President Michael Collins opened the March 14 meeting of the Williamson Central School District Board of Education. A Public Hearing to discuss the proposed Capital Project was held.

Superintendent Ehresman presented Preserving the Community’s Investment. The project focus is on pipes, wires and roofs with the intent to preserve the buildings and conserve energy. The list of items has been identified in the district’s five year plan that was completed by an architectural firm, as per NYS law. The items targeted for this project were listed as priority items. The project will be paid for using funds from the NYS Building Aid and the district’s own Capital Reserve Fund. Starting in 2013-2014, all testing in grades 3-8 will be done through computers. As a result, every building will be required to have a network upgrade. The new state fire code requires that an alarm be in every room that is occupied by a student and will require the district to upgrade its current fire alarm system. In addition to these upgrades and roof replacements, the following repairs are proposed:

**Elementary School**
- Replace boiler and water heater
- Add acoustical tiles in cafeteria to reduce noise echo and make a more functional multi-purpose room

**Middle School**
- Work on the front columns/steps
- Add a sump pump to the crawl space

**High School**
- Repair parking lot drainage issues
- Replace stage rigging (safety issue)
- Cafeteria – kitchen water heater, pump and pressure relief valve

During the public participation session, a community member asked if the district had considered consolidating buildings due to declining enrollment. The Superintendent explained that due to fluctuations in enrollment it is not a viable option at this time, but is reviewed on an annual basis. Other questions included a request to post additional information on the web page for the cost breakdown per building and what type of technology upgrades were planned. The Capital Project Vote is scheduled for Tuesday, March 20, 1 – 9 p.m. in the High School Foyer. The Superintendent’s presentation can be viewed on our website, www.williamsoncentral.org.

Following the public hearing, the Superintendent of Schools presented information regarding the proposed budget for the 2012-2013 school year. The proposed cuts are a result of right-sizing to account for shifts in the enrollment. Reading support will be a focus at the elementary school which will have three reading teachers. Other areas that are being reviewed include a reduction in modified sports teams, equipment, contractual services, BOCES services and implementation of some bus stops. Electives and non-mandated courses will remain in place at this time, but must have a minimum number of students in order to be offered. The Superintendent also indicated that the district is still about $100,000 short but that number could decrease if additional retirement letters are received or if state aid is increased. The Superintendent encourages everyone to write to the legislators to lobby for our fair share of aid. Budget presentations will be made at the upcoming board meetings and published on the district website and facebook page.

Under reports to the board, student representative Nicholas Vitalone reported spring sports have all started with practices at the high school. The Class of 2014 is holding a pulled pork fund raiser dinner prior to the musical
on March 30, the Class of 2015 is completing their candy sale and the student body has formed a new leadership team.

Under Reports from District Administrators, John Fulmer reported that the building initiative, PowerWords, is focusing on twelve words that are used in assessments. These words have proven to be difficult for students. They are put up in classrooms and used in small group activities to improve comprehension. Deborah Lauf and Susan Collins were recognized for their work in this project. Doug Lauf recognized Marissa Panetta for coordinating the first High School Career Fair. Approximately 167 students participated and they had the opportunity to be introduced to a variety of professions. The art work of Ashley Neal, Efrosyni Kostakis, Daphne Croop and Kelsey Stitt was recognized at the Wayne County Art Show reception. Five students recently participated in the Moody’s Mega Math Challenge, a national math competition, where students are given real world math problems to solve over a 14 hour period. The team of Brandon DeRue, Rayanne Luke, Karly Bean, Christian Baker and Tricia Phillips competed for $115,000 in prizes. Andrew Wahl reported that the 11th grade students took part in a college readiness exam. The final data is not in yet, but Finger Lakes Community College (FLCC) has indicated that the students did very well. Ellen Saxby reported that preparation for the state tests is well under way. The building’s wellness team is also helping students to prepare with its Get Moving program which helps students find ways to reduce stress and test anxiety with exercise. Wanda Miller reported that some staff has attended Quality IEP Training and has shared that information with the rest of the district. The Firewall Coffee House is still looking for volunteers and has expressed an interest in making a presentation at forum to the high school students. Superintendent Ehresman stated that the district received a letter from Senator Nozzolio announcing that the District is in receipt of a $30,000 grant to be used this year. She also announced that the district is applying for an Upward Bound grant in partnership with St. John Fisher College and several other districts. The district is also a partner in a distance learning grant along with five other districts. She also recognized Todd LaBarr, for donating his time to work with the board and district on the preparation for the Capital Project.

Board reports included comments on the High School Prism Concert & Art Show, an update from the latest PTSA meeting and the presentation of the Elementary School Academic Achievement Report and co-teaching report.

The Board approved several CSE case summaries and reviewed the Treasurer’s Report. Under the Consent Agenda the board approved:

- Retirement/resignation of Craig Eaton, Groundskeeper/Cleaner, 36 years of service
- Resignation of Brendan Noon, Science Teacher, High School
- Appointment of several substitute teachers and classified substitutes
- Change in appointment for Benjamin Minier, Groundskeeper from part-time to full-time

Under Old Business the board approved the following policies: Policy 7220 – Residency, Policy 7331 – Early Graduation, Policy 7501 – Extracurricular Activity Code of Conduct and approved the following policies for elimination: Policy 7100 – Elementary and Secondary Students: General, Policy 7216.1 – Excuses for Absence, Policy 7216.2 – Tardiness, Truancy and Excessive Absence, Policy 7351 – Student Records: Access, Policy 7470 – Suspension of Students, Policy 7474 – Violent or Disruptive Incident Reporting, Policy 7560 – Student Athletic Injuries and Policy 7610 – Accidents. The Board reviewed proposed bus stops but have tabled a decision until further research is done into the cost effectiveness of the proposal.

Under New Business the board approved the first reading of Policy 8152 – Password Protection and the first reading for elimination of Policy 8170 – Request for Part 100 Variance or Part 200 Innovative Program Waiver from Commissioner’s Regulation and Policy 8203 – Fire and Arson Prevention Instruction. Additional approvals were granted for the acceptance of an AFS Student for the 2012-2013 school year, a one-way traveling teacher stipend, the Budget Proposition for the 2012 Budget Hearing, excess equipment and course additions in Advanced Placement Biology with Gemini Option, Biology Gemini, and Spanish 4/Gemini at the High School for the 2012-2013 school year.