

October 25, 2010

A meeting of the Wareham School Committee was held on Monday, October 25, 2010 at 6:00 p.m. at the Wareham High School Library. Members present were: Dr. Clifford Sylvia, Mr. Geoff Swett, Mr. Kenny Fontes, and Mrs. Rhonda Veugen as well as Superintendent Rabinovitch and recording secretary Mrs. Ruiz. Absent were members Mrs. Rachel Gillette and student rep Jessica Hanson.

Chair Sylvia called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

Vote on Dollar Amount for FY'11 Budget Warrant Article

Dr. Rabinovitch reported that the Budget Subcommittee met last Friday evening to review a Memorandum of Agreement from the Town Administrator. The subcommittee edited the agreement and redacted anything that referenced FY'12. Therefore this is only a FY'11 agreement.

Mr. Swett added that item #2 was ambiguous and was redacted in favor of item #3 which makes it clear what the budget will be after the \$415,000 reduction.

Dr. Rabinovitch stated that he had emailed this Agreement to Mr. Andrews Friday afternoon and then met with him this morning to explain the difficulties the budget subcommittee had with the agreement. The edited Agreement was agreed upon and Mr. Sanguinet provided a motion for Article 2, which we amended. Mr. Andrews felt DOR needed something in today's meeting that actually balanced his budget. The motion reads to deduct \$822,660 from the school budget and then give back \$415,000.

Chair Sylvia informed the board that several times he, the chair of the board of selectmen, Mr. Andrews and the Superintendent met and at each meeting we asked what the free cash amount was. The \$822,660 is the EduJobs federal grant for the school department. In order to make up deficit on the town's side, it was a give and take between the town and school department. At last week's meeting at no time was any discussion made on the FY'12 budget. The only reference was our strategy to carryover some of the grant monies to make the budget. The original Agreement had a ceiling to the school budget for FY'12.

Mrs. Veugen expressed concern with a decrease in our budget by \$822,660 and its effect on the FY'12 budget.

Mr. Swett informed the committee that he had called the DOR Local Services and the town's free cash had been certified as of today at \$1,753,000.00.

Dr. Rabinovitch spoke in favor of the motion on Article 2 because we reached an agreement but was not happy that the town did not provide us with the certified cash number during our negotiations.

Mr. Swett moved to approved of Article 2 as written and presented, seconded by Mrs. Veugen.

VOTE: 4-0-0

The committee agreed to the Memorandum of Agreement but would only sign a clean copy.

Mr. Swett moved to adjourn, seconded by Mrs. Veugen.

VOTE: 4-0-0

The meeting adjourned at 6:23 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jeffrey W. Swett", written over a horizontal line.

List of Documents:
Memorandum of Understanding
Article 2