



Wakefield School Board Public Minutes

Thursday January 2, 2025

Held in the Library

Approved

BOARD MEMBERS		ADMINISTRATORS	
Robert DeColfmacker, Chair	✓	Anne Kebler, Superintendent	
Bob Ouellette, Vice Chair	✓		
Mary Collins	✓	Carol Keenan, Student Services Director	✓
Brennan Peaslee		Norma DiRocco, Principal	
Sandrea Taliaferro	✓	Ivy Levitt-Carlson, Assistant Principal	

Others Present: Michele Lambert, Max Gehring with ClearView TV.

Mr. DeColfmacker led those present in the flag salute at 5:00.

Agenda Review

None

Presentations, Public Hearings

None

Public Comment

None

New Business

Default Budget

Mrs. Collins made a motion, seconded by Mr. Ouellette, to approve the Default Budget at \$12,667,852. (Vote 4-0)

Revenues

Projection for revenues would be \$870,999. The fund balance to reduce taxes is \$253,999. Mr. DeColfmacker asked when we would find out the amount of the Adequacy Aid grant. Mrs. Lambert will ask her mentor.

Warrant Articles

Article 2 Operating Budget

(already approved 4-0)

Article 3 Wakefield Teachers Association CBA

(not ready)

Article 4 Special Education

Mrs. Collins made a motion, seconded by Mr. Ouellette, to approve Warrant Article 4 for \$50,000. (Vote 4-0)

Article 5 Boiler Replacement

Mrs. Collins made a motion, seconded by Mr. Ouellette, to approve Warrant Article 5 for \$50,000. (Vote 4-0)

Article 6 Replacement HVAC Units

Mrs. Collins made a motion, seconded by Mr. Ouellette, to approve Warrant Article 6 for \$50,000. (Vote 4-0)

Article 7 Classroom Renovation

Mrs. Collins made a motion, seconded by Mr. Ouellette, to approve Warrant Article 7 for \$25,000. (Vote 4-0)

Article 8 Maintenance Contingency

Mrs. Collins made a motion, seconded by Mr. Ouellette, to approve Warrant Article 8 for \$40,000. (Vote 4-0)

Mr. Ouellette asked if the \$4.59 tax impact is close to last year. Mrs. Lamber will find out. She said that this isn't an increase. It's a total, which confuses people.

Old Business

Buses

Mrs. Keenan said the Superintendent spoke with the regional director of First Student on December 27th. He said they would begin the work next week after he speaks with the maintenance manager. He wants to know if the Board wants to get the buses sticker ready or do all the work that is needed. He believes there is a plate that can be used to transport the buses to Wakefield without an inspection sticker. He will research that. Mrs. Taliaferro said that their list of bus repairs totaled \$53,000. She said for that amount we should have them fixed. Mrs. Kebler wrote, given the cost of the contracted services that have stretched our budget she recommends going with the least expensive route at this point.

Mr. DeColfmacker said some need work just to get them on the road. Mr. Ouellette said we have brand new tires at Diprizio's. The Board feels they should spend \$53,000 and get the buses fixed. Mr. DeColfmacker said we were supposed to have a detailed list and cost per bus not a blanket number. We need a detailed estimate of the work and cost per bus. Mrs. Keenan asked if the \$53,000 is the correct amount (and I know you have to vote on this) to fix the buses that would be the plan and you want a detailed list?

Mr. Ouelette said Mrs. Lambert is thinking, where are we going to get the money? Mrs. Lambert asked, where is this money coming from? She said we're already tight with our bottom line

budget. Mrs. Keenan asked about using the unspent BA salary. Mrs. Lambert said there is no transfer allowed for salaries and benefits. Mrs. Lambert said she could run a year report for Wednesday so you can see where you are with everything that's encumbered for PO's and salaries. Mrs. Collins asked about First Student buying our buses thus offsetting the cost to First Student. We received an estimate of the value. Mrs. Lambert said that was for the buses as is. Mr. Ouellette said they're worth more fixed and Mrs. Taliaferro said that was the point of getting them fixed. Mrs. Lambert asked how much more and who's going to buy them? She said someone in the bus field told her the value of the buses were based on milage and year.

Mrs. Taliaferro said the other dealership said they would raise the minimum purchase amount so the value would be there. Mr. DeColfmacker asked, but how long it will take to recover that. Mrs. Collins asked to wait until the next meeting to make a decision. Mrs. Taliaferro asked if the ones that just needed inspection stickers be worked on. Mr. DeColfmacker asked that the Board get a detailed itemized estimate per bus to get a sticker and per bus to get all work done for next week's agenda. Mrs. Taliaferro asked about another estimate. Mr. DeColfmacker said perhaps there is information from Mrs. Peaslee. Mrs. Collins asked for the estimates for the buses from First Student be in the packets. Mrs. Taliaferro said Mrs. Peaslee's email said the person she had spoken with suggested raising the minimum for the short buses and vans.

Follow Up

Mrs. Taliaferro wants to see Mr. Markiewicz's contract.

Public Comment

None

Non Public

Mrs. Collins made a motion, seconded by Mr. Ouellette to enter non public under RSA 91-A;3 ll (c). Roll Call Vote: DeColfmacker aye, Collins Aye, Ouellette aye, Taliaferro aye.

The Board returned to public session at 6:10

Adjournment

Mr. Ouellette made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Taliaferro, to adjourn the meeting at 6:12. (Vote 4-0)

Respectfully submitted for approval at the next School Board meeting,

Priscilla Colbath
School Board Secretary