

WILTON-LYNDEBOROUGH COOPERATIVE SCHOOL

WILTON-LYNDEBOROUGH BUDGET COMMITTEE MEETING

Tuesday, September 19, 2017

Time: 7:00 P.M.

Location: WLC MS/HS Media Room

Committee Membership: Chair Leslie Browne (Facilities Committee Rep.), Vice Chair Karen Grybko, Secretary Lisa Post, Pam Altner (Strategic Planning Committee), Edwina Hastings (School Board Rep.), James Kofalt (School Board Rep./Strategic Planning Committee), William Ryan (Facilities Committee Rep.), Christine Tiedemann, (Open Wilton Seat), Charlie Post (SB Budget Committee Representative).

The Agenda was as follows:

1. Call WLC Budget Committee to Order
2. Public Comment
3. Review and Approval of August 29, 2017 Meeting Minutes
4. Budget Analysis and Review presented by James Kofalt.
5. Monthly Reporting
6. Other Business
 - a. Schedule next Budget Committee Meeting (Joint Budget Session September 26, 2017)
7. Adjournment of Budget Committee

Attendees: Leslie Browne, Lisa Post, Pam Altner, Edwina Hastings, James Kofalt, William Ryan, Charlie Post (call-in via phone).

1. The Budget Committee was called to order by Chair Browne at 7:03 p.m.

2. No Public Comment

3. Review and Approval of August 29, 2017 Meeting Minutes

A Motion was made by Edwina Hastings to approve the minutes as amended; Seconded by William Ryan. Voting: All in favor with one abstention (Pam Altner). Motion passed.

4. Budget Analysis and Review presented by James Kofalt.

The review was postponed until the next meeting due to a delay in receiving information.

5. Monthly Reporting

a. Year End Budget vs Actuals were reviewed. The final "Fund Balance" is \$405,430.88 which is comprised of: Capital Project Fund surplus of \$164,109.06 (which will remain in the CP Fund); GF Revenue surplus of \$40,708.71; GF Unexpended of \$200,613.11 which brings the Unexpended fund balance to \$241,321.82 which is 1.97% of the total \$12,278,636 budget. Chair Browne suggested that the questions regarding this report will be reviewed at the next joint meeting with the School Board on September 26, 2017. She will convey we are looking for a flat budget and will reiterate that we would like to receive this season's budget document in excel format and that it be displayed on the large screen.

b. Business Office Reports along with the Food Service Year End 07/01/2016 - 06/30/2017 were reviewed. Questions will be addressed after review at the upcoming joint meeting.

c. Mr. Kofalt reported on the Strategic Planning Committee's short and long term goals.

Short- and Long term items of note are:

- i. **Retaining the Unexpended Fund Balance:** A discussion of whether the unexpended fund balance should remain as returning funds back to the towns or whether the funds should be retained for the school to expend which would require a one-time warrant article which would remain in effect into the future.
- ii. **Full-day Kindergarten:** Mr. Kofalt said that the board would want this on a warrant article. The state is committing to funds at this time, however, there is concern that state funding does not

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always continue. Mr. Kofalt proposed that the committee view this as “what would we be doing if no funds came from the government.” A discussion of the recent positions that were added to address achievement scores followed.

- iii. **Apportionment:** the possibility of “Three-year Averaging” in lieu of “Average Daily Membership” between Lyndeborough and Wilton is no longer a short-term goal at this time as the Articles of Agreement cannot be changed for two more years per legal counsel.
- iv. **Building Utilization:** a discussion of the declining student population, closing LCS and moving students to FRES and the possible effects of full-day Kindergarten followed.
- v. **School District Composition:** there is potential of tuitioning-in students and/or adding another town to the cooperative school district. Chair Browne reported that the Wilton Main Street Development Committee expressed concern about the District’s low test scores. Ms. Browne felt that test scores need to come up to entice districts to “tuition in” their students to WLCS. There was a discussion of the policy change in standardized testing from Smarter Balance to PACE (Performance Assessment of Competency Education) which has not begun.

6. Other Business

- a. The next Budget Committee Meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, September 26, 2017 at 6:30 p.m. in the MS/HS Conference Room followed by a 7:00 p.m. Joint Session with the School Board.

7. The Budget Committee adjourned at 8:15 p.m.

A Motion made by James Kofalt to adjourn the meeting; Seconded by William Ryan. Voting: All in favor. Motion passed.

Respectfully Submitted,
Lisa C.M. Post, Secretary