The Staunton City School Board convened in City Council Chambers on Monday, April 11, 2016 at 6:00 p.m. with the following members present:

Mr. Robert Boyle  
Mrs. Amy Darby  
Ms. Laura Kleiner  
Mr. William Lobb, Vice-Chair  
Mr. Ronald Ramsey, Chair  
Dr. Linda Reviea, Superintendent  
Mrs. Brenda R. Lovekamp, Clerk

Absent: Mr. Joel Grogan

I. CALL TO ORDER
Mr. Ramsey called the meeting to order.

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE
Mr. Ramsey led the audience in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

III. AWARDS, RECOGNITIONS AND PRESENTATIONS
- The School Board recognized the following students from Robert E. Lee High School:
  - Emma Diduch, National Merit Finalist
  - Leslie Gioggetti, 1st Place Award Winner in 2016 Health Occupation Students of America (HOSA) State Competition – Veterinary Science (not present)
  - Iyon Oravitz, 300m State Champion
  - Darius George, Boys Basketball 2A All-State Team
- Mrs. Walk introduced the building-level 2016 Teachers of the Year:
  - Lauren Shifflett, Bessie Weller Elementary School
  - Alyson Bond, McSwain Elementary School
  - Karen Early, Ware Elementary School
  - Donna Morris, Shelburne Middle School
  - Denise Southwick, Robert E. Lee High School
  - Shelley Garrison, CCCA
  - Kate Tacy, Dixon Center – Preschool Program
School Board members congratulated and presented each one with a small gift.
- Mr. Venn introduced the building-level 2016 Support Staff Persons of the Year:
  - Candy Halterman, Bessie Weller Elementary School
  - Martha Dunlap, McSwain Elementary School
  - JoAnne Campbell, Ware Elementary School
  - Libbey Buckley, Shelburne Middle School
  - Audra Sandridge, Robert E. Lee High School (not present)
  - Judy Huffer, SVJC (not present)
  - Mariane Yukniewicz, School Board Office
School Board members congratulated and presented each one with a small gift.
- School Presentation by Ware Elementary School
  Dr. Sharon Barker introduced several teachers and students from kindergarten and first grade who demonstrated how they are using different visual cues in the classroom to provide students with models of what good work looks like as they work on their writing skills.

BREAK
The School Board took a five-minute break to greet those who were recognized or provided presentations to the School Board.
Mr. Ramsey welcomed Mr. Obenschain as the liaison from City Council.

IV. REPORTS

A. Reports from Superintendent
- Great to recognize students and staff and to hear from our students about what they are doing in class. Thanked those who were recognized or gave presentations for being here tonight.
- Looking forward to the joint work session with City Council this Thursday to talk about the budget and possibly have more conversation about the high school project.
- Reminded that the May school board meeting would be a busy one with recognition of the division teacher and support staff person of the year as well as the Business Honor Roll.
- Great to be back from spring break. Still much to accomplish as everyone bands together to help students finish on a high note.

B. Reports from School Board Members

Miss Fitzgerald, Student Representative reported as follows:
- *The Little Mermaid* production was amazing – full house each night.
- Forensics team was very successful in state competition.
- Lee and Shelburne students were successful at the FCCLA state leadership conference this past weekend.
- Chorus holding open mic night this weekend.
- “Mr. and Miss Lee” competition will be April 21.

Mrs. Darby reported as follows:
- Attended the VCTC Board meeting – work continues on improving community perception, etc. Recently sent out over 300 acceptance letters to new students.
- Attended many sports events.
- Attended Governor’s School Open House
- Went on field trip with McSwain 5th graders to the Virginia Science Museum.
- Orientation for rising 6th graders was a great event.

Mr. Lobb reported as follows:
- 24 game competition at the elementary schools was wonderful to watch.
- Attended recent Gifted and Talented Meeting.
- Lee Leaders met recently – great work going on with this group.
- Lee play was a great production – wonderful leadership with this group.
- Attended recent VAE meeting.
- Exciting signing day at Lee as five football players committed to play football at the college level.
- Enjoyed the Governor’s School Open House – saw a great project there on the usage of the Lee High School library.

Ms. Kleiner reported as follows:
- Enjoyed several Lee softball games and tennis matches.
- *The Little Mermaid* was awesome – great job with sets, costumes and organizing such a large group of participants.
- Attended recent Shenandoah Health Advisory Board meeting – lots of productive conversations among various area agencies.

Mr. Boyle reported as follows:
- Enjoyed various 24 competitions --- division-wide competition forthcoming.
- Ware and McSwain musicals were wonderfully entertaining.
Lee’s *The Little Mermaid* was a great production – including cast from all the elementary schools was quite a successful effort.

- Attended Bessie Weller PTA’s Spring Fling.
- Meeting with rising 6th graders was a great experience.
- Pleased to see Governor McAuliffe’s action on several legislative items – favorable news for schools.

**Mr. Ramsey reported as follows:**
- Attended recent meetings of two boards: Genesis Regional Board and the VSBA Board of Directors.
- The Open House at Governor’s School was a great event. Witnessed some impressive work by those students.

**V. UPDATES AND INFORMATION**

**A. Finance Update by Mrs. Jeanne Colvin, Director of Finance**

Mrs. Colvin presented the monthly finance report for the month of March. She reported that a budget amendment would be forthcoming at the May meeting to move money out to specific instruction accounts. She noted that the finance report reflects repayment of the Department of Education’s overpayment to Staunton of $1.7 million due to a glitch in their new software system. Mrs. Colvin reminded of the upcoming budget work session with City Council this Thursday. She reported that Bessie Weller had received $9,700 in March from the Thacker Fund via the Community Foundation.

**B. Operations Update by Mr. Earl McCray, Director of Operations**

Mr. McCray provided an update on the work of the maintenance and transportation departments for the previous month. He reported that all of the SCS schools had participated in the statewide tornado drill on March 22.

**C. Instructional Update by Mrs. Dori Walk, Executive Director of Instruction**

Mrs. Walk and Mrs. Haskins provided a report on a new data system being introduced to all teachers this month – LDS (Longitudinal Data System) Interactive Achievement. They explained that this new system would give all teachers access to the various data they regularly need all in one place. They added that this type of software has been available for many years but was cost prohibitive. The state is now underwriting the cost, making it affordable to the smaller school divisions.

**VI. CONSENT AGENDA**

Mr. Ramsey invited Board members to review the items listed on the consent agenda and indicate if there were any of those listed that the Board would like to vote on separately.

**On a motion by Mrs. Darby, seconded by Mr. Lobb, the Board unanimously approved the following consent agenda items:**

- Minutes of March 14, 2016 meeting and work session
- Personnel Actions as per attached exhibit
- Field Trip Request for four Robert E. Lee High School students to travel to Reston, VA for VHSL Leadership Training, April 15-16, 2016

**VII. ACTION ITEMS**

**A. Approval of Programming Changes at Shelburne Middle School**

Dr. Reviea reminded the School Board of the presentation at the March meeting by Mrs. Morris, Principal of Shelburne Middle School, requesting that Shelburne’s school day be extended and technology be added as a core subject for all 8th graders. She requested the School Board approve the plan as detailed in the briefing.

On a motion by Mr. Lobb, seconded by Mr. Boyle the Board voted unanimously to approve a programming changes for Shelburne Middle School, beginning with the
2016-2017 school year, which requires extending the school day by 12-15 minutes. A copy of the exhibit is attached to these minutes.

B. Approval of Policy Revisions
Dr. Reviea requested the School Board approve the policy revisions included in the packet reviewed with the school board at the work session in March. She noted that a few corrections had been made as well as adjustments to one of the regulations.

On a motion by Ms. Kleiner, seconded by Mrs. Darby, the Board voted unanimously to approve the policy manual revisions included in the March 14, 2016 policy packet, with corrections. A copy of the exhibit is attached to these minutes.

C. Approval of 2016-2017 Calendar Revisions
Dr. Reviea reviewed the recommendation to have kindergarten students start on the first day of school, instead of delaying their start as has been happening for the past few years. She reviewed the rationale for this recommendation and asked that the school board approve this change.

On a motion by Mr. Boyle, seconded by Mr. Lobb the Board voted unanimously to approve the revised 2016-2017 Academic Calendar to include a common start date for preschool and K-12 students. A copy of the exhibit is attached to these minutes.

D. Approval of 2016-2017 SOP Calendars
Dr. Reviea reviewed the request for approval of the 2016-2017 calendars for the State-Operated Educational Programs: Shenandoah Valley Juvenile Center and Commonwealth Center for Children and Adolescents. She explained that the calendars are similar to that of the school division but include additional teaching days as those teachers work a 220-day contract.

On a motion by Ms. Kleiner, seconded by Mr. Boyle the Board voted unanimously to approve the 2016-2017 Academic Calendars for the State Operated Programs. A copy of the exhibit is attached to these minutes.

E. Approval of Perkins Plan
Dr. Reviea reviewed the information for the 2016-2017 local Perkins Plan. She explained that this is an annual grant supporting career and technical education in our schools.

On a motion by Mr. Lobb, seconded by Mrs. Darby the Board voted unanimously to approve the Staunton City Schools 2016-2017 Perkins Plan application. A copy of the exhibit is attached to these minutes.

F. Approval of Fee Schedule for 2016-2017
Dr. Reviea reviewed the fee schedule for the 2016-2017 school year. She added that the only increases are those that are being passed along for the PSAT exams and AP exams, and noted that there will be no increase in school lunch fees for the 2016-2017. Dr. Reviea expressed an appreciation for the efforts of the division to minimize the fees being charged so as not to overburden our families.

On a motion by Mr. Boyle, seconded by Ms. Kleiner the Board voted unanimously to approve the 2016-2017 Fee Schedule as presented. A copy of the exhibit is attached to these minutes.

G. Approval of Resolution to add Roth Option to the 403(b) Supplemental Retirement Plan
Dr. Reviea requested the School Board add a Roth option to Staunton City Schools’ current 403(b) voluntary retirement plan. She explained that as work continues to combine the HR services there may be more of these types of changes forthcoming.

On a motion by Mr. Lobb, seconded by Mr. Boyle the Board voted unanimously to approve a resolution adding a Roth option to Staunton City Schools’ 403(b) voluntary retirement plan. A copy of the exhibit and signed resolution is attached to these minutes.
VIII. PUBLIC INPUT
Christine Hawley, President of the SEA, thanked the School Board for their advocacy during the recent legislative session and efforts to keep public school funds in our public schools.

The Board adjourned the regular meeting at 7:20 p.m.