

Sanborn Regional School District

Approved Budget Committee Minutes

Thursday January 17, 2019

Sanborn Regional High School Library

Chairman Annie Collyer called the meeting to order at 7:02 PM

Present: Annie Collyer, Chair, Newton
Charlton Swasey, Vice-Chair, Kingston
James Doggett, Newton
Sandi Rogers-Osterloh, Kingston
Mary Cyr, Member-at-Large
Jack Kozec, Newton
Cheryl Gannon, Kingston
Larry Heath, School Board Representative
Tom Ambrose, Superintendent

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by all in attendance.

The Agenda was amended to include the School Board report and approval of the January 10, 2019 meeting minutes.

Mr. Doggett moved and Ms. Rogers-Osterloh seconded to have the January 10, 2019 meeting minutes approved as amended with Ms. Gannon's changes.

Motion passed 8/0

Mr. Heath stated he had no school board report as he was not present at the last meeting. Mr. Ambrose stated that there were no budget related actions at the last school board meeting that he could recall.

The budget committee reviewed the Sanborn Regional School District Warrant Articles as follows:

Article 3. Operating Budget – Ms. Cyr moved and Mr. Heath seconded a motion to recommend.

Mr. Swasey began discussion on Article 3 and presented a document to the committee with Tax Impact/Increases for both Newton and Kingston. (attached) Mr. Swasey then stated he is not in favor of Article 3 regarding the tax impact on the taxpayers in both towns. When asked by Ms. Gannon about what he would then propose, Mr. Swasey stated he supported the default budget. Ms. Collyer then read a statement regarding her support of Article 3. (attached) A lengthy discussion regarding Article 3 was held with members of the committee engaging in dialogue regarding support or lack of support for the article.

Motion to recommend passed 5/3 – Mr. Kozec, Mr. Doggett and Mr. Swasey opposed.

Mr. Swasey asked for clarification regarding the School Board member on the Budget Committee being allowed to vote. RSA 32 states the School Board member is a voting member.

Mr. Ambrose spoke about the lengthy discussion on Article 3. He then made some clarifying statements/comments.

Article 4. Professional Staff Collective Bargaining Agreement – Ms. Gannon recused herself from all discussion and voting. Mr. Heath moved and Ms. Rogers-Osterloh seconded a motion to recommend. A lengthy discussion was then held amongst the committee with members voicing their support or lack of support for Article 4 and their reasons why.

Motion to recommend passed 4/3(Mr. Swasey, Mr. Kozec and Mr. Doggett opposed) with Ms. Gannon recused.

Mr. Swasey requested that Article 11 be taken out of order for the benefit of a member of the audience.

Article 11. Sanborn Ice Hockey Team

Jon LeBlanc, Kingston resident spoke about Article 11 and requested that the committee support partial funding of the SRHS Ice Hockey program, a NHIAA approved sport. Mr. LeBlanc said that the article clearly states that “ice time” would not be funded by the taxpayers. He also stated, that the suggestion at the Public Hearing that their group provide a letter that they would never ask for ice time to be covered by the taxpayers was reviewed by their board. Their board met and came up with three reasons to not sign such a letter:

- 1.) Merit of the article and how it is written
- 2.) The board can't forecast the future and tie the hands of future boards
- 3.) School administrators can still ask in the future for funding or there can be a new warrant article to ask for funding

Ms. Rogers-Osterloh moved and Ms. Cyr seconded a motion to recommend. There was a lengthy discussion regarding supporting or not supporting the article. Mr. LeBlanc answered questions and contributed additional information. Mr. Ambrose stated that with the wording of the warrant, as long as he is Superintendent, no ice time costs will be covered in a budget, but will remain the responsibility of the Hockey Boosters.

Motion to recommend failed 4/4 with Ms. Collyer, Ms. Cyr, Mr. Heath and Ms. Rogers-Osterloh in favor.

Article 6. Support Staff Collective Bargaining Agreement – Mr. Heath moved and Ms. Gannon seconded a motion to recommend. A few brief comments were made about the article.

Motion to recommend passed 5/3 with Mr. Kozec, Mr. Doggett and Mr. Swasey opposed.

Article 9. Capital Reserve Fund-Unanticipated Educational Expenses – Mr. Heath moved and Ms. Rogers-Osterloh seconded a motion to recommend. There was a lengthy discussion amongst the committee and Mr. Ambrose regarding the article and what the money would/could be used for. Motion to recommend passed 6/2. Mr. Swasey and Mr. Doggett abstained.

Article 10. Capital Reserve Fund-Capital Improvement and Maintenance – Ms. Rogers-Osterloh moved and Mr. Doggett seconded a motion to recommend. A short discussion was held.

Motion to recommend passed 8/0

Ms. Collyer then asked the committee to contribute their thoughts/ideas/changes regarding the “slides” for the Deliberative Session Presentation. Committee members contributed suggestions, etc. and these were noted by Ms. Collyer. Mr. Swasey moved and Mr. Doggett seconded a motion to add Mr. Swasey's document titled Tax Impact/Increases as a slide. A short discussion was held. Motion failed 4/4, with Ms. Collyer, Ms. Cyr, Ms. Rogers-Osterloh and Mr. Heath opposed.

Ms. Collyer moved and Mr. Kozec seconded a motion to add the Tax Impact/Increases document to the addendum presentation. A short discussion was held.

Motion passed 7/1. Mr. Swasey said that he will instead distribute the document independently, not as a Budget Committee member.

Public Comment:

Jim Baker, Newton Resident spoke about being a part of the negotiations team for the Professional and Staff Contracts. He told the committee that the negotiations require a lot of time and effort. The team considers the matrix and steps within the contracts and they also were able to negotiate a

decrease in cost to the taxpayer for employee health insurance. All of these factors combined determine what the actual cost to the taxpayer will be each year of the contract.

Mr. Doggett spoke regarding the creation of the matrix and the process of determining the cost to the taxpayer.

Ms. Rogers-Osterloh moved and Mr. Kozec seconded a motion to adjourn the meeting.

Motion passed 8/0

Meeting was adjourned at 9:36 pm