

Town of Milton  
Town Budget Committee  
Special Session  
Thursday, July 16, 2020  
Minutes

**Call to Order**

Meeting called to order at 6:00PM by Chairman Humphrey Williams

**Pledge of Allegiance**

**Roll Call**

Humphrey Williams – Chair; Tom McDougall – Associate Chair; Peg Hurd; Danielle Marique; Claudine Burnham; Larry Brown; Mike Beaulieu; Lisa Gautreau. Justin Bellen was excused. A Quorum was present.

**Public Attendance:** Lynette, McDougall, Marianne Doane, Doug Shute, Nathan Castle, Steve Gagnon, Melissa Dorsey

Ms. Hurd presented the committee a brief overview of the Teacher Collective Bargaining Agreement. It was noted that the Milton School District teachers are the lowest paid in the surrounding area.

For 2020/2021 the total request is \$87,269.54, which represents an estimated tax of .18/1000 down from \$170,989.43 in March.

Request that step movements be retroactive to the first payment in September. \$500 added to longevity, also retroactive to the first payment in September. Uncontrollable costs are at \$15,778.16. If there is not an approved contract in place, there is no step movement. Salary ranges were not increased in the 20/21 proposal, but teachers do move up a step.

Mr. Williams noted that at the October presentation it was noted that there was an overall proposal of \$120,000 for salaries for 2020-2021 and that salaries in the operating budget were decreased of over \$80,000 from the previous year. Now it is brought back up by the \$87,269.54. Ms. Hurd explained that the budget that was proposed in October was created from that point in the school year. This is separate from the actual budget process.

Mr. Beaulieu asked how many teachers had left, possible reason and was this retroactive to 2021. Ms. Hurd - 4 have left and it is not retroactive for 2021. Based on workload that has increased the teachers are at the same hourly rate. Mr. Beaulieu asked who came up with the increase? Ms. Hurd – the teacher representatives and the school board.

Ms. Marique – With classes potentially starting in September what will this do should there need to be smaller classes and a need for more teachers, how will that work? Ms. Hurd noted that this discussion was still in progress, but it may be a hybrid situation –

between in school and remote. Mr. Brown suggested that the committee remain on topic of the contract, as this was the reason for the special session.

Mr. Castle noted that 2 teachers moved laterally but one had since left the district.

Mr. Williams advised the committee and public that the Deliberative Session was currently set for August 11, 2020, with the Official ballot vote of September 8, 2020.

As there was no more discussion, Mr. Williams called for a motion.

**The Motion was made by Ms. Hurd to accept the CBA for 2020/2021. Seconded by Mr. Brown for discussion.** Discussion - Ms. Hurd noted that the numbers would not be up for change at deliberative session. This session will not be handled like operating budget. It was requested that the motion contain the budget amount request. Mr. Brown removed his second to the motion. Ms. Hurd removed her first. Marianne Doane noted as a member of the Milton Instructional Association that once the agreement is made it cannot be changed between school board and association.

**Motion was made by Ms. Hurd to accept the CBA for 2020/21 as presented of \$87,694.54 and \$94737.55 for 2021/2022. Seconded by Mr. Brown. As there was no more discussion Mr. Williams called for a vote. Mr. McDougall - Yes; Ms. Hurd - Yes; Ms. Marique- Yes; Ms. Burnham - Yes; Mr. Brown - Yes; Mr. Beaulieu - Yes; Ms. Gautreau – Yes and Mr. Williams - Yes. Vote passes 8/0.**

Mr. Williams thanked the group and noted that the Budget Committee needed to go over a few more items. The Special Session ended at 6:45PM.

Budget Committee –

Mr. Justin Bellen - Water District Representative contacted Mr. Williams to request a time to present the 2020 budget. Mr. Williams will follow up with him. Mr. Williams met with BOS on the 13th. It was suggested that there be a joint meeting of the Budget Committee, Board of Selectmen and the Town Administrator with each department on September 12<sup>th</sup> or 19<sup>th</sup>. The committee would like to have town budget for everything except insurance completed by the end of October and to also have the default budget ready to present to the public. It was noted that the town or school-operating budget has yet to pass in prior years if the requested amount is over the default budget. Ms. Hurd asked if it would be possible to have all budgets available for questions prior to the meeting. Mr. Williams stated that is the plan.

The next Budget Committee meeting will be July 28, 2020.

**Motion to adjourn was made by Mr. Williams at 7:06PM. Seconded by Ms. Marique. Call for vote. Vote was unanimous 8/0.**

Respectfully submitted,

Shari Gaesser – Recording Secretary

Approved by the Budget Committee on August 25, 2020