

Hinsdale, NH
January 16, 2013
Meeting 616

Present: Bruce Bellville, James MacDonell, Lewis Major, Bernard Rideout, Angela Schill (School Board), Peter Zavorotny

Excused: Dorianne Almann, Michael Carrier, John Hartnett, Morris Klein,

Absent: Joseph Conroy

Mr. Zavorotny called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm in the SAU 92 conference room.

This meeting was for review of the School District budget with the School Board and Administration.

SAU Superintendent Crisafulli and Business Manager O'Connor covered the highlights of the proposed budget and the district plans. They noted that even though the operating budget is down some \$163,000 from the current year's budget, the amount to be raised by taxes increases by around \$195,000. This is primarily due to an increase in local funding of the teacher retirement obligation mandated by the State and reduced direct state aid in the amount of some \$220,000.

Mr. Major voiced concern that a reduction in one custodial position might result in deterioration of the school. Dr. Crisafulli indicated that by changing hours, etc. this will not be an issue.

Mr. MacDonell commented that a reduction of some \$3,500 might be appropriate as that would bring the number below \$12,000,000 which changes the perception of higher spending.

Mr. Bellville asked for clarification of several items reflecting high percentage increases from the current budget. Mr. O'Connor noted that several of these were reclassification of costs and did not really represent an increase. Some did represent increases:

Audit costs increase due to new requirements.

ACA penalty represents a possible liability under the new health care rules which might be an issue depending upon whether district employees pursue district funding.

Gasoline costs increase for use of the new van approved last year.

Computer equipment results from needing new units to comply with state reporting requirements coming on line.

Substitute cost experience has been higher in recent years so the line is being increased accordingly..

Library book purchases are expected to increase as a new librarian brings things back to standards.

SAU software doubled due to a bookkeeping change. 50% is actually to be reimbursed by Winchester, so shows as an income line.

The School Board is still reviewing some items and has not yet completed action on articles including negotiations with the teachers. There was extensive discussion of the article allowing the district to hold some surplus money instead of returning to the Town. There is concern that this is not really necessary and the funds might be more useful returned to the Town. As noted, the School Board is still undecided about most articles.

In light of the low attendance and the School Board's need for further review, no action was taken, but it was noted that time is now short with the Public Hearing scheduled for February 6, 2013. All agreed this is tight and extra meetings will be needed to be sure work is completed on time. To that end, Mr. Zavorotny will be kept informed and will schedule meetings as required.

The next meeting is scheduled for January 23, 2013 at 6:30 in the Town Hall. Agenda is to review Town articles.

The meeting adjourned at 8:03 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Peter W. Zavorotny
Secretary Pro Tem