

WILTON-LYNDEBOROUGH COOPERATIVE SCHOOL

WLCS BUDGET COMMITTEE MEETING & JOINT SCHOOL BOARD BUDGET SESSION

Tuesday January 29, 2019 – 6:30 p.m. in the WLC MS/HS Media Room

Committee Membership: Chair Leslie Browne (Facilities Committee Rep.), Vice Chair Christine Tiedemann, Secretary Lisa Post (Strategic Planning Committee), Pam Altner, Jennifer Bernet (Strategic Planning Committee), Kevin Boette, Dennis Golding (School Board Rep.), Edwina Hastings (School Board Rep.), William Ryan (Facilities Committee Rep.), Alex Loverme (SB Budget Committee Representative).

The Agenda was as follows:

1. Call WLCS Budget Committee to Order
2. Public Comment
3. Review and Approval of January 22, 2019 BC Meeting & Joint Session Minutes
4. Public Hearing Preparation
5. Other Business:
 - a. Period for Filing for Elective Office is January 23 – February 1, 2019 until 5 p.m. (RSA: 671:19, RSA: 669:19).
 - b. WLCS Budget/Bond & Notes Hearing is scheduled for Thursday, February 7, 2019 at 7:00 p.m. in the MS/HS Cafeteria (Snow Date: Friday, February 8, 2019).
6. Adjournment of Budget Committee

Attendees: *Leslie Browne, Christine Tiedemann, Lisa Post, Kevin Boette, Dennis Golding, Edwina Hastings, William Ryan.*

1. Chair Browne called the Budget Committee to order at 6:37 p.m.

2. No Public Comment:

3. Review and Approval of January 22, 2019 BC Meeting & Joint Session Minutes

A MOTION was made by Kevin Boette to accept the minutes as amended; Seconded by Dennis Golding. Voting: All Ayes with one abstention (Kevin Boette). Motion passed.

4. Public Hearing Preparation

Chair Browne prepared the Public Hearing Presentation with the help of Christine Tiedemann and reviewed with the Committee and asked if the Committee would like additional information put in to the presentation. There is an increase of almost \$130K over the last fiscal year which is approximately 1% and represents \$163K reduction from the SAU originally proposed. This is in line with the typical unexpended fund balances. We are just asking them to tighten the belt just a small amount. She reviewed what the Budget Committee is supporting, areas of increase in the budget and areas of decrease in the budget. We have to take into consideration State and Federal funding decreases due to decline enrollments and shifts in funding formulas. Mr. Boette suggested that we point out that to reach out to elected officials in Concord because the biggest impact to their taxes is from Concord balancing their budget and not funding things that they funded in previous years. They are not decreasing our obligation at the local level. The “net” impact on taxes was reviewed and discussed. Ms. Post suggested that we note on the slide that school taxes are 80% of their property tax bill. A discussion whether the statement was misleading or not and it was agreed the statement needs to be reworked and clarified. Regarding revenue, Ms. Post suggested that it should be explained that it changes year to year due to student enrollment numbers. Operating Budget was reviewed as mostly federally mandated and previously

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negotiated contracts. Chair Browne stated at this time we have control of \$685K. Contract negotiations need to be considered carefully. Our salary and benefits are huge and we need to hold administration accountable for making sure that they are hiring and paying for who and what they need. She felt the Committee has done a lot to support the school over the years and reviewed slides with the information to be presented. Minor corrections were made in these slides. Chair Browne will get the tax impact for Warrant Article #05 and Ms. Post asked that the work be show as to how the number was calculated. She will add an introductory slide and outline the process for this season.

Chair Browne reference Warrant Article 06 Change Apportionment Basis with 3-year rolling averages and obtained clarification that if we vote “no” we are stuck for 5 years. If we do not put up the warrant article we can visit it next year and she asked for a motion.

A Motion was made by Lisa Post to **not recommended and request that the Warrant Article 06 is removed**; Seconded by Edwina Hastings. Voting: All in favor. Motion passed unanimously.

Chair Browne said the School Board has not voted on our number but they hope to vote on it Wednesday before the Public Hearing. She did feel it was important that our numbers align for the District Meeting. Ms. Post felt it was important to show that the student enrollment numbers and Chair Browne indicated she will have additional slides prepared for enrollment, staffing and test scores if questions arise we will have the data to speak to it. Ms. Post asked that the final slides be sent out the Committee members.

5. Other Business:

- a. Period for Filing for Elective Office is January 23 – February 1, 2019 until 5 p.m. (RSA: 671:19, RSA: 669:19).
- b. WLCSD Budget/Bond & Notes Hearing is scheduled for Thursday, February 7, 2019 at 7:00 p.m. in the MS/HS Cafeteria (Snow Date: Friday, February 8, 2019).

6. The Budget Committee adjourned at 7:20 p.m.

A Motion was made by Christine Tiedemann to adjourn the Budget Committee; Seconded by Edwina Hastings. Voting: All in favor. Motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,
Lisa C.M. Post, Secretary