

Finance Subcommittee
12/20/23
Minutes

Attendees:

Jeanne Downs, Chair

Erin Mueller

Susan Bottan, Director of Finance and Operations

Call To Order

Jeanne Downs called the meeting to order at 8:33 am. She noted that the meeting was being conducted remotely via Zoom and being recorded.

Public Comment

There was no public comment.

Discussion of FY25 Budget Book

Susan reviewed the outline of the FY25 budget book noting that it would be “in between” the longer versions of several years ago and the shorter versions of more recent years. Susan further noted that the incorporation of Full Day Kindergarten (FDK) into the budget will be fully explained. This year’s budget book will be online with links to various reports such as student enrollment and the Onsite Insite reports. Jeanne suggested adding a footnote highlighting the FY24 budget with and without utilities since it was moved to the town budget last year. Non-resident students and SpEd Out of District students’ data was discussed.

Susan noted that the budget book will also include other sources of funding such as grants, support organization funds, and revolving accounts.

Discussion of Possible Warrant Article for Full Day Kindergarten

Jeanne reported on her conversation with David Fleishman regarding a warrant article for FDK. Currently all but two kindergarten students are enrolled in FDK. Susan noted that the article would address the one year funding gap for FDK. Susan spoke to the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE) about funding the gap and DESE was not aware of districts being exempt from the funding gap. Susan also noted that there is no guarantee how much Chapter 70 funding the town will receive next year if FDK is incorporated into the budget, however DESE calculated that if FDK had been incorporated into the FY24 budget the town would have received an additional \$893K in Chapter 70 funding this year.

Matters Not Anticipated

There were none.

Adjournment

Upon a motion made by Jeanne Downs, seconded by Erin Gibbons, the School Committee voted unanimously (2-0) to adjourn at 9:16 am. A roll call vote was taken as follows:

| <u>Roll Call</u> | <u>Yes</u> | <u>No</u> |
|---------------------|------------|-----------|
| Jeanne Downs, Chair | X | |
| Erin Mueller | X | |

Respectfully Submitted,

Jeanne Downs