

WILTON-LYNDEBOROUGH COOPERATIVE SCHOOL DISTRICT

Budget Committee Meeting Minutes May 21, 2019

7:00 p.m. WLC MS/HS Cafeteria

Committee Membership: Jennifer Bernet, Kevin Boette, Leslie Browne, Dennis Golding, Jeffrey Jones, Adam Lavallee, Lisa Post, William Ryan, Christine Tiedemann, Jon Vanderhoof (SB Budget Committee Representative).

Meeting called to order by Chair Leslie Browne at 7:00 PM

Review of Minutes

Motion to accept minutes of April 10th, 2019 as amended by Leslie Browne, seconded by Adam Lavallee, passed unanimously

Committee Updates

Chair Browne noted the Facilities Committee planned a walk-through of the athletic fields on Tuesday, May 28 at 5:30pm (subject to change). Informal discussion of some ideas for land by the fields.

School Board liaison Adam Lavallee reported that a candidate for Business Administrator was interviewed at the School Board Meeting. He reported there are new teachers being hired as well as a district psychologist. There was discussion about the need to take more money out of the SPED trust fund and the cost of dental benefits.

Chair Browne informed the committee that a Food Service Committee is forming, and the SAU sent an e-mail to students, parents, and community members to volunteer to serve on the committee.

There has not yet been a Strategic Planning Committee meeting.

Dennis Golding volunteered to be the Budget Committee member on the Food Service Committee and was unanimously voted in.

Review and Discussions

Chair Browne announced there is a joint training session scheduled with the School Board Association on August 21 at 6:00pm for the Budget Committee and the School Board to learn about the roles of both bodies.

Chair Browne addressed goals of the Budget Committee for the upcoming cycle. Jonathan Vanderhoof says he thinks the whole budget should be presented at the School District meeting. There was a discussion of Excel v PDF formats.

Jeffrey Jones asked whether Superintendent Lane would come to more Budget Committee Meetings. Chair Browne said she would ask him after the committee clarifies which meetings he should attend. Kevin Boette said he thinks the best time is after the SAU presents their budget and the Budget

Committee has time to think about it and come up with questions. Christine Tiedemann asked whether the budget could be looked at section by section. Some discussion followed. There was discussion as to whether the Budget Committee should go to the School Board for the joint meeting, or the School Board should come to the Budget Committee meeting.

Public Comment: Students from Mr. Belanger's Government class at WLC HS were in attendance to observe the meeting.

Other Business

Adam Lavallee said he would like to see actual v. budget numbers for the district over the past 3 years in an Excel spreadsheet. Chair Browne reported money gets transferred among accounts. A Lavallee said that if he could get a history of transfers, he would look into the numbers. Chair Browne said she will ask for that information.

Lisa Post asked about money for service awards, which are part of the teacher's contract. There was a discussion about length of service time of teachers. Jonathan Vanderhoof reported he is on the negotiating committee and can address questions at their next meeting. Chair Browne said committee members could send questions to Mr. Vanderhoof and cc her. She noted that there are currently very few teachers who have been with the district from 12-20 years. Vice-Chair Ryan asked whether the School Board conducts exit interviews when staff leaves.

Chair Browne said the Budget Committee will not meet in June, but will meet in July to review the fiscal year that closes June 30. The next meeting of the Budget Committee is July 16, 2019 at 7:00 PM at the WLC HS/MS Cafeteria.

Motion to Adjourn, 8:00 PM: Kevin Boette, seconded: Lisa Post, passed unanimously

Respectfully Submitted,

Jennifer Bernet, Secretary