

FREMONT BUDGET COMMITTEE MEETING

Fremont Town Hall
295 Main Street
Fremont, NH 03044
April 20, 2016
7:00 PM

I. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Mary Anderson called the April 20, 2016 Budget Committee meeting to order at 7:00 PM on the first floor of Fremont Town Hall.

Present were: Budget Committee Chair Mary Anderson, Vice Chair Mark Kidd, members Mike Nygren, Gene Cordes, Mary Jo Holmes, Pat Martel, and Joe Miccile, and School Board representative Jennifer Brown.

II. INTRODUCTION OF ANY NEW MEMBERS AND UPDATE OF MEMBER CONTACT LIST

New Board member Mary Jo Holmes was introduced and an update of the member contact list was distributed to members for review.

III. ELECT CHAIR AND VICE CHAIR

Mike Nygren made a motion to retain the previous Board Chair (Mary Anderson) and Vice Chair (Mark Kidd). Gene Cordes seconded the motion. Motion passed 8:0.

IV. APPROVE MINUTES FROM JANUARY 13, 2016 and FEBRUARY 2, 2016

Gene Cordes made a motion to approve as written the minutes of January 13, 2016. Mike Nygren seconded the motion. Motion passed 7:0:1 (abstention from M. Holmes).

Gene Cordes made a motion to approve as written the minutes of February 2, 2016. Mike Nygren seconded the motion. Motion passed 7:0:1 (abstention from M. Holmes).

V. SCHOOL ITEMS/FOLLOW UP

Ms. Brown mentioned that the health insurance came in lower than estimated for next year. Ms. Anderson said that 9.8% was budgeted but it only went up 2.6% and she hoped that the 7.6% difference would be sequestered. Ms. Anderson said she has spoken with School Financial Administrator Susan Penny and that the actual high school tuition cost should be available soon. Sanborn's default budget was approved (which was higher than the proposed budget). She suggested that if the tuition comes in lower than budgeted, the District should sequester it (not spend it). Ms. Brown mentioned that unexpended funds are now at about \$114,000 and that POs will be frozen after April vacation so there will be a good idea of what is being encumbered.

Ms. Brown mentioned that Ellis enrollment is currently 451 (including preschool; 426 not including preschool) and high school enrollment is 210. The current 8th grade has 63 students so that when the current senior class leaves (66 students), the high school enrollment should not change much next year. She said that the enrollment trend is very steady with no movement with the charter school. Mr. Kidd asked if there is a high school charter school (DBECS?) and Ms. Brown said she would inquire about this.

Ms. Anderson asked if an extra bus will be needed. Ms. Brown replied that Provider is agreeable but that logistics need to first be done.

Ms. Anderson inquired about the SAU move to Ellis School. Ms. Brown said the move will take place after students are out of school in June and there was discussion about the location of the new SAU offices in the Ellis building, noting that much effort was taken to choose the most cost-effective location that was the least disruptive to student movement in hallways and student education in classrooms.

VI. TOWN BUDGET FIRST QUARTER REPORT/INFORMATION

There was discussion about roadwork being done, noting that they should not need to use the expendable trust fund this year (there was about \$20,000 of unspent winter money last year so it might be redirected to paving). There is a good plan that was created with the expertise of engineering. Ms. Anderson said the extra work on the default budget is appreciated. There was discussion about raises in a default budget. There is a pay matrix for uniformed police officers that was adopted by the Selectmen about 5 years ago. There was discussion about having matrixes for other town employees also and the need to take care of the committed people who work for the town (they should be paid accordingly). Mr. Cordes mentioned that the Selectmen have discussed this issue and it was agreed that staff longevity is important and beneficial.

VII. DISCUSSION OF BUDGET SCHEDULE/TIMELINE FOR ENSUING YEAR

Ms. Anderson mentioned that she and Ms. Penny spoke about budget scheduling for next year and the benefit of giving the school budget to the Budget Committee later so that it would be more accurate and so that there would not be as many updates as there were last year. The Committee members favored having the school budget the first week of November again; Ms. Anderson said she will review this with Ms. Penny and forward scheduling to the Committee this summer.

VIII. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Ms. Anderson read a letter that she received from Gary Grimes regarding high taxes in Fremont attributed to the School District's cost (see attached).

Ms. Carlson will distribute the local officials workshop schedule via email (Budget Committee training).

IX. NEXT MEETING FOR QUARTERLY REVIEW: AUGUST 17, 2016

X. ADJOURNMENT

Pat Martel made a motion to adjourn at 7:45 PM. Mike Nygren seconded the motion. Motion passed 8:0.

Respectfully submitted by

Susan Perry, Secretary

Hello Mary,

3/24/16

The taxes in Ball Rock Village are too much (average of \$5500. a year).

We have 1 school, full time superintendent, full time principal and full time assist. principal (in the future). Why? FOR 1 school? Please don't let the school board + mgmt. protest the town. The spending is out of control!

Yvonne
 Susan J. Thomas
 Ball Rock Village