

Official

BUDGET COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES Town Hall 35 Main Street Thursday, November 19, 2009

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Pieroni called the meeting to order at 6:35 pm.

ATTENDANCE

J. Pieroni, J. Danforth, K. Hughes, M. Miville, D. Pearl, S. Doyon, JR Ouellette, D. Argo, N. Comai, and J. Hyde.

Excused: B. Gahara

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

October 22, 2009

***J. Danforth motioned to approve the minutes as presented. Seconded by K. Hughes as amended
Vote unanimously in favor.***

School Budget – sent electronically to all members

D. Argo: As a result of the School Board budget review with the Administration, the final number is \$26,00721.84, which is \$76,000 below default. That represents a 2.5% increase over last year's plan. The drivers are over a million dollars in uncontrolled cost including a \$70,128. increase in retirement because the % of contribution has gone up. We budgeted \$8200 for High School tuition. They are telling us it will be \$8300 per student. Health insurance maximum (unknown till June) of 21.5% increase, which is \$439,651. The prediction is it will come in on the high side this year. Special Education cost for High School is a \$364,000 increase. That is a formula, which is reviewed by the department of education. This will be addressed on December 5th. 88% of the Special Ed increases go to the Manchester issue. The School Board cut \$31,678 from the Superintendent's budget.

The School Board would like to use the fund balance for 2009-2010 to purchase books.

The SB is currently negotiating the contract.

Question for next meeting

What would be the impact of a .5% increase to the teacher's contract?

What are the Special Education increases?

J. Hyde suggested a step type of payment for insurance based on salary level.

JR questioned whether the Evergreen clause is in effect this year.

All questions should be submitted to Dana Argo in advance of the Saturday meeting.

Underhill – J. Danforth

Memorial – K. McHugh & Jr. Ouellette

Cawley – M. Miville & D. Pearl

Special Ed. – N. Comai & S. Doyon

D. Argo: There are no new initiatives in this budget and we will maintain current staff levels and class sizes remain constant.

N. Comai asked if the Town has considered purchasing the financial software that the SAU recently purchased?

Municipal Budget questions.

What is the cost to OPERATE a 3rd fire station? This should be brought forward upfront regardless of the construction cost for the brick and mortar.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned by the Chair at 8:00 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Lee Ann Moynihan