



Budget Committee Approved Minutes
November 16, 2015

1. Call to Order

Chair Hamilton called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

a. Introduce Budget Committee Members

Those in attendance were: Jonathan Pinette, Kari Schmitz, Terrence Belluche, James Sununu, Dickie Garnett, John Anthony Simmons and Select Board representative Rick Stanton. Absent: Casey O'Kane

Also present representing North Hampton School were Bill Hickey, Nancy Tuttle and Principal Richard Boardman.

b. Pledge of Allegiance

Chair Hamilton led the Pledge of Allegiance.

2. First Review of School Proposed 2016-2017 Budget

Nancy Tuttle stated at the inquiry of one of the Budget Committee members, she had researched the teacher's union; how it was established, when it was established and how it is structured under the SAU.

Mrs. Tuttle reviewed the budgeting process and how it comes together at North Hampton School.

Bill Hickey gave a Power Point presentation, a copy of which is attached to these minutes.

The committee discussed how they would like to proceed with reviewing the school's budget proposal and decided it would be best reviewed by category or functional area.

(Secretary's Note: Mr. Belluche left the meeting at 7:57 PM)

Mrs. Tuttle started the review by giving an overview of the Expendable Trust Funds and how and when they are used.

Mr. Simmons stated he had asked two weeks prior to the meeting to have the information presented in an orderly fashion, and what he has isn't numbered properly. He further discussed the need for protocol when presenting informative information to the committee.

Mr. Sununu stated the focus should be on the budget and not the 29 pages Mr. Simmons is referring to.

While discussing the budget proposal, the following questions or concerns were asked:

Regular Education

Mr. Simmons- asked why there would be no interns in the 2016/2017 budget; why there was a permanent substitute; concern with copier costs

Special Education

Mr. Simmons- looking for more detail in this account, as there is a broad scope of information given.

Mr. Boardman explained different services provided, but stated he could not get into specifics about students.

Student Activities

Mrs. Schmitz asked about the greenhouse manager and whether it would be a stipend paid to a staff member that would be performing those duties outside of their regular duties.

Mrs. Schmitz asked about the reduction of the number of coaches from 12 to 8.

Mr. Simmons asked why it was necessary to pay for the school nurse to attend environmental camp.

Mr. Pinette asked why the need for a greenhouse manager and where the request had come from.

Guidance

No questions from the committee members.

Health

Mr. Simmons inquired about the need to pay for physicals, and was told it was for potential new hires, not current employees.

Educational Media

Mr. Simmons asked about the Librarian's salary as well as what classroom libraries were.

Technology

Mr. Stanton asked what was driving the almost 60% increase in this line.

Mr. Boardman explained there are a lot of computers that are no longer under the warranty and therefore repairs need to be paid for. He further stated they are trying to repair the computers rather than replace them.

Board of Education

Mr. Stanton stated he was concerned with the increases in this account as they will effect next year's default budget.

Mr. Pinette asked about the "bottom line number" and what it meant.

School Administration/SAU Services

Chair Hamilton voiced his concern over some employees receiving a 2% increase and some much less.

Mrs. Tuttle asked Chair Hamilton to identify and send her an email so she can address those concerns.

Mr. Simmons questioned the amount of \$8,500 for water costs, and why the school doesn't have a drilled well.

Mrs. Tuttle will look into this and report back.

Discussion ensued regarding the 1-ton pickup truck that was purchased to plow the school, and the increase in salary that was given to cover those additional costs.

Mrs. Schmitz stated she is concerned with an increase in personnel costs now that a new custodian position will be added to help plow snow.

Transportation

Mr. Garnett inquired as to whether bids had been sought for other bus companies, and Mr. Hickey replied this had gone out to bid and the school had received two bids.

Debt Service

No questions

Benefits

Chair Hamilton discussed the health insurance waivers paid to those who opt out of coverage.

Food Service

Mrs. Tuttle explained how the food service program runs, and explained they are not allowed to have a deficit in this account so an amount must be budgeted in case, as in many years, the budget goes over.

Motion by Mr. Garnett to table all other business until their December meeting. Seconded by Mrs. Schmitz. All in favor, motion carries 7-0.

3. Any new business that comes before the committee

TABLED

4. Approve minutes for November 2, 2015

TABLED

5. Adjourn

Meeting adjourned at 10:10 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Janet Facella

Next meeting: 11/30/15, Work Session with Town/Select Board, Proposed Budget FY17