**Approved**

**HOOKSETT BUDGET COMMITTEE MEETING**

**Minutes**

**Thursday, December 4, 2014**

**Town Council Chambers**

**CALL TO ORDER**

M. Miville called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm.

**ATTENDANCE**

M. Miville, J. Pieroni, F. Bizzarro, T. Jennings, P. Gosselin, D. Winterton (Council Rep.), A. Boilard (School Board Rep.), N. Haas, K. VanHorn,

S. Peterson, C. Morneau - absent

**MINUTES**

***K. VanHorn motioned to approve the minutes of October 30, 2014. Seconded by F. Bizzarro.***

***Vote unanimously in favor.***

**NEW BUSINESS**

**Discuss School District Budget**

**Technology and Media Budget – K. VanHorn**

Since the cuts of $100,000 made by the School Board, it is unknown what the remaining $74,000 is for.

Media Center- all three schools made the same requests. It raises the question of want vs. needs.

There seems to be more a want than a need. There is no direct question however it appeared that the budget was done once and copied for the other schools. For example, they asked to replace projectors at all three schools in the same year. That is questionable.

The School Board discussed cutting 2 media specialist however no action was taken. The Budget Committee may take up this discussion.

T. Jennings- Speech Teacher salary at Cawley went up $13,299 and Memorial salary $8751 from last year. Was that contractual?

A. Boilard- That is due to a change from part time to full time and some had an in hours. They also received raises.

**Maintenance**

The cuts made at the School Board level totaled $22,376.27 and are reflected in the Budget.

M. Miville – I remember items in this budget from last year’s budget like spray painting the walls in the gym and replacement of windows. Damaged floor tiles in Kindergarten. Pest control treatment in all three schools, my question is did they go out to bid for those items.

A. Boilard: Cawley has several windows that lost their seal. I will ask if windows were purchased last year.

M. Miville – Fence for $15,000 at Memorial. That has been removed.

M. Miville - $65,000 removed for the parking lot is being moved to a warrant article. Is there a bid for that?

A. Boilard: I believe there is a bid because it includes repairing the drainage.

M. Miville: Fence and backstop at Memorial being replaced. They are looking for John Deer tractors at all three schools. The total for the three $995, $1100 and $1200.

Supplies for the sports fields were level funded from $15559 to $13849 for Cawley.

The Natural Gas bill went up. No question.

Air Conditioning for the Media Center at Underhill was zeroed out.

The HVAC control, $17,800.

Teachers are asking for 2 refrigerators for the lunch room.

A. Boilard: Both the existing refrigerators came from Memorial and moved to Cawley.

M. Miville: Roof seams are being replaced. Pressure washing the face of Memorial for appearance. What is the need and possibly a picture?

**Underhill-N. Haas**

**1100**– Regular Ed Teacher salaries increased.

Amy Boilard: There was a 1% raise based on the contract and a step plus any degrees.

N. Haas: Retirement is up.

A. Boilard: The State has changed their contribution and the district has to pick up the difference.

N. Haas: Reading Practice books (page 4). The 2013-14 is $19,000 and the approved budget is $22,000 and now we are up to $25,000. How did it increase $6000? How many students are involved to represent that number?

M. Miville: The enrollment totals go from 441 this year to 457 projected in 2015.

A. Boilard: I do know that is a consumable. I will ask why the increase?

N. Haas: The classroom furniture (page 52); what did we buy last year and what will we buy this year and what is projected. The School Board level funded it.

T. Jennings: If is just table and chairs, are we systematically replacing rooms.

N. Haas: English language learners, the increase of $12,153 in health insurance?

A. Boilard: That is a change in benefits.

N. Hass: Salary increases.

A. Boilard: The third through 5th grade as had an increase in ESL students.

N. Haas: Guidance counselor salary increase and a large jump in dental.

P. Gosselin: The dental insurance is expected to stay flat.

N. Haas: Health, nurses salary increased as well as retirement.

N. Haas: There are some increases in staff improvement.

D. Winterton: Are we obligated to do retirement for nurses. They are not part of the State retirement system.

J. Pieroni: I believe they are part of the retirement system.

N. Haas: What does staff improvement cover and why the increase over actual district wide.

N. Haas: At Underhill, in the 2410 account, there are workshops increase for $2240. We only spent in 2013-14, $400.

P. Gosselin: I see the same thing in Special Ed for conferences and workshops. What is mandated and how many must attend.

M. Miville: Also, what is the difference between conferences and workshops?

A. Boilard: The principals have conferences in their contract.

K. VanHorn: That’s fine but if they are not using it…

N. Haas: Office supplies are up $1000 (2410 account).

D. Winterton: Why would Memorial need 4 times the supplies of other schools?

N. Haas: What is the justification for the increase in supplies over actuals?

D. Winterton: There is also a line for additional office equipment.

N. Haas: There is increase for additional secretary time at Underhill.

M. Miville: They are adding 2 walky talkies at Underhill. Why? Are they replacements or new?

**Memorial**

F. Bizzarro: They were looking for an additional classroom teacher which they didn’t pursue. Everything else was contractual issues of insurance, salaries, and retirements. There is a lot of time we can spend over a few hundred dollars. No questions at this time.

M. Miville: The shipping is outrageous at Memorial. They are buying from the Midwest and paying over $700 for shipping.

M. Miville: They ask for the Xylophone every year. We could cut that. The ALPS program was reduced by the School Board but there are still supplies. OLSAT which is an evaluation for ALPS and identify gifted students. Do we need that? Lastly workshops and conferences.

**Cawley**

K. VanHorn: They asked for an additional teacher which was cut. They are experiencing an increase in enrollment. That was the main cut for Cawley. I saw a lot of reductions. There was an increase in athletic spending. There was 3 to 4 thousand dollar increase.

A. Boilard: They are looking to replace uniforms every year.

T. Jennings: Referee fees went up $1200. Is it because they want more money?

M. Miville: Referee stipends are $9093.

K. VanHorn: Project Safeguard is in the budget for $17,000. That did not go up.

K. VanHorn: Salaries, retirement and benefits all went up but there’s nothing we and do about that.

T. Jennings: Line for speech contracted service for $124,000. What is that?

A. Boilard: That is for out of district students for speech.

Question: Would it more efficient to hire rather than contract that out?

M. Miville: We have to pay Pinkerton for the services provided at the High School level.

K. VanHorn: We do have to pay for speech at out of district schools. There is also speech for students in the Hooksett district.

T. Jennings: There is a $118,000 increase.

A. Boilard: The Spec. Ed population increased from last year.

T. Jennings: Page 5, H. S. Coordinator’s salary? This is an increase in the Special Ed salary?

A. Boilard: This is an increase in time due to the time increase with the multiple high schools.

M. Miville: Of the 5 new positions proposed, this is the only position that survived.

T. Jennings: Is it impossible for this person to handle the increased work?

T. Jennings: Changes in school board secretary salary.

The issue of shipping costs was discussed by various members of the Board.

M. Miville asked about workshops and conferences for Administration.

M. Miville asked about the default budget.

A. Boilard stated it is still being reviewed by the School Board.

T. Jennings asked why the Board secretary salary increased.

M. Miville stated that the number of meetings have increased substantially.

All questions will be sent to the SAU for response at next week’s meeting.

**ADJOURNMENT**

**The meeting was adjourned by the Chair at 8:45 pm.**

**Respectfully submitted,**

**Lee Ann Moynihan**

**ADJOURNMENT**