

BUDGET COMMITTEE

Town of Hollis

Seven Monument Square

Hollis, New Hampshire 03049

Ph. 465-2209 Fax 465-3701

FINAL Minutes of January 12, 2020

Meeting was held in the Community Room, Hollis Town Hall.

Zoom Meeting information, including URL and ID are available on the agenda for those who would like to video or phone in.

The Budget Committee was called to order by Mike Harris at 7:00PM.

Members present: Mike Harris; Mike Leavitt; Tom Jambard; Chris Hyde; Carryl Roy, School Board Representative; Mark LeDoux, Select Board Representative; Darlene Mann, School Board Representative

Officials present: Kelly Seeley, SAU41 Business Administrator; Bob Thompson, Superintendent of Student Services

No public input.

School Report

The next opportunity to change to/from remote will be at the end of January. Availability to switch from remote will be based on current in-person class sizes.

Review of the Budget

The SRO cost was incorrect in the budget, so they are now over guidance by \$5,300. K. Seeley requested an increase the relief from guidance by \$5,300 in order to finish the budget.

Motion to accept the modification to guidance and accept the \$5,300 by M. LeDoux and seconded by D. Mann. The motion PASSED unanimously 7-0-0 by rollcall vote.

M. LeDoux questioned how teacher retirement went from \$994,000 to \$1.21 million and K. Seeley replied that the NHRS rates went up about 22%. M. LeDoux suggests asking for more employer contribution so the taxpayers are paying as much for NHRS.

A new line item was made called the Self Contained K-3 Salaries, which is for special education. There will be a preschool teacher for those with special education, and this will add a teacher for special education for grades K-3. They were previously contracting out for a speech pathologist for \$75,000, but have now hired one for less money. Special Education aide that exceeds \$57,000, the state will reimburse a percentage of it, but none of the students qualified for it which effects revenue. M. LeDoux asked how many children are in special education and C. Roy replied that were 622 students.

B. Thompson stated that the services for pre-k cannot be mixed with those in grades K-3, which is a federal regulation. The school district is responsible for free and appropriate education, which includes transportation such as special buses for those who are in a wheelchair.

C. Roy stated that the school district will not be pursuing the bond for 4 Lund Land renovation at this time. A lease of some sort with the SAU will be discussed more, but C. Roy will keep the board informed of any future information. M. Leavitt will be looking into needed municipal spaces with 10,000 sq. feet.

CIP

The lighting project is finished, now they're sending out RFPs for future work.

The board briefly went through each of the articles in the budget, as previously discussed. There was also a brief discussion on if the SAU is allowed to accept money without public notification.

There is discussion to make the moderator position go from 1 year to 2 or 3 years, but they're looking in to it more.

Public hearing will occur on Zoom on February 9th.

Motion to adjourn by M. LeDoux and seconded by D. Mann. The motion PASSED unanimously by rollcall vote.