

Wakefield School Board Budget Workshop
11-10-20 Public Minutes
Held in the Multi-Purpose Room and via Zoom
Approved

In attendance:

Board: Bob Ouellette, Relf Fogg, Mary Collins and Sandy Johnson via Zoom

Administration: Superintendent Jerry Gregoire, Business Administrator Marie D'Agostino, Student Services Director Anne Kebler, Principal James Lampron
Joe Williams, Brennen Peaslee

Public: parents and community members via Zoom.

Call to Order

Mr. Ouellette called the workshop to order at 6:00 and led those present in person and on zoom in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. Gregoire went over each line that had an increase or decrease with an explanation of why. Insurance premium rates have increased 5.7%. Mr. Gregoire pointed out the graft on page 6 which breaks down where the funds are spent. Page 8, line 20 was previously paid by a grant (\$12,677) and will now be paid by the district. Three points of data are needed to see where the students are academically. This is a cloud base subscription service billed per student. There are currently 470 students in school. There is an increase in retirement as well. Increases and decreases are based on actuals. Mr. Fogg asked if SLC provided all the services we require. Mrs. Kebler said we use two other vendors and mental disorders fall under autism. The one time \$10,000 for the class trip was moved from transportation to line 70, Co-Curricular, Contracted Services. Mrs. Collins asked why Summer School was back in the Budget. Mr. Gregoire responded that parents have requested it.

The SAU is proposing a 2% increase for administrators and unaffiliated workers. Fiscal Services: The \$56,300 is back in the budget for the third year. Covid stopped the software from happening this year. Line 207, Operations and Maintenance was moved to Line 209 Special Projects. The note on the next page notes what this money will be used for. (audio install should be removed) Line 213, increase is for hot spots, a total of \$3,930. Mrs. Johnson asked why the sewer is more than water. Mr. Gregoire will find out. Mr. Fogg asked why the Transportation Manager needs a dispatcher and why she doesn't drive. The job was to be a bus drivers' salary plus an \$8,000 stipend. Mr. Gregoire said the job evolved. Mr. Fogg asked for Milton's Transportation Managers job description. Mr. Gregoire will get that for him. Mr. Fogg asked Mrs. Peaslee how many bus drivers she has. She answered ten plus one for athletics. Mrs. Johnson asked for a breakdown of her day and her job description. The bottom line is \$11,273,752, a 4.87% increase over last year.

Mr. Fogg wants to crunch the numbers prior to the meeting with the Budget Committee on November 16th. The Board discussed making changes to the budget. Mrs. Johnson said we are

down to the wire. Mr. Collins said there is no time now. Mrs. D'Agostino said the Budget Committee wants this budget by Thursday. She said it's been a different year this year. Mr. Fogg and Mr. Ouellette said they had no choice but send this budget that has not been approved to the budget Committee.

Mr. Ouellette opened the public portion of the meeting at 8:02.

Mr. Gregoire said the SAU will close for two weeks and the Paul School will have a remote day until Thursday. Another teacher wants to go remote.

Mr. Fogg made a motion, seconded by Mr. Ouellette to enter non-public at 8:10 under 91-A 3:11 (e) Consideration or negotiation of pending claims or litigation which has been threatened in writing or filed by or against the public body or any subdivision thereof, or by or against any member thereof because of his or her membership in such public body, until the claim or litigation has been fully adjudicated or otherwise settled. Any application filed for tax abatement, pursuant to law, with anybody or board shall not constitute a threatened or filed litigation against any public body for the purposes of this subparagraph. Roll call: Ouellette aye, Collins aye, Johnson aye, Fogg aye (Vote 4-0)

The Board returned to Public Session at 9:35. During Non -Public the Board discussed negotiations.

Mr. Fogg made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Collins, to seal the non-public minutes of 11-9-20 indefinitely. Roll call: Ouellette aye, Collins aye, Johnson aye, Fogg aye (Vote 4-0)

Mr. Ouellette made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Collins, to adjourn the meeting at 9:30. Roll call: Ouellette aye, Collins aye, Johnson aye, Fogg aye (Vote 4-0)

Respectfully submitted for approval at the next School Board meeting,

Priscilla Colbath

Secretary Pro Temp