

LONDONDERRY BUDGET COMMITTEE
Minutes of the Meeting of
1/17/08

The meeting of the Budget Committee was held in the SAU12 Conference Room, 268B Mammoth Road, Londonderry.

Committee Members Present: Tom Freda – Chairman, Sean O’keefe – Vice Chairman, Mike Brown, Tom Dolan, John Robinson, Jay Hooley - Secretary

Other Officials Present: Linda Kettenring – Principle South Elementary, Peter Curro – SAU12 Business Administrator, Dan Bever – School Board, Ron Camp – Chairman School Board, Nate Greenburg – School Superintendent, Al Baldasarro – State Representative, Sharon Carson – State Representative

I. CALL TO ORDER : The meeting was called to order at 7:02 by Mr. Freda.

II. COMMITTEE WORK

A. Approval of Meeting Minutes of **January 2, 2008**.

A motion was made by Mike Brown to approve the minutes of January 2, 2008 second by Tom Dolan.

The vote on the motion was as follows:

Member	For	Against	Abstain	Absent
Tom Freda, Chairman	X			
Sean O’Keefe, Vice Chairman			X	
Mike Brown	X			
Tom Dolan, Secretary	X			
Jay Hooley	X			
John Robinson	X			
Totals	5	0	1	0

III. NEW BUSINESS

A. Final Review and Vote on Recommendations for School Warrant Articles

Article 2 (General Fund - Operating Budget)

Shall the voters of the Londonderry School District vote to raise and appropriate as an operating budget for the fiscal year 2008-2009, not including appropriations by special warrant articles, or separate warrant articles, one of the following amounts for the purposes set forth in the budget posted with the warrant?

Vote for only one:

A. \$60,396,294 (School Board budget as amended)

(Estimated Tax Impact \$10.55)
Recommended by the School Board 5-0

OR

B. \$60,672,178 (Default Budget)

(Estimated Tax Impact \$10.63)

A motion was made by John Robinson to recommend approval of the School Board's Operating Budget, second by Sean O'Keefe.

Mike Brown spoke to the fact that opportunity still existed in staffing reductions. Tom Dolan spoke to drawbacks of SB2 form of government. Sean O'Keefe spoke to his optimism that the Town and School District will continue to find opportunities to work together to reduce redundancies and increase efficiencies.

Ron Campo responded with remarks to staffing reductions that have already been realized.

Tom Freda spoke to impacts of retirement funding on local taxes. Ron Campo responded with information on changes that have been recommended. Nate Greenburg spoke to changes that are in discussion with the School Board association. Nate also noted that the recommended budget was "Way below default".

The vote on the motion was as follows:

Member	For	Against	Abstain	Absent
Tom Freda, Chairman	X			
Sean O'Keefe, Vice Chairman	X			
Mike Brown	X			
Tom Dolan	X			
Jay Hooley, Secretary	X			
John Robinson	X			
Totals	6	0	0	0

After discussion, a follow up vote was taken on the Default Budget, part of the same article. Motion by Sean O’Keefe, second by John Robinson. The vote on the default budget was as follows.

Member	For	Against	Abstain	Absent
Tom Freda, Chairman		X		
Sean O’Keefe, Vice Chairman		X		
Mike Brown		X		
Tom Dolan		X		
Jay Hooley, Secretary		X		
John Robinson		X		
Totals	0	6	0	0

John Robinson will present at deliberative session.

Article 3 (South School Modular Classroom Replacement and Building Renovations)

Shall the voters of the Londonderry School District vote to raise and appropriate an amount not to exceed five million one hundred thousand dollars (\$5,100,000) for modular classroom replacement and renovations to South School, said sum is to be in addition to any federal, state or private funds made available thereto, and authorize the issuance of not more than \$5,100,000 in bonds or notes in accordance with the provisions of the municipal Finance Act (RSA 33) and authorize the School Board to issue and negotiate such bonds or notes and determine the rate of interest thereon and raise and appropriate the sum of \$89,250 estimated to be the first payment, and further, to authorize the School Board to take any and all actions necessary to carry out any vote hereunder or take any other action relative thereto?

(Estimated Tax Impact \$0.03)

NOTE: The estimated tax impacts for the first year and ensuing two years based on the assessed valuation are as follows:

FY	Tax Rate	Assessed Home Valuation	Tax Impact Per Year	Assessed Home Valuation	Tax Impact Per Year
2009	\$0.03	\$300,000	\$ 9.00	\$400,000	\$12.00
2010	\$0.10	\$300,000	\$30.00	\$400,000	\$40.00
2011	\$0.10	\$300,000	\$30.00	\$400,000	\$40.00

Mr. Dan Gunnery spoke in favor of the South School renovations, and the South School’s needs.

Sue Rouse spoke in favor of renovations.

Tony DeFrancesco spoke in favor of renovations.

Linda Kettenring responded to inquiry from John Robinson, indicating that renovations would improve the educational environment.

Mike Brown spoke to the need to view this project in the context of the “Aggregate Tax Impact” on Londonderry. Mary Soares responded with her thoughts on Mike’s comments, and her view that the renovations were needed. Peter Curro also responded to Mike.

Tom Dolan questioned the use of “tax rate” vs. “tax impact” in the cost table on the draft warrant. Peter indicated that he would review.

A motion was made by to recommend approval of South School Renovations by Jay Hooley, second by John Robinson.

The vote on the motion was as follows:

Member	For	Against	Abstain	Absent
Tom Freda, Chairman	X			
Sean O’Keefe, Vice Chairman	X			
Mike Brown	X			
Tom Dolan	X			
Jay Hooley, Secretary	X			
John Robinson	X			
Totals	6	0	0	0

Sean O’Keefe will present at deliberative session.

Article 4 (Londonderry Support Staff [AFSCME Local 1801] Bargaining Agreement)

Shall the voters of the Londonderry School District vote to approve the cost items included in the collective bargaining agreement reached between the Londonderry School District and the Londonderry Support Staff (AFSCME Council 93/Local 1801), and further to raise and appropriate the sum of \$75,840 for the 2008-2009 fiscal year, such sum representing the additional cost items attributable to the increase in salaries and benefits over those paid, at current staffing levels, in the prior fiscal year? The agreement calls for the following increases in salaries and benefits:

Fiscal Year	Estimated Cost	Tax Impact
FY 2008-2009	\$75,840	\$0.02
FY 2009-2010	\$198,484	\$0.06

NOTE: The Londonderry Support Staff consists of the following job classifications: Monitors, Clerical Assistants, Office Assistants, Instructional Assistants, Special Education Assistants, Library/Media and Computer Assistants, Bookkeepers, 504 Assistants and Administrative Assistants.

A Motion was made by Tom Dolan to recommend approval of Article 4 second by Jay Hooley.

Tom Dolan requested clarification on FY vs CY on warrant article.

Mike Brown spoke against the level of benefits vs. the private sector still in the contract and his belief that the benefits should be trimmed accordingly in a short term.

Ron Campo spoke to progress thus far with the contracts, and his feeling that the contract as negotiated is fair to both the employees and the District.

The vote on the motion was as follows:

Member	For	Against	Abstain	Absent
Tom Freda, Chairman		X		
Sean O'Keefe, Vice Chairman		X		
Mike Brown		X		
Tom Dolan	X			
Jay Hooley, Secretary	X			
John Robinson	X			
Totals	3	3	0	0

Jay Hooley will present at deliberative session.

Article 5 (Authorization for Special Meeting on Cost Items)

Shall the voters of the Londonderry School District, if Article 4 is defeated, authorize the governing body to call one special meeting, at its option, to address Article 4 cost items only?

(Estimated Tax Impact \$0.0)

A Motion was made by to recommend approval of Article 5 second by Tom Dolan, second by Sean O'Keefe.

The vote on the motion was as follows:

Member	For	Against	Abstain	Absent
Tom Freda, Chairman	X			
Sean O'Keefe, Vice Chairman	X			
Mike Brown	X			
Tom Dolan	X			
Jay Hooley, Secretary	X			
John Robinson	X			
Totals	6			

Article 6 (Londonderry Custodians [AFSCME Local 1801] Bargaining Agreement)

Shall the voters of the Londonderry School District vote to approve the cost items included in the collective bargaining agreement reached between the Londonderry School District and the Londonderry Custodians (AFSCME Council 93/Local 1801), and further to raise and appropriate the sum of \$73,500 for the 2008-2009 fiscal year, such sum representing the additional cost items attributable to the increase in salaries and benefits over those paid, at current staffing levels, in the prior fiscal year? The agreement calls for the following increases in salaries and benefits:

Fiscal Year	Estimated Cost	Tax Impact
FY 2008-2009	\$73,500	\$0.02
FY 2009-2010	\$72,512	\$0.02
FY 2010-2011	\$75,051	\$0.02

A Motion was made by Tom Dolan to recommend approval of Article 6 second by John Robinson .

The vote on the motion was as follows:

Member	For	Against	Abstain	Absent
Tom Freda, Chairman		X		
Sean O’Keefe, Vice Chairman		X		
Mike Brown		X		
Tom Dolan	X			
Jay Hooley, Secretary	X			
John Robinson	X			
Totals	3	3	0	0

Tom Dolan will present at deliberative session.

Article 7 (Authorization for Special Meeting on Cost Items)

Shall the voters of the Londonderry School District, if Article 6 is defeated, authorize the governing body to call one special meeting, at its option, to address Article 6 cost items only?

A Motion was made by Sean O’Keefe to recommend approval of Article 7 second by Tom Dolan.

The vote on the motion was as follows:

Member	For	Against	Abstain	Absent
Tom Freda, Chairman	X			
Sean O’Keefe, Vice Chairman	X			
Mike Brown	X			
Tom Dolan	X			
Jay Hooley, Secretary	X			
John Robinson	X			

Totals	6	0	0	0

Article 8 (School Lunch and Federal Projects)

Shall voters of the Londonderry School District vote to raise and appropriate special revenue funds for the support of the school lunch program and federal projects as follows: school lunch program, \$1,392,731; federal projects, \$1,436,600; such funds to be self-supporting through local, state or federal revenue sources?

(Estimated Tax Impact \$0.00)

A Motion was made by Sean O’Keefe to recommend approval of Article 8 second by Tom Dolan.

The vote on the motion was as follows:

Member	For	Against	Abstain	Absent
Tom Freda, Chairman	X			
Sean O’Keefe, Vice Chairman	X			
Mike Brown	X			
Tom Dolan	X			
Jay Hooley, Secretary	X			
John Robinson	X			
Totals	6	0	0	0

Sean O’Keefe will present at deliberative session.

Article 9 Special Article (Expendable Maintenance Trust Fund)

Shall voters of the Londonderry School District vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$400,000 to be placed in the School District’s Capital Reserve Expendable Maintenance Trust Fund to be used for school building maintenance?

(Estimated Tax Impact \$0.12)

A Motion was made by Tom Dolan to recommend approval of Article 9 second by Jay Hooley.

The vote on the motion was as follows:

Member	For	Against	Abstain	Absent
Tom Freda, Chairman	X			
Sean O’Keefe, Vice Chairman	X			
Mike Brown	X			
Tom Dolan	X			
Jay Hooley, Secretary	X			
John Robinson	X			
Totals	6	0	0	0

Tom Freda will present at deliberative session.

Article 10 Girls Varsity Assistant Softball Coach (By Petition – Special Article)

Shall the voters of the Londonderry School District vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$1,620 to fund a Varsity Assistant Coaching position for Girls Softball at the Londonderry High School? If approved, the cost of running the programs will become part of the annual operating budget in subsequent years.

(Estimated Tax Impact \$0.0005)

A Motion was made by Tom Dolan to recommend approval of Article 10 second by Mike Brown.

The vote on the motion was as follows:

Member	For	Against	Abstain	Absent
Tom Freda, Chairman	X			
Sean O’Keefe, Vice Chairman		X		
Mike Brown		X		
Tom Dolan	X			
Jay Hooley, Secretary		X		
John Robinson		X		
Totals	2	4	0	0

Article 11 Field Improvements (By Petition – Special Article)

To see if the School District will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of two hundred fifty thousand dollars (\$250,000) for the purpose of field maintenance and improvements. The maintenance program supports the upkeep and safety of existing athletic fields located at the High School, Middle School, Matthew Thornton, North, South and Moose Hill Schools for all student athletics and recreational teams.

(Estimated Tax Impact \$0.07)

A Motion was made by Tom Dolan to recommend approval of Article 11 second by John Robinson.

Mr. Robinson spoke to his admiration of Mr. Lincoln’s ongoing efforts, and that his position on the article was no reflection on same. Mr. Dolan noted that he too had nothing but positive to say for efforts to date, but that whole financial picture had taken into consideration.

The vote on the motion was as follows:

Member	For	Against	Abstain	Absent
Tom Freda, Chairman		X		
Sean O'Keefe, Vice Chairman		X		
Mike Brown		X		
Tom Dolan		X		
Jay Hooley, Secretary		X		
John Robinson		X		
Totals	0	6	0	0

V. ADJOURNMENT

There being no other business, a motion was made by Mr. Dolan to adjourn, second by Sean O'Keefe.

The vote on the motion was as follows:

Member	For	Against	Abstain	Absent
Tom Freda, Chairman	X			
Sean O'Keefe, Vice Chairman	X			
Mike Brown	X			
Tom Dolan	X			
Jay Hooley, Secretary	X			
John Robinson	X			
Totals	6	0	0	0

VI. UPCOMING MEETING SCHEDULE:

- A. Please review Town Budget Workshop Schedules on Town Website
- B. Please review School Budget Workshop Schedules on School Website

X. RECORD OF MEETINGS HELD:

1. Organizational Meeting **March 22, 2007 – 7:00 PM**
2. Second Meeting, **April 19, 2007 – 7:00 PM**
3. Third Meeting, **May 24, 2007 – 7:00 PM**
4. Fourth Meeting - Joint Meeting of the Town Council, SB and BC, **June 12, 2007**
5. Fifth Meeting, **July 26, 2007 – 7:00 PM**
6. Sixth Meeting **August 23, 2007 – 7:00 PM**
7. Seventh Meeting, **September 27, 2007 – 7:00 P.M. (Budget Workshop with TC)**
8. Eighth Meeting, **October 25, 2007 – 7:00 P.M.**
9. Ninth Meeting, **November 26, 2007 – 7:00 P.M.**
10. Tenth Meeting, **December 27, 2007 – 7:00 P.M.**
11. Eleventh Meeting **January 2, 2008 – 7:00 P.M.**
12. Twelfth Meeting **January 17, 2008 – 7:00 P.M.**

RSA: 91-A:2 Meetings Open to Public. –

II. All public proceedings shall be open to the public, and all persons shall be permitted to attend any meetings of those bodies or agencies. Except for town meetings, school district meetings and elections, no vote while in open session may be taken by secret ballot. Any person shall be permitted to use recording devices, including, but not limited to, tape recorders, cameras and videotape equipment, at such meetings. Minutes of all such meetings, including names of members, persons appearing before the bodies or agencies, and a brief description of the subject matter discussed and final decisions, shall be promptly recorded and open to public inspection within 144 hours of the public meeting, except as provided in RSA 91-A:6, and shall be treated as permanent records of any body or agency, or any subordinate body thereof, without exception.
