



Budget Committee

**Margaret Allen
Dickie Garnett
Michael Golden**

**Robert Hamilton
Victoria Kilroy
Larry Miller**

**David Peck
Richard Stanton
Michael Walzak**

Budget Committee Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, December 5, 2012 at 7:00 pm

Where: Town Hall

Call to Order

Attendance: Mr. Hamilton, absent

Pledge of Allegiance

Review FY13-14 North Hampton School Budget with School Board and SAU 21 Staff

Principal Peter Sweet and Pupil Services Director Karen Frisbie gave presentations to the Budget Committee. Mr. Sweet focused on per pupil cost versus the state average, SAU 21 and versus neighboring towns. NHS is lower than average in per pupil cost in SAU 21 and above average in cost in non-SAU 21 districts. NECAP scores were also discussed and presented with the same format of analysis. Mr. Stanton commended the report and noted a correlation of the school's performance to home values.

Ms. Frisbie presented NHS' philosophy on Inclusive Education and Special Education (SPED). Individual Education Plans (IEPs) and Section 504 students were defined. The SPED population has grown with an influx of new students drawn to the strong SPED programming along with newly identified students in preschool.

Mr. Sweet noted that the SPED population did not meet Average Yearly Progress (AYP) in last year's NECAPs. He stated that the influx of new students along with graduating highly proficient SPED 8th graders led to that result.

Mr. Peck asked how much SPED salary was to the total payroll. Mr. Sweet responded that the entire SPED program is on average between 17-19% of the total School budget and the State average was 19%. Mr. Peck asked for budget categories that go into the SPED payroll total, his calculation came up with 31% of the total payroll being SPED related.

Mr. Golden asked why a Case Manager was being eliminated when the SPED population was increasing. Mr. Sweet said a certified teacher who was also SPED certified and a Reading Specialist was being moved into a Case Manager position.

Technology Director Brad Gregg gave a presentation regarding inventory by age for all computers. NHS has 220 computers and 5 servers. 36 computers are due to be replaced but only 18 will be this year. Mr. Gregg also spoke about the K-3 iPad program and certain applications aid in reading and writing development.

Mr. Stanton asked if graduates had computer literacy skills that had them ready for WHS. Mr. Gregg felt NHS had the right combination of technology for success in any high school.

Mr. Walzak noted that with the continued growth of technology leads to greater teacher efficiency and that perhaps the classroom model should be analyzed. Ms. Kilroy stated that teachers are still active in the classroom with the technology and that a computer should not replace a teacher. Mr. Walzak agreed but stated the benefits from technology expenditures should be considered.

Mr. Stanton continued the meeting by reviewing questions from the last School Budget meeting.

Out of District Placement: Mr. Sweet stated one student was confirmed at \$35.0K/per year for up to three years and that a second student was a pending School Board approval for the same amount and timeframe.

5 Year History of Furniture Replacement and Schedule for Future Needs: The SAU failed to do the analysis. Mr. Hickey stated the school was already replacing classroom rugs with fire retardant rugs at a cost of \$600.00 per rug. There were

other items from the Department of Labor inspection that also have to be replaced but Mr. Hickey did not have details. Mr. Stanton urged for the next budget cycle to have a schedule of what has to be done and corresponding replacement plan.

Why discrepancy in FICA/Payroll: Mr. Hickey said he budgeted an extra \$7.0K over the 7.65% to cover any overage in substitute salaries or overtime. He did not budget the salary that corresponds with the \$7.0K. He was asked make the budget more accurate and to move the \$7.0K out of FICA. The bottom line could stay the same but the \$7.0K should go.

Unemployment Insurance: Mr. Golden thought this line item was under funded and Mr. Hickey felt he had the correct number.

Workers Comp Rates: Still TBD, rates were due in November.

12 Month Rolling Expenditures: The proposed budget is 6.8% higher than what has been spent the last 12 months.

Warrant Articles

- An architect has been hired to design the renovations to the bathrooms, windows and science room. The project will cost approximately \$800-850.0K and the school is looking at a 7 year bond.
- The SAU thought a warrant for long term building maintenance for \$69.5K would go forward, Ms. Kilroy agreed.
- Expendable Trust of \$50.0K for SPED
- Expendable Trust of \$30.0K for Health Insurance

No order of the above has been decided by the School Board.

Mr. Stanton reviewed Public Hearing dates and procedures on the Warrants and Budgets. Tentative dates for a Public Hearing for both School and Town are January 9, 2013 with a possible continuance to January 16th. Deliberative Session dates would tentatively be February 2, 2013 for the Town and February 5, 2013 for the School.

Minutes of November 28, 2012

Mr. Peck moved to accept, Mr. Golden second, passed 7-0-1

New Business

Next meeting 12/12/12 at 7:00pm will be a joint Select Board/Budget Committee meeting.

Adjourn

Motion to adjourn by Mr. Garnett, second by Mr. Walzak.

Discussion occurred on when to vote on Budgets and Warrants. It was decided to vote after public input. Ms. Kilroy said details of the school renovation article will be available at the January 2, 2013 meeting.

Mr. Garnett again moved to adjourn, Mr. Walzak second, motion carried.
Meeting adjourned at 8:55pm.

Approved