

Public Notice
Budget Committee and School Board Meeting
Milton, N.H. 03851
Tuesday, December 19, 2017

Meeting Minutes

1. Salute to the Flag

2. Roll Call of Seating Members

Chairman called the meeting to order at 6:02 pm. Chairman Larry Brown, Tom McDougall, Andy Rawson (selectman representative) Bob Carrier, Shawn Perreault, Dennis Wing, Stan Nadeau, Peg Hurd (School Board Representative) and Shari Gaesser – Secretary. A Quorum was present.

3. Public Attendance

Earl Sussman – SAU64 Superintendent, Nathan Castle, Laura Noseworthy, Paul Steer, Zane Poth – student ELO to assist at elementary school

4. SAU64 Milton School District Budget Review & Process Summary – Continuation

- a. Earl – this is a bare bones squeeze –cutting out ASBO Conference \$600, page 13 – the line goes down to \$800.
- b. MES Supplies cut by \$150 – page 14, 100-2410-56100-1.
- c. School proposed 2018/19 Budget is \$10,292,940.80 for a total decrease of \$50,025.35, which is a ½% decrease budget to budget.
- d. Default – \$10,531,780.62 same as stated. Nate - Differential increase of \$113,047.82 is the difference between the proposed budget and the default budget. Earl – thanks for the hard work of staff and the team then the school board and then thanks to the budget committee for their questions. This is an ongoing thing and we are trying every year to reduce staff, cut back and do more with less. Some of you brought up some excellent points. Tom brought up a couple of good points and we are keeping an eye on that. As time goes on, it becomes clearer based on the number of students where we are going. Trying to share things with other schools and in restructuring - the strategic goal is every year to try to reduce staff, plan ahead make changes and keep to the bottom line. Good points on where to go, what to pursue. This is a team - the board and the town's folks and this is a 12-month thing. Stan – so if we put the Federal money back in then is it going to be \$10,630,114.75. Stan – I took the \$9,937,322.80 and added \$125,792. Nate – take the new number and add back in the \$355,618. Stan – what is the number that is going to be on the ballot? Nate - \$10,292,940.80 is the gross. Stan - This is \$50,000 less than last year's budget. Nate – if you add the federal funding back in, it is 125,000 less. Stan - What was it the school gave back to town the year just closed? Nate – \$130,650 after warrant articles – prior to the warrant articles, it was \$205,650. Once the audit is done for the SAU, which is getting close and resolved, we will get 43% share of that. Stan – and where does that go? Nate – back to taxpayers. Stan - rough #'s? Nate – about \$100,000. Stan – every year I say the same thing, it is a bottom line budget and we can make suggestions but they are the people that know where it can come from. If the board is willing to accept this new number then I can make a motion. I think it's fair and going in the right direction and hopefully it will continue to go in the right direction without affecting any services. Motion by Stan for the 2018-2019 Proposed School Board Budget of \$10,292,940.80 and second Erin. Larry - Discussion by committee – Shawn – agree with Stan, it is obvious that you have a plan and it will not happen in 1 year. I don't see why we won't vote for this. Paul – that is all we ask for as a school board - what Stan said, go line-by-line and hope the public shows up and does the same. And I am glad that people see exactly what we do and I thank you. Stan – \$50,000 less then last year. I think the Board has worked hard with us. I remember years ago when it was a drag out fight and smoke and

mirrors to see who could pull what over whom. I appreciate it, but I know people will not like it. Looking at Nate's tasks and I don't think I could do what he does. Larry looking for 3% for 3rd party and 6% for electric and an unstable oil supply. I thank the committee and the school board for its work. Tom – Stan and I, and most, think only a reduction in staff would reduce the budget more and I don't think that is in the right interest of the kids. We have a duty to the taxpayers but also to the kids. You can't cut so much that you hurt kids' education and must defer to school board. Paul – Earl has been a genius - we are not cutting staff but when staff leaves, others take over part of the role. He has been amazing at doing this. We have a good person this year. Erin - need to be careful of turn over – you can't have it. Paul – That kind of explains pay raises. Hard on all. Larry – enjoy the potential of public education and that delicate balance and fit of staff and students. We want to be a magnet and a draw. Dennis – yes, Peg – yes, Andy –yes, Bob - yes, Erin – yes, Stan – yes, Shawn – yes, Tom – yes, Larry – yes. Motion passed 9/0/0

5. Function by Function Review Detail – Continuation

6. Process Summary and Warrant Discussion

- a. Discussion of warrants by school district – who to speak to a lot is a boiler plate
- b. Article 2 – School Board will change the figure voted on by the budget committee - \$10,292,940.80 will appear in lines 4 and 5 replacing the figure there. Dennis – yes, Peg – yes, Andy –yes, Bob - yes, Erin – yes, Stan – yes, Shawn – yes, Tom – yes, Larry – yes. Motion passed 9/0/0

Peg – School Board brought into session at 6:25 –shall the school board approve \$10,292,940.80 this will be the actual amount to be put into Article 2? Peg makes a motion to accept the amount of \$10,292,940.80 and second by Laura. Peg – yes, Paul – yes, Laura – yes. The default will stay the same at \$10,531,780.62.

Larry – does the budget committee recommend the appropriation of article 2 of proposed budget and the default? Bob - Under note this is only informational. Nate – that will change. Motion to approve – by Stan; 2nd by Peg – all yes. 9/0/0

- c. Article 3 – Larry - How is the money used? Paul - update subscriptions and books – this is done every year. Keeps library up to date. Motion by Stan and second by Shawn – all yes. Dennis – yes, Peg – yes, Andy –yes, Bob - yes, Erin – yes, Stan – yes, Shawn – yes, Tom – yes, Larry – yes. Motion passed 9/0/0

Paul – Articles listed in order of need or importance. Other articles do not increase tax funds but come from surplus. Stan – so this is the order as to how they will be paid? Paul – yes.

- d. Article 4 –Peg made a motion to recommend and second by Tom. Questions? Shawn – How does expendable trust fund work? Earl - Students we have been paying for and can't incur it in the budget. Stan - it is an insurance policy to help with revenue of it. Earl - Always an area of concern. Page 45 – Balance prior to request is \$156,000. Stan - what would the monetary value be? Earl - it can vary from \$30,000 to \$200,000. The smaller you are the larger the need that the student has. Dennis – yes, Peg – yes, Andy –yes, Bob - yes, Erin – yes, Stan – yes, Shawn – yes, Tom – yes, Larry – yes. Motion passed 9/0/0
- e. Article 5 – Peg made a motion to recommend Article 5 and second by Shawn. Stan – Nate - \$59,691.57 is the balance? Nate – yes that is the true balance. Stan – any major projects coming up? Nate yes – roof for MES – \$32,000; chimney, fence; security; vestibule. Zane – pot holes in parking lot? Paul - All part of maintenance. Dennis – yes, Peg – yes, Andy –yes, Bob - yes, Erin – yes, Stan – yes, Shawn – yes, Tom – yes, Larry – yes. Motion passed 9/0/0.
- f. Article 6 – Peg made a motion to recommend and second by Tom. Shawn – can we purchase from same company as currently have? Nate – yes. We are not getting charged for the licensing fee. This includes training. Stan – new warrant article? Straight out purchase. Zane – What accounting software do you have to have or can you just use Excel? Is this an absolute

requirement? Nate – so much more than just writing down numbers. Tom – when will it be phased out and replace existing. Nate – 2 years. Tom - if it doesn't pass then it will be put in the budget for next year. Larry – What is the system we are using now? Nate - Profund or ADS. Larry - Is the task that you do integrated in this software? Shawn – have you looked at any other? Nate – closest one is 3X the price. Dennis – yes, Peg – yes, Andy –yes, Bob - yes, Erin – yes, Stan – yes, Shawn – yes, Tom – yes, Larry – yes. Motion passed 9/0/0.

- g. Article 7 – Peg made a motion to recommend and second by Erin. Stan - \$52,000 no pending payments; why are we going to up \$75,000. Nate - \$27,000 includes the \$25,000. Nate - is in balance (haven't officially recorded) \$27,000 including \$25,000. This will help alleviate the cost of the technology plan; and will be for the entire district. Paul – some of the computers are 8-9 years old. Getting them out of Windows. Larry – give me 3-5 points that this article will do? Main thing parents are concerned with is that the community/district should have Technology that students can use. To provide funds for Middle School and MES. SIG grant can only be used for high school. Stan – what are we paying for computer? Average - \$500 per student; teacher a little more. Laura - MES - we bought 24. These will be used for testing – no longer paper testing. New Mac books are being torn apart – student issue. Portable being destroyed. Paul – warrant covers maintenance. Stan – are we addressing that issue? Yes. Peg – Jen gave us a list that included computers purchased in 2008/09. Tom – is this only for computer tech or technology in general? Yes, this can be. Andy – keep nice and get more. Dennis – yes, Peg – yes, Andy –yes, Bob - yes, Erin – yes, Stan – yes, Shawn – yes, Tom – yes, Larry – yes. Motion passed 9/0/0.
 - h. Article 8 – Tom made a motion to recommend and second by Peg. Paul - page 43 is the bus schedule of what we have/what we need. Stan – is this part of the CIP? Larry - Not in the CIP of the town. Permits district to purchase on regular basis. Dennis - Line item (page 18). Bus lease - what is the current correlation? Why do you need this warrant article? Nate - to buildup for 2020 in order to make purchases. We just bought caravan. Andy – it is good planning to have Article 8 (nest egg) and in 2020 they will use money to buy outright. Stan – police does the same thing. Larry – on a lease do they have certain requirements; interest rate etc. percentage premium on the lease? Shawn -% of students that use the buses? Earl – want to get the information from Tim. Dennis – yes, Peg – yes, Andy –yes, Bob - yes, Erin – yes, Stan – yes, Shawn – yes, Tom – yes, Larry – yes. Motion passed 9/0/0.
 - i. Article 9 – this has nothing to do with us. Paul – To include all the school vehicles. Earl – Board needs to approve the wording. Peg – motion to accept new wording in article 9 – Paul – motion and Laura 2nd. Dennis – yes, Peg – yes, Andy –yes, Bob - yes, Erin – yes, Stan – yes, Shawn – yes, Tom – yes, Larry – yes. Motion passed 9/0/0.
 - j. Larry - Any other work on the Warrant discussion?
7. **Approval of December 4 Meeting Minutes** – Motion to accept minutes by Stan with changes and second by Erin. Dennis – yes, Peg – yes, Andy –yes, Bob - yes, Erin – yes, Stan – yes, Shawn – yes, Tom – yes, Larry – yes. Motion passed 9/0/0.
8. **Any Other Business – Hearing Dates**
 January 10 – school board public hearing. Stan - how many warrant articles for the town? Less than 10? Andy – less then 15, maybe 10. Stan - We should do school first on the 11th and do town warrant articles on the same date. The public is to look at numbers approved by the committee and school board. The public has an opportunity to make comments but not make changes. Public Hearing for town on January 16, 2018 at 6:00 pm with the snow date on the 17th. The town will be on 8th; budget committee and public hearing will be at 6:00 pm on the 11th of January and snow date is 12th for the school board; will be a notice for the budget committee special meeting called for the same date and time. Then continue with the Budget and the town warrants articles will be presented.

9. Public hearing

To be held on January 16, 2018 at 6:00 pm and snow date will be the January 17, 2018.

10. Adjournment – Motion to adjourn by Stan and second by Peg. Meeting adjourned at 7:22. Dennis – yes, Peg – yes, Andy –yes, Bob - yes, Erin – yes, Stan – yes, Shawn – yes, Tom – yes, Larry – yes. Motion passed 9/0/0.

11. Motion by Paul to adjourn school board meeting second by Laura. Paul – yes, Peg – yes, Laura – yes. Meeting adjourned at 7:20 pm.

Respectfully submitted

Shari Gaesser – Secretary.

Minutes Approved: February 20, 2018