

Sturbridge Finance Committee  
Meeting Minutes  
March 6, 2013 ~ Burgess Elementary School  
7:00pm

Call to Order:

The Finance Committee was in attendance at the Burgess School Committee's public meeting to review and vote their FY15 budget. The following finance committee members were present: Mike Serio (MS), Larry Morrison (LM), Kathy Neal (KN), Joni Light (JL), Arnold Wilson (AW), Bob Jepson (BJ), Prescott (Scott) Arndt (SA), Alex Athans (AA), and Kevin Smith, Chairman (KS)

Review of Burgess Elementary School FY15 Budget – Burgess School Committee:

The committee proposed their budget for FY15 with an overall increase of 3.92% over last fiscal year. Documents were distributed to those in attendance, and Deb Boyd (DB) reviewed each line item.

A few notes made during the meeting from KS: with the utilities increasing significantly over last year, would like to know if the school committee approached the town administrator (TA) for inclusion of the town wide electricity contract. DB had in fact been in contact with the TA, and indicated that it may go out to bid. However, until such time the committee would like the additional funding in their utilities budget as the monthly costs have been so volatile.

Lastly, KS confirmed that the Burgess teachers are in process of contract negotiations, and would request that the school committee consider parity in respect to COLA between teachers and the remaining non-union town employees. Non-union employees are looking at approximately 2.5% COLA for FY15 if approved. As noted in the town administrator's FY15 budget presentation, non-union employees have averaged annually a 2% COLA increase since 2011.

The Finance Committee then moved to attend the closed session of the school committee's meeting to observe the unanimous vote of acceptance of the budget presented for Burgess Elementary School at \$9,679,168.00.

There was no additional finance discussion when the Burgess open session ended.

Next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, March 11, 2014 at 7:00pm in town hall.

/jml