.3-1.6 per month depending upon the housing addition. Widener shared early in the meeting a census fact showing that 40% of the residents of Mahomet are new to Mahomet since 2005. Widener said that the Village knows that they cannot “survive” on residential growth alone. They are seeking commercial development, but reminded everyone that they can only build infrastructure, and that there are limits to the incentives that they can offer.

D: Shared Facilities Usage: Superintendent Johnston shared some numbers regarding the amount of time that the district facilities are used by the Village and other organizations in the area. At this time the District does not apply a fee to the Village and other not-for-profit entities, but it is something that the district will need to monitor in the future given maintenance and utility costs. The use of 13 Acres Park was also briefly discussed. The school district uses this facility for soccer practice only and JV/Freshman softball and baseball field when the main HS fields are unavailable.

E. Village Road Project Planning: Patrick Brown discussed some of the many factors with road construction. Federal and state grant timelines are the most restrictive factors. The Village will work in the future to meet specific guidelines when possible to avoid late August and September road work. It was noted that the district and village work to assist communication with the general public with traffic issues related to construction.

The Board of Education excused the Village Trustees and Administration and took a brief recess before reconvening.

6. Superintendent Report: The Board discussed the next steps upon receiving the letter of resignation from Terry Greene on September 7<sup>th</sup>. The Board directed Superintendent Johnston to begin the process of seating a replacement for member Greene. The position will be posted on the district website, resumes will be accepted, a review committee will be utilized, the Board will hold potential interviews during closed session at their October study session, and the replacement will be seated at the October regular meeting.

7. Adjournment

**Motion** was made by Melchi, seconded by Giles, to adjourn the meeting. Motion was approved, 6-0. The motion carried and the meeting adjourned at 8:26 p.m.

---

Max McComb, Vice-President

Cheryl Melchi, Secretary

Submitted by Jennifer Farm, Board Recorder