

WILTON-LYNDEBOROUGH COOPERATIVE SCHOOL

Budget Committee FINAL Meeting Minutes February 4th, 2021 6:30p.m. Virtual / WLC Library

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

Present: Leslie Browne (Chair), Kevin Boette (Vice Chair), Dennis Golding, Jeffrey Jones, Adam LaVallee, Lisa Post, Christine Tiedemann, Jennifer Bernet, Jonathan Vanderhoof (SB Budget Committee Representative).

1. WLCS Budget Committee called to Order by Leslie Browne at 6:31 p.m.

Warrant Article V

Chair Browne asked for feedback on warrant article. Jennifer Bernet asked whether the numbers were cumulative across the three years. Mr. Lane stated that the cumulative total increase was .68 cents.

Kevin Boette stated that he agreed with the position of the school board. Mr. Jones stated that he would support the CBA to stay competitive with other schools. Mr. Lavallee stated that he was concerned about the ability to attract talent. Mr. Lane described that much of the turnover over the last few years has been due to retirements. Mr. Lane also stated that the district would struggle to compete with other districts on the lower scale to attract talent on the lower end of the pay scale. Chair Browne stated that she did not feel this was the right year for the TA to ask for the increase they did, but she feels bad that if this doesn't pass they won't get anything. Lisa Post stated that she did not support the proposal as many in the community are out of work and struggling financially.

Chair Brown read the Warrant article.

A Motion was made by Kevin Boette to not support article as read, seconded by Lisa Post

Voting: 6 Yes (Kevin Boette, Dennis Golding, Leslie Browne, Jonathan Vanderhoof, Lisa Post, Adam Lavallee) -3 No (Christine Tiedemann, Jeff Jones, Jennifer Bernet), motion passes

2. ***Public Comment: None***

***A Motion was made by Kevin Boette to recess for public presentation, seconded by Christine Tiedemann
All in favor***

Committee Recessed at 6:59PM

Chair Browne called the Budget Committee to order at 7:12PM

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Chair Browne introduced the budget and reviewed the agenda. She then introduced the Budget Committee members.

Chair Browne presented the budget slides (posted on the SAU63 website) and reviewed the budget process and what the committee reviewed. She read the warrant article related to the budget.

Jeff Jones reviewed detailed information related to the decrease and increases within the budget.

Adam Lavallee presented information about student population, general fund and revenue.

Mr. Lane asked for public comment and there was none.

Kevin Boette talked about how pleased he was with the process this year. He also mentioned that the state has pushed a lot of the expenses down to the local level. Adam Lavallee reiterated the revenue has decreased substantially over the years and has been put back on people's property taxes.

Chair Browne read the Warrant Article V, VI, VII, VIII, and reviewed the impact if all Articles pass.

Public Comment

Fran Bujak 810 Center Road Lyndeborough- asked why the Budget Committee and School Board did not support the Teachers CBA. Chair Browne responded about the costs. Alex Leverme (school board chair) described what the School Board had offered in the process. Mr Bujak also asked about the unexpended fund balance and made the point that a significant amount was returned to the taxpayers last year and the CBA seemed reasonable. Kevin Boette responded that he didn't think this was the right year for the TA to take a stand.

Jonathan Vanderhoof pointed out that he was disappointed that the Board had to vote on the CBA after reading the Fact Finders report when the two sides were so close on negotiations.

Adam Lavallee stated he did not vote for the CBA increase because he felt the public would not support it.

Mr. Vanderhoof stated that the increase has a ripple effect to benefits and the NHTRS increase and the salary change is just one part of it.

Fran Bujak 810 Center Road Lyndeborough - Mr Bujak made the point that the insurance decreases in health costs offset the NHTRS.

Jonathan Vanderhoof stated that the language in the warrant articles should remove the "net" language. Brian Lane stated that the wording will be adjusted to conform with requirements.

Dave Miller (Trustee for Trust Funds) - Asked for clarification on Warrant Article 6 and 7, and the balance amounts presented. Brian Lane clarified that the balance has changed and the Business Administrator would be in touch with him to ensure the numbers are accurate for town meeting

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*A Motion was made by Kevin Boette to adjourn from budget presentation, seconded by Adam Lavallee
All in favor*

Committee adjourned from budget presentation at 8:12PM

Chair Browne reconvened the Budget Committee at 8:16PM.

Chair Browne asked if there was any discussion or change in vote from the Committee following public presentation and comments from the public. There was none.

*A Motion was made by Kevin Boette to adjourn, seconded by Adam Lavallee
All in favor*

Committee adjourned at 8:18PM

Respectfully Submitted,

Jeff Jones

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