

ORLEANS SCHOOL COMMITTEE  
February 25, 2013  
Orleans Elementary School, Music Room

'13 JUL 3 12:01PM  
ORLEANS TOWN CLERK  
*May*  
**APPROVED**

Present for the Committee: Josh Stewart, David Abel, Gwynne Guzzeau, Mary Lyttle, Eric Ehnstrom  
Present for the Administration: Dr. Hoffmann, Principal Carreiro, Ms. Venditti  
Others: John Hodgson, John Meservey

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Stewart called the meeting to order at 3:35 p.m.

AGENDA CHANGES

None

CITIZENS SPEAK

None

PRIORITY BUSINESS

Cape Cod Village

Larry Thayer from Cape Abilities addressed the committee stating Cape Abilities has agreed to run the program if funded. He said Cape Abilities has 245 employees. He assured the Committee they have very strong management, a great track record and currently manage similar type programs. The goal of the program is to help adults with autism be a part of the community. Kathy Ohman stated that top priority would be to get an easement to access the property from Route 6A.

Discussion ensued regarding declaring the property surplus, having conditions as part of a vote to declare the land surplus, selling the property and need for legal opinion. Mr. Meservey thought Town Meeting could probably limit the use of the property through a Town Meeting vote. Chair Stewart raised the questions, if the property is declared surplus and is not voted at Town Meeting, will the land still be under school committee jurisdiction? Could the property be leased to Cape Cod Village? It was also noted that potential residents are chosen by Cape Abilities and could focus on Cape Cod residents.

Gwynne Guzzeau spoke in full support of the project and wanted to declare the property surplus indicating Cape Cod Village would be great partners and neighbors, would provide employment opportunities and help with the Town's affordable housing goal.

John Holt distributed materials on criteria for affordable housing. He has experience in programs for autistic children and has not experienced residents "bolting." He also stated that the 16 units would greatly help the Town of Orleans in terms of not allowing unwanted 40b projects. Kathy Ohman stated that there is a shortage of housing options and resources on Cape Cod.

Chair Stewart indicated that some additional information was needed before the committee could take a vote and hopes to get legal opinions over the next two weeks. At the next meeting the committee may move forward in the process of declaring the property surplus. By Committee consensus, the School Committee agreed to have Chair Stewart hold a meeting with a member of the Board of Selectmen, Town Counsel, and Dr. Hoffmann to gather more information.

### FY13 Budget Update

Giovanna Venditti reviewed changes in expenditures since the last monthly report. The amount of \$12,000 was re-classified to the Capital Budget. Special Needs tuition was reduced by \$7,085 due to a grant fund. Mr. Abel requested information on line item #3055 and wondered why it is not being charged to Capital (\$17,483). He also stated that the Committee needs to access additional money for capital needs on a regular basis. Requests are submitted to the town but seems to get cut from the plan.

Chair Stewart asked if there are surpluses in FY13, can we do a more detailed study to determine this.

The FY13 Spending Plan was reviewed. Presently there is \$52,966 available. Eric Ehnstrom asked how much of the \$52,966 could be used for Building Needs Assessment or pre paying special needs tuition costs to help out the FY14 budget. This will be discussed at the next meeting.

### FY14 Budget Update

The Public Hearing on the FY14 budget was called to order at 5:20 p.m. Health insurance costs - check the Town of Orleans website and why fringe benefits are separated? There is \$15,000 in Circuit Breaker money and \$9,000 in School Choice to date. The Public Hearing closed at 5:35 p.m.

Mr. Ehnstrom indicated he would not support a -0- increase budget or a -0- increase in capital maintenance and repairs. He also reviewed the budget line-by-line and could not find additional reductions. The Committee reviewed the proposed reduction list as submitted by Principal Carreiro and expressed concerns over reducing Kindergarten Educational Assistants especially if Kindergarten enrollment is over 34 students. Principal Carreiro stated Kindergarten would be fine as long as they get the grant funding. The substitute line was questioned and Principal Carreiro indicated she budgeted for \$80 per day for FY14. Another area of concern was account #3026 and Principal Carreiro felt this will account will be fine as well. Chair Stewart suggested that the school be cautious about using revenue in FY13 to pre-pay special education tuition as this a recurring cost. He felt it was better to pay for one-time costs from the School Choice revenue.

Mr. Ehnstrom asked that the budget be fine-tuned so that the operating increase is 2.5%. He also wanted to know what happened to the \$87,000 request for Building and Facilities Maintenance.

Principal Carreiro responded she had not gotten a communication on this from Mr. Kelly.

Mr. Abel suggested that the process seems to be a little flawed as it is the notion that TCLR is the only need for capital money when there is a real need for other projects. He also asked who made the decision to replace windows next year in addition to the Boiler replacement.

### Motion:

On a motion by Eric Ehnstrom, seconded by Gwynne Guzzeau, it was voted unanimously to direct Principal Carreiro to create a reduction list that would bring the FY14 operating budget to an increase of 2.5%.

Mr. Ehnstrom asked that Administration create a chart showing total available money for each year compared to the total that is requested from 2008-2013. The Committee discussed getting information to the Board of Selectmen and Finance Committee for the meeting on March 13<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 p.m.

### School Choice

The Committee discussed the Kindergarten enrollment projection and possible additional classroom needed. Principal Carreiro indicated she could make it work with two classrooms.

The Committee asked that Ms. Venditti get the adjusted estimate for FY14 School Choice. Members discussed the benefit of school choice, if any.

### Motion:

On a motion by David Abel, seconded by Gwynne Guzzeau, it was voted 3 yeas and 2 nays, NOT to participate in school choice for the 2013-14 school year.

### Policy Manual

On a motion by Eric Ehnstrom, seconded by David Abel, it was voted 4 yeas, 1 abstention (Josh Stewart) to approve Section C in form for a first reading.

### Other Reports and Information

Update on Capital Plan – David will meet with Ron Collins.

Cape Cod Collaborative – Mary Lyttle reported on the Legislator's breakfast.

Playground – Gwynne Guzzeau nominated Wendy Farrell and Josh Stewart for a citizenship award. On a motion by David Abel, seconded by Mary Lyttle it was voted 4-0 (1 not voting – Josh Stewart) to nominate Wendy Farrell and Josh Stewart for the Orleans Citizenship Award.

Transportation – no report

Policy – no report

### Approval of Minutes

On a motion by Gwynne Guzzeau, seconded by Mary Lyttle, it was voted unanimously to approve the minutes of the January 28, 2013.

### Executive Session

On a motion by Gwynne Guzzeau, seconded by Mary Lyttle, it was voted unanimously to go into Executive Session for the purpose discussing the deployment of security personnel or devices or strategies with respect thereto. On a roll call the vote was as follows:

Gwynne Guzzeau – yea, Mary Lyttle – yea, David Abel – yea, Eric Ehnstrom – yea, and Chair Stewart – yea. The Committee went into Executive Session at 7:25 p.m.

The Committee came out of Executive Session at 7:55 p.m.

### Adjournment

On a motion by Eric Ehnstrom, seconded by Gwynne Guzzeau, it was voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 8:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Richard Hoffmann, Pro Tem

Included in the packet: Criteria for Applications to the Affordable Housing Committee, Principal's Report, Assistant Superintendent's Report, Monthly Expenditure Report, FY13 Proposed Spending Plan, Public Hearing PowerPoint Presentation, FY14 Budget Worksheet, FY13-14 Budget Cut Recommendations – round 1, Orleans Budget Cut Recommendations – round 2, School Choice Summary, Nauset Integrated Preschool Enrollment, and Minutes January 28, 2013.