

Budget Committee Meeting minutes for 11/6/13.

Matthew Murphy, Ann Howe, Procter Wentworth and Chris Howe present. Stephen Longrigan had a conflict with a Police Committee meeting.

The Budget Committee started at 7 pm with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Dr. Stokinger, SAU Business Administrator, and Dr. Wilson Assistant Administrator here to discuss the SAU 55 Budget. They presented to the Budget Committee because the SAU Budget is a warrant article this year for Hampstead as opposed to it being listed as a line item in the overall budget.

An overview of what an SAU actually is was presented. . This was useful, and appreciated by those of us who are newer to the Budget Committee. An SAU is basically akin to a Management Company. It was explained that SAU55 includes both Timberlane schools well as Hampstead to include Pinkerton Academy in Derry.

Specifics were discussed regarding the budget for 12 full time SAU employees as well as the partial time paid for the receptionist. It was noted that insurance rates were calculated at what the costs would be if all employees chose the insurance (currently nine of the thirteen employees have the coverage).

Another expense that was discussed was the lease agreement for office space which is shared with Timberlane Regional School District. The property at 30 Greenough is leased with costs being split between Timberlane and Hampstead.

Salaries are the same as last year, there is however, a 2.5% merit pool for raises or bonuses.

The overall budget for the SAU has increased from 1,326,556.00 to 1,467,024.00 for the proposed 2014 – 2015 budget. The Hampstead share of this has increase from 298,425.00 to 329,283.00 for a increase of 30,858.00 or 10.34%.

Jorge Mesa-Tajada had a question regarding what full time is considered to be. The response was 35 hours per week. The point was then brought up that under the Affordable Care Act full time is defined as 30 hours a week. This is not currently not an issue for the SAU, but will be next year if the ACA stays in its current form.

Jorge also requested salary information be sent to him.

It was also mentioned that the school board will be done with their warrants by November 26th, and the Budget Committee will be voting on recommendations on December 9th.

The meeting was then adjourned.