

I. A. CALL TO ORDER

Chairperson Amuso called the meeting to order at 6:00 P.M.

B. MOMENT OF SILENCE

C. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIENCE

D. ROLL CALL

PRESENT

Chairperson Kathleen Amuso
Hon. Mayor James Ruberto
Churchill Cotton
Carmen C. Massimiano, Jr.
Angel Ramirez, Secretary
Erin Sullivan

ABSENT

Daniel Elias

Chairperson Amuso declared a quorum.

II. PUBLIC HEARING ON BUDGET

Mrs. Sally Douglas, Assistant Superintendent for Business and Finance, provided a brief overview on the draft FY'09-10 Budget noting that exact funding for the FY'10 School System is still unknown and therefore the reductions in the draft budget represents categories and not specific positions.

Valerie Andersen, Dan Avenue, complimented the school system on their numerous AP and Honors course offerings. She urged the School Committee not to cut AP and Honors courses. She also stated that with the number of course offerings it was a plus for Pittsfield and should be publicized.

David Bertolozzi, 95 Wendell Avenue, suggested that the School Committee look into elevating vice principals in the elementary schools and having them split their time between two schools. He said that would help with the budget because of savings on insurance and pensions.

Terry Kinnas, 14 Cooper Parkway, stated that state revenue figures had been updated last evening and that Chapter 70 aid had been cut in addition to other cuts. He suggested that the Committee look at vehicles and utilize those vehicles which are more cost efficient. Mr. Kinnas suggested that with the difficulty in getting high school principals those positions should be eliminated and that the Superintendent should relocate to one high school

and the Deputy Superintendent and Assistant Superintendent for CVTE locate to another high school, then relocate the remainder of the staff and sell Mercer to Berkshire Medical Center. He suggested moving the School Committee meetings to City Hall and open up the PHS Library for classroom space for students. He also suggested rewarding staff for cost saving suggestions to cut operational expenses.

III. ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Angel Ramirez, seconded by Erin Sullivan, that the School Committee be adjourned, was by vote unanimously approved.

The meeting adjourned at 6:19 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

ANGEL RAMIREZ