

**WILTON-LYNDEBOROUGH COOPERATIVE
PUBLIC HEARING AND SCHOOL BOARD MEETING
Tuesday, December 17, 2019
Wilton-Lyndeborough Cooperative M/H School-Media Room
6:30 p.m.**

Present: *Matt Ballou, Miriam Lemire, Carol LeBlanc, Jonathan Vanderhoof (after Budget Co. mtg.), Mark Legere (6:31pm), Alex LoVerme (7:35pm), and Tiffany Cloutier-Cabral*

Superintendent Bryan Lane, Technology Director Mark Kline, and Clerk Kristina Fowler

I. CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Ballou called the meeting to order at 6:30pm.

II. PUBLIC HEARING-UNANTICIPATED REVENUE

Superintendent reviewed this is a public hearing held per RSA 198:20-b for unanticipated revenue in the amount of \$102,206 to be accepted and expended. New Hampshire State Legislature has increased the amount of Special Education Aid for the 2019-2020 school year in the amount of \$239,346. On page 45 of the WLC Annual Report from the last district meeting, the district budgeted \$137,087. This creates an increase in revenue to the district in the amount of \$102,206. Chairman Ballou asked for public input; none heard. Chairman Ballou closed the public hearing at 6:31pm.

*A MOTION was made by Ms. Lemire and SECONDED by Ms. Cloutier-Cabral to accept and expend an additional \$102,206 for the funding of Special Education Programs. **

Chairman Ballou asked for any board discussion: none heard.

**Voting: all aye; motion carried unanimously.*

III. PUBLIC COMMENTS

There was no public comment to report.

IV. BOARD CORRESPONDENCE

a. Reports

i. Superintendent's Report

Superintendent reported he has updated the Board regarding recent nursing coverage issues. On December 10 and 11 the nurse was available from 9:30-1pm only at FRES and a substitute in on Monday. Coverage is needed for about 3 weeks coming up and has been secured. There will be a transition meeting for the substitute to have knowledge of student issues. As part of an annual review he reviewed PD documentation for the teachers who are due for recertification this year. All but 4 have been approved and should all be set by the end of school year. The teachers who have been approved can apply for recertification and pay the fee after January 1. Any PD they have after this will go toward their next recertification in 3 years. A document has been provided regarding speech and language and will be discussed later in the meeting.

Chairman Ballou noted if there is any direction to be made to the Superintendent it should come from the School Board as it has been our past practice. Requests can be made to the Board and the Board can decide.

ii. Business Administrator's Report

Superintendent reported in Ms. Baker's absence that she has provided a total look back at the prior school year. The fund balance was negative \$893 due to food service, we didn't over expend our budget; still are compliant with the law. He reviewed the recommendations as a result of the audit including reviewing policies every 3-5 years. Ms. Baker has brought forward a request for the Wellness Policy to be addressed. A recommendation to review the food service fund to determine the cause of the deficit and consider presenting to voters a warrant to retain 2.5% of the fund balance; this is being discussed through warrant article discussions. Also a recommendation regarding expendable trust funds due to significant portions being spent down and an issue with the student activity funds which

has been dealt with and lastly, journal entries are reviewed by another member of Ms. Baker's staff which was not previously being done. Superintendent and Ms. Baker have discussed the recommendations at length. Superintendent confirmed that there were student activity issues in the past couple of years.

b. Letters/Information

i. Greenhouse Information

A request had been made to bring forward any curriculum for the greenhouse which has been provided. One is from the science department and the other is an interdisciplinary piece from the Spanish teacher Ms. Humphries. These are the only two that exist at this time. He confirmed the students are involved in a community piece at WLC and are enjoying it; started by Ms. Humphries. Superintendent voiced it would be appropriate to have the greenhouse costs addressed through the CIP and Facilities Committee. They could look at it and have the science department come in and speak to the Board to determine the viability.

ii. Wellness Policy Memo

Ms. Baker had provided a memo requesting the Wellness Policy be addressed by the Policy Committee to update and determine the best course of action. Superintendent reported there have been some specific changes such as foods that can and cannot be offered which are not within the current policy. He will provide a copy of the current Wellness Policy to the committee.

iii. Speech/Language Services

Mr. Pratt provided a memo regarding data on speech/language services as it relates to kindergarten. Superintendent reported data shows 1st grade did decrease by 1 student and as we grow, these numbers can decrease. If we have 1 hour less of units per week, that builds and the student doesn't need it in the years coming. There was a drop from grade 1 to 2. This seems to be having a positive effect. It is not financially significant; it's a trend going in the right direction. The more skills students get earlier, the less they need long term help and decreases our dependency on speech and language. Speech and language issues in preschool are speech issues, not language issues and most likely there for a long time. The improvement is coming from the language part. He confirmed if students coming in have an IEP from a prior district, that IEP comes forward and we have 45 days to make any changes but we have to fully implement the IEP. For students who do not have an IEP it takes some time to determine what they need. He confirmed this is connected to full day kindergarten and the reading program; grades 1-2 it is combination of a lot of things and the reading program go down to the kindergarten level.

VII. CONSENT AGENDA

There was no consent agenda to report.

VIII. ADJUSTMENTS TO THE AGENDA

A request was made to move the Strategic Planning report to the joint session with the Budget Committee.

A MOTION was made by Ms. Cloutier-Cabral and SECONDED by Ms. LeBlanc to move the Strategic Planning Committee report to the joint session with the Budget Committee.

Voting: all aye; motion carried unanimously.

V. 7:00PM JOINT BOARD & BUDGET COMMITTEE SESSION

Present: *Leslie Browne, Christine Tiedemann, Dennis Golding, Kevin Boette, and Adam Lavallee*

The joint session started at 6:52pm. The Budget Committee was already in session as they met prior.

a. YTD Expenditure Report FY 2019-2020

A summary sheet has been provided. Superintendent reports the fund balance is \$116,877.14. No adjustments have been made in encumbrances. He does not expect to see much change in this. On the website the request for "check by check" are available under Budget Information for the community to see. Chairman Ballou noted the YTD report (for revenue) does not include the \$102,206 (Special Education Aid) that was just approved at the public hearing. Superintendent agrees; it has to be included in revenue and will create a different fund balance. He confirmed YTD is for the current school year and we are not doing any budget transfers.

b. FY 2020-2021

Superintendent reviews the summary page for draft 4 which includes changes from draft 3. After a review of food service, we decreased the shortage by \$10,000. We will have a student move into the district in January who needs an ABA Therapist. This has been added this to the budget. You will see the increase. Salary of \$27,367 is a full year salary. In this school year it is not budgeted for full year. This position is 7.5 hours per day at \$20 per hour. Another change is we originally budgeted \$60,000 for retirees but have decreased that by \$20,000 as the date to notify us has

passed. Ms. Baker has met with the copier representatives and has decreased this by \$5,000. Overall there is an increase of \$19,414 due to adding the ABA Therapist. A question was raised what is the net expense for this. Superintendent confirmed CAT Aid (the only form of reimbursement) “kicks in” at \$49,000 and we only get a percentage. We may see \$6,000; the revenue will be adjusted along with the funds that were approved through the public hearing. The Special Education Aid will continue into next year; it is for 2 years. He noted there may be something that potentially could happen to offset the cost of the ABA Therapist but this is not confirmed. Superintendent confirmed on lines 832 and 846, cafeteria table for LCS are duplicated, only one is needed and should be in the school budget. A question was raised if the 4.2% increase over FY 20 includes the bond. Superintendent responded he doesn’t know the specific dollar figure from the bond but the increase would be the \$513,562 plus the bond. Increase in spending is approximately \$800,000. He believes food service is included in the totals. Chairman Ballou expressed that he wants to be sure our revenues are documented properly. He noticed under proposed budget revenues this year we have the \$184,811 and we just voted in the \$102,206 and that is not included and not in the FY21 proposed. Superintendent responded the budget would still be an increase. A brief discussion was had regarding if food service is being counted twice. On the proposed revenues it shows a transfer from the general fund of \$25,000 but it’s also in a line item within the actual budget. Superintendent will have Ms. Baker look at this. Concern was expressed that if we are not zeroing out every line item and starting from scratch every year we will have double entries. The question was raised how can we sure that there are not more things like that. Superintendent responded there is nothing else listed twice, both Ms. Baker and he are reading through it on a consistent basis. He has gone through it one line at a time and has not found any additional, he sorted by account number, by person responsible and by description. It was questioned if items are broken down by project code and then rolled up into object code. Superintendent responded he will find out from Ms. Baker. A request was made to have a list broken down by project code. Responding to a question what are the top 2 increases in the budget, Superintendent responded if look at the deficit from this year, it is salaries and benefits. It was noted that with the bond coming off, it is “kind of” a wash; plus, you have the additional revenues. Superintendent added that there are over \$150,000 in contingencies inclusive of SPED, health plans and about \$30,000 for technology. There will be specifics around software and securities according to the first trial of the technology report. Contingencies for technology are also something that had never been included in the budget before.

A discussion was had regarding what the community is saying and the need to get positive messages out as good things are happening in the schools. Positive and negative feedback is being heard in the community; there is some misinformation out there such as the schools closing. A suggestion was made to get people to come in and volunteer, have a grandparent day; reach out and let people know they are welcome in the school. It was noted having the district meeting on a Saturday at 9AM is difficult to get a babysitter for those who has kids.

It was suggested to break down the numbers with what our legal requirements are and what we are getting in funding from the State and what we are required to do. Superintendent explained when the SPED law was put into place (1972), as part of the law they would fund 40% but the government has never gone above 18%. If you look at our budget if we had almost triple federal funding, we would be able to do things in a different manner. Through his Superintendent Association they have lobbied around these issues but it has not been a priority. It was suggested the public be invited to hear from Principal Bagley and Ms. Edmunds when they present regarding the MS and ask if there are a few other things we can invite the public in for.

Superintendent explained increases in the SAU performance incentive line are due to the fact that funding for this should have increased prior as non-affiliated staff (not part of a CBA) were added such as ABA/RBT and in addition, FICA and NHRS were not included; it was just straight salary. Instead the amount of funds to this line did not change. This has been fixed by Ms. Baker and when she indicates we over spent the budget, that was an area. A question was raised if it came from the fund balance. Concern was expressed that the funds had to be taken from another place in the budget but where is the decrease reflected. It was noted this is why freezing lines is so important and there may be a lot of money left because of this; the School Board needs to watch it closely. Superintendent responded we were able to find funding last year in the PD account which was not fully expended. We used to send staff out for PD and now teachers are doing a lot that is grant funded. Dr. Heon has brought in about \$58,000-\$70,000 of grant funding. Also, there was not a lot of accountability to see that 3 people were attending the same workshop. It is required by the CBA to include it in the budget.

Confirmation was had that lines 403-485 are reflective of NHRS requirements which is different than payments to a retiree when a person retires, that would be considered a service awards. Line 705 (testing) indicates it is for STAR 360, is this correct. Superintendent responds the description is not appropriate and believes it should be PSAT testing.

He will confirm this. Superintendent confirms lines 746-747 are to continue the work regarding school culture and climate as recommended by NEASC; in the current year it is grant funded. It was noted Gale, used for online research, is outdated. Superintendent will look into this. A question was raised if there was a way to see how much each site was used; this will be looked into.

• STRATEGIC PLANNING REPORT

Ms. Lemire provided information regarding 2 items the committee has been researching. One is the School Resource Officer (SRO); they had been struggling to get associated cost. The committee did not vote on this. The second item they researched was what it would cost to live stream the meetings; there are a lot of options. A ball park figure of was given \$5,000-\$10,000 and is needed annually to livestream in an effective way. Cost is for equipment, broadcasting and archiving. The committee did not vote on this either. Discussion was had that there would need to be advanced planning with knowing the requirements, who is responsible, who stores it, how long does it have to be kept, and have policies in place. Ms. Lemire explained there are a lot of companies who do this and it varies, we could potentially “piggy back” on what the town does; there are options to make it less expensive. Some provide equipment and we would need to know from our technology person what is needed for the space. There was a concern that what the town has is not good quality. Ms. Cloutier-Cabral added there is a company that allows a free trial of the service and the representative also offered to do a teleconference and make herself available to discuss. The committee is looking for direction to move forward or not. Discussion was had that there is a lot of information on the website. It was questioned how many people will actually watch it, you are missing part of it if you do not attend the meeting and there is a long term commitment; perhaps wait a year and see if there is interest. Superintendent suggests when the technology plan is updated maybe that is a good place for this to happen to enhance or be helpful in that manner.

Discussion was had regarding the SRO and if there was support for it as a warrant article or in the budget or at all. It was noted in the past positions such as directors were on a warrant. It was expressed that it is put on a warrant, it can create a bad situation as you would need to have a warrant to remove the position. Superintendent will look into this to determine if that is accurate as his past experience indicates it is not the case. Ms. Lemire reports because of benefits the cost of an SRO can be about \$90,000-\$100,000 and would be split 25% by town of Wilton and 75% by school district. This includes benefits; the person would be employed by the Police Department. Chief Olesen had said that the cost included everything the officer needed (equipment, car etc.). A suggestion was made for 1 or 2 part-time officers may be more cost effective. Ms. Cloutier-Cabral added that the committee did look at other towns similar to our size and districts in the surrounding area and a lot of them have SRO's. They did interview other people from other schools, parents, students and teachers and the response was overwhelmingly positive. Ms. Edmunds did a survey and most of the students didn't know what an SRO was but once they did they were positive about it. An SRO can be a deterrent from vandalism and bullying. Ms. LeBlanc noted she believes an SRO is more specialized; has more advanced, specific training. It was noted this position is recommended by the NH Task Force. Ms. Cloutier-Cabral reported some smaller districts have one. The Police were called to WLC 7 times last year; the benefit would come from possible prevention and relationships. Superintendent reported by the cooperative nature of the articles of Agreement, the SRO would service both towns and if full-time, full-year they would be the employee of Wilton. Chief Olson had made a point that the towns assist each other. Discussion was had regarding a timeline to have it in the budget or warrant which is tight. All parties have to agree and there would need to be specific language. Superintendent reported it did not appear that Wilton has had conversations about putting this in the budget. It was suggested to have a plan/agreement with the town so that when next year's budget season starts in September it can be discussed. Superintendent suggested to discuss it with the town once the budget process is completed for both, town and school district in April, May or June and decide if it would move forward. This way it can be discussed throughout the fall to present. Strategic Planning Committee completed their tasks unless there is further direction from the Board. Mr. Vanderhoof is in favor to reach out to the towns ASAP for presenting this March regardless if it is a warrant or in the budget. Consensus was asked for from the Board on direction. A concern was raised if there is a contract, were any contracts reviewed to use as a template, do we know if any impact with Primex (insurance carrier) and have we researched cost of uniforms, radio, gas cost etc. Superintendent suggested with direction from the Board, that he meet with Chief Olesen and Mr. Branscombe, Wilton Town Administrator to have a preliminary conversation to discuss funding and bring information back to the Board and to poll the Selectman. Promote it to the community in the spring to see if there is a level of interest. Chairman Ballou voiced he would agree with the exception of speaking with the Selectman, this should be done at the Board level. Ms. Cloutier-Cabral volunteered to reach out to the Selectman. Chairman Ballou noted, looks like that is the consensus; no objection heard.

i. Warrants

Superintendent reviewed the warrant articles, the operating budget (no dollar figure) and the CBA he has only included one year at this time. Responding to a question, he hopes to have information on the CBA for the next

meeting. The Building/Equipment and Roadways Capital Reserve, the amount of \$120,000 is consistent with the schedule on the CIP for renovations to the bathrooms at WLC, dishwasher at WLC and sections of the roof at WLC. Concern was raised that the CIP schedule needs to be updated, by putting in the amount that is needed to do the projects each year is budgeting, it is not a true capital improvement plan and is not functioning in the way it should. Discussion was had about this and it was suggested the Facilities Committee review it. It was noted that there were items that have been added to the plan but the funding for it was not adjusted. Consensus was that the number for the warrant article cannot be finalized until the CIP is reconfigured. There was also discussion at the last meeting of adding the basketball retraction system and the greenhouse to the CIP but this has not been determined. The committee meeting this evening was canceled; it will be rescheduled. Consensus was had to table this; no objection heard.

The warrant article for SPED capital reserve shows \$130,000; the fund has been depleted significantly. This amount includes 2 out of district placements and one ABA Therapist. When the question was raised if the Board is comfortable with \$130,000 for the SPED warrant; objection was heard by one member suggesting to increase the number to \$150,000 and one member wishes to have it more solidified. It was suggested to have Mr. Pratt determine if the ABA therapists are 100% with the student only 80%. Superintendent noted he was looking at this. No objection was heard to remove out of district placements for \$1000,000 from the budget and have it in the warrant article.

The last warrant article is to determine if the school district wanted to put in place establishing a reserve fund, RSA 198:4-b II. This allows to school district to retain 2.5% of the unexpended funds at the end of the school year, similar to what the towns do. It can only be used for special circumstances and must be approved by the School Board, Budget Committee, DOE and Commissioner; you would not need approval of the commissioner to use it for tax relief. You could use it for example if the boiler broke if you had the needed approvals. The towns for example, if they had to purchase a fire truck, can choose to use the fund as revenue and make it cost neutral to the tax payers. The school district could do the same thing around teacher contracts, roofing, or capital improvement issues. Currently the entire fund balance goes back to tax payers; this gives permission to retain up to 2.5%. Discussion was had regarding the concept and that we are building contingencies in the budget; it may not be the year to do this. Superintendent confirmed it is interest bearing. Superintendent confirmed there is an effect on the tax rate, the retained amount would not go back to the tax payers because of this the tax impact is there is not a reduction and in itself there is an increase. He added there is a cap to the size of the fund. This is a School Board decision and would be good to have the Budget Committee's recommendation. It was noted, if we didn't have a fund balance, we could take some of the reserve to make the tax impact level. Superintendent agreed. This will be discussed again at the next meeting.

VI. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Mr. Fran Bujak spoke to recommend adding another warrant article to change the ADM 3-5 year rolling average. He spoke regarding the 2.5% reserve fund and believes this is the time to do it. The district would use it to fund itself and keep it flat, not have to go out to the towns and ask for money. You would give yourself the same ability the towns have, to use it to pay to keep the budget flat, (you and I don't see it as resident). When you are talking about a significant increase in the budget such as this year, you could use \$250,000 and not have the \$500,000 increase. You would be able to manage your own budget. This is the time to do it, to use it to offset taxes. Regarding the CIP, he voiced that Mr. Vanderhoof and Mr. Boette are correct, the plan was designed as they said to pay for long term things. The problem is that since it was created, there have been a ton of items that went in and the funding didn't go up. Regarding live streaming, he does not support this. He notes if you decided you wanted to continue down that road, put something out on a warrant that would give the School Board the authority to do this and the people can tell you if they want to spend it year after year or not. Regarding the SRO, the cost to outfit an officer is very expensive and in the end he does not believe it would not cost any additional funds. He strongly recommends not to do it. He adds the information posted on the website is phenomenal; he suggests adding an executive summary that would tell what the major change drivers are, what you are adding, changes in SPED and everything else. He voiced congratulations for a good job this evening.

Mr. Boette noted, regarding the reserve fund, that we pledged we would return the money and we absolutely should.

A MOTION was made by Ms. Tiedemann and SECONDED by Mr. Boette to adjourn the Budget Committee session at 8:51pm.

Voting: all aye; motion carried unanimously.

VII. SCHOOL BOARD VACANCY

Discussion was had regarding the recent vacancy of Mr. Clark from the School Board; it is only a month away from filing for candidacy. Consensus was had to table this.

VIII. ACTION ITEMS

a. Approve Minutes of Previous Meeting

A MOTION was made by Mr. Vanderhoof and SECONDED by Ms. Lemire to approve the minutes of November 26, 2019 as written.

Voting: all aye; motion carried unanimously.

b. Budget Audit Update

Chairman Ballou reported speaking with 2 business administrators who recommend using our existing auditors Plodzik and Sanderson; it would be more reasonably priced and they know our books. The ballpark price for a full 3 year look back is \$30,000 and that is for someone who knows our books. (Some issues have already addressed.) The big piece in the 3 year look back is reviewing the budget to actual variance and providing significant over or under accounts within the 3 years. They spoke of a much more focused audit, calling it an engagement; 3 year look back, look at some processes, reviewing policies, activates making sure in compliance and frequency of reporting to Board and Budget Committee. Cost for a smaller audit, reviewing budget to actuals and focus on FY 20 YTD activity, areas trending over or already over, best practice, budgeting, monitor open PO on this year cost is about \$5,000-\$7,500. In addition, looking to start in January and ending in mid-February, 30-45 days. They spoke to a forensic auditor and a CPA at the same time. The forensic auditor said the number of hours spent, you would have to have some inclining of malfeasance upfront and unless you were sure that was there, you would be wasting funds to do that. They are not interested in any RFP process or helping with the RFP. He notes this was a long phone meeting. Discussion was had regarding the options and if the members support either of the two options. Superintendent noted he is not sure the \$7,500 option would be sufficient for everyone but it would be a response. Chairman Ballou noted we are looking to see direction the Board would like to go in if any. Discussion included creating two warrants for the public to decide with language if one passes the other is void, being satisfied with the what they have heard, you would get more value out of the full audit, the \$7,500 will provide information that we already have and the warrant gives the public the option. It was noted there is a large population of people in the community that are saying, can we just move forward and don't want to spend additional funds. Discussion continued if the Board supports this or not. It was noted if the Board puts out a warrant, they are recommending it. It was also noted if it was a warrant and passed, it would not be acted on until July. Superintendent noted a petition warrant article is also an option for the public, it needs to include the dollar figure, they create it themselves and signed by registered voters and they present it. It was expressed that having the audit has been a topic of ongoing conversation and it has been recommended by the Budget Committee and this is the Board's opportunity to have it done. Mr. Vanderhoof noted if you just ignore it, he doesn't feel that is appropriate. Chairman Ballou responded, I don't think we are ignoring it, he has spent his time with the Budget Committee Chair and Vice Chair and they expressed they didn't feel it was necessary, they didn't want to spend 30,000. It was suggested to discuss it with the Budget Committee at the next meeting. It was noted, currently it is not a proposed warrant article but any Board member can make that motion. It was suggested to ask the Budget Committee if the lower cost option meets their needs; Chairman Ballou could ask the Budget Chair and there was consensus to do this.

i. Facilities

The committee meeting was canceled for this evening; a reschedule date will be determined.

ii. Budget Liaison

Mr. Vanderhoof reports the committee doesn't have a target number at this time. He reports they are not overall happy with the final number presented. They would like more information down to the project codes. They met with teachers and Mr. Pratt was present; spoke of process and received a lot of good information. He thinks it was a good idea to do it. He can provide more details if you would like. He believes after listening, there may be areas they are less likely to reduce. They won't support a replacement slide he doesn't believe. The committee briefly spoke of the SRO. There is not another scheduled meeting prior to the joint session. Chairman Ballou spoke that he attended the meeting and believed he heard them say it was a tight budget. Mr. Vanderhoof suggested the Board look at the list of items requested that are not in the budget and see if there can be some recommendation to swap things out. It was noted, we can't just say we don't agree. Superintendent noted the only thing he would advocate for is the half time person in the CBO. It was noted the committee had asked for a list of positions that could be cut and Mr. Vanderhoof was asked what that stemmed from. He responded, they wanted suggestions for cuts but they didn't want to limit it to anything.

He adds, draft 4 has adjustments for ABA and there is no expense reduction in there. That is the issue we are running into, we continue to try to reduce a budget without reducing any expenses. They are looking for options. He believes they think the budget is excessively high and the only way to move it is with staffing. Chairman Ballou noted, they can make suggestions but should not ask the Superintendent to create a list. A board member expressed if staffing is the only way to reduce the budget they would like to have a list of staff that are legally required. The public needs to know this is what we will be reducing and can come to a meeting to advocate for what they want. They need to know reducing staff has an impact. Mr. Vanderhoof, responding to a question, noted they did not target any other contingencies but they don't like the word. They feel there is more contingency in the budget than is listed.

iii. Strategic Planning

See above.

iv. Negotiations

Mr. LoVerme reported this will be discussed during the nonpublic session.

IX. RESIGNATIONS / APPOINTMENTS / LEAVES

There were none to report at this time; there will be at the next meeting.

X. BOARD BUDGET DISCUSSION

Mr. Vanderhoof noted the Budget Committee feels like there is stuff in there that never gets purchased such as a three-year plan for cafeteria tables. Chairman Ballou voiced we should have some alternatives if we disagree; I would like to agree. A question was raised if Ms. Baker can identify buffers in the budget. Mr. Vanderhoof responded he doesn't think they want to cut that thought, they don't want bare bones, strict budget, they want to cut expenses. Superintendent voiced for example, if there is \$10,000 in cafeteria tables, if we cut that they are gone. Mr. Vanderhoof confirmed yes, like that, that line is gone.

XI. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Chairman Ballou noted there is 3 minutes per speaker.

Mr. Fran Bujak voiced that from back here, you are struggling to do things you shouldn't have to do. How long was spent talking about the \$30,000 audit and those who want it don't want to spend any money. He agrees to put the contingency in and put it on the line it should be on. If you truly need the tables, you should buy them and put them in the budget. He hopes this School Board has worked with the Superintendent and if there is truly something that can be cut you know about it and you have the budget you truly need. You have a job to bring us a prudent budget and if you can't come to an agreement whatever that difference is be able to clearly articulate what it is and why. It is not our job to do forensic audits, its our job to talk to the people who know the schools. Articulate the true number; whatever that is. He asked if you want us to start calling the SAU to not have an audit we will. He recommends not getting sucked into the loud minority; how many people want an audit and how many people want to spend another \$30,000. It is unfortunate you are put in this position; your job is to put out a prudent budget. Let them go with a warrant if they want it.

Mr. Vanderhoof wanted to clarify if his report came off worse than it was. The Budget Committee is not looking to slash things the school needs but want to make sure the tax payer and the student are taken care of. They support the school and providing the best education we can afford to give the kids but also support looking after the people that pay the bill. They have concerns what it costs the community. Mr. Bujak noted, it's in their minutes.

XII. SCHOOL BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS

Ms. LeBlanc suggested having some recognition for Ms. Fisk at district meeting if she would allow us to do it. It was noted this would be appropriate.

Chairman Ballou attended the FRES holiday which was standing room only and was well done unfortunately they scheduled some things at WLC for the same night.

Ms. Lemire removes her request to have a list of staff instead asks to be proactively looking at what requirements costs; we have a better feel for where things are falling.

Ms. Cloutier-Cabral spoke regarding positive and negative news that she thinks it's a matter of perception; there are a lot of good things going on. She has seen this in the Ledger and the Cabinet. She expressed it was really nice that Ms. Edmunds created an arts booster club and there are some things to look forward to. As much negative news we hear, when we hear it we should let them know good is happening and we are not closing down the schools.

Ms. LeBlanc voiced we have a cheerleader in Jessie Salisbury and thinks we need to let her know; she will be there.

XIII. NON-PUBLIC SESSION RSA 91-A: 3 II (A) (C)

i. Negotiations

A MOTION was made by Mr. LoVerme and SECONDED by Ms. Lemire to enter Non-Public Session to discuss negotiations RSA 91-A: 3 II (A) (C) at 9:52pm.

Voting: all aye via roll call vote; motion carried unanimously.

RETURN TO PUBLIC SESSION

The Board entered public session at 11:02pm.

A MOTION was made to seal the non-public session minutes by Mr. LoVerme and SECONDED by Mr. Vanderhoof.

Voting: all aye; motion carried unanimously.

XIV. ADJOURNMENT

A MOTION was made by Mr. LoVerme and SECONDED by Ms. LeBlanc to adjourn the Board meeting at 11:03pm.

Voting: all aye; motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Kristina Fowler