

Finance Subcommittee Meeting

September 20, 2017

Minutes

Present: Leroy Walker, Dr. Elaine Craghead, Margaret Eberhardt, Kristan Bagley Jones, Sheila Varela, Mary Gormley, Dr. Glenn Pavlicek, Janet Sheehan, Bob Pattison, Margaret Gibbons, Eric Karjel, Pam Dorsey

Meeting called to order at 7:15am

Capital Plan

The Subcommittee discussed the priorities of the Capital Plan. Although the highest priorities have been listed by the Facilities Subcommittee, it is uncertain that they can all be funded. Superintendent Gormley feels it is important to publicize this list.

Mr. Walker motioned to approve the Technology and Facilities Capital Plan.

Vote: 3-0-0

In response to questions raised at a previous meeting regarding buying new devices vs. leasing devices, Mr. Pattison explained that buying new devices made more sense than leasing at this time.

Fee Proposal

Dr. Pavlicek presented Athletic Director Eric Karjel's suggestion to reduce athletic fees. For example, one suggestion is to make the first sport fee free for freshman. Ms. Varela voiced her concern regarding the budget implications for reducing fees. It was discussed that a whole analysis would have to be done. Upon his arrival, Mr. Karjel added that the reduction in fees could increase participation in multiple sports. He referred to his memorandum regarding reducing fees, eliminating cap, etc. Superintendent Gormley will work with Mr. Karjel to complete an analysis with comparable districts regarding athletic fees. Ms. Bagley Jones noted that in a previous comparison, Milton was the 3rd highest in athletic fees.

Ms. Dorsey discussed the need to raise fees for the Community Schools Program. She presented a comparison to other programs in the area and explained that Milton has more options for parents. Ms. Dorsey presented a memorandum and chart of the proposed 2017-2018 fee increase. Mr. Walker explained that it should be made clear that the increase in fees will cover the increased cost of the program. Ms. Dorsey stated that there is an increase in enrollment and more children attend the Glover program. When asked by Ms. Eberhardt how much is needed to roll over the program each year, Dr. Pavlicek replied that about \$200,000 is needed and the budget is approximately \$400,000. Mr. Walker stated that when Community Schools' employees are paid the required overtime, there will not be an adequate roll over amount. Dr. Pavlicek added that Federal government programs suggest available cash on hand that cover three months of operating costs.

FY17 DESE Seven Category Adjustments

Dr. Pavlicek explained the breakout of how the additional \$1,000,000 from Full Day Kindergarten would be spread out. Mr. Walker stated that the bottom line comes out fine, but questioned about grants and reimbursements. Dr. Pavlicek gave an example of how a grant would free up an amount in a salary line or other expenditure such as a utility or in maintenance to reinforce an account. Mr. Walker stated that money can be moved between line items, but the amount of the line item does not change. Dr. Pavlicek agreed and explained how money is moved and how grants support the budget.

Superintendent Gormley explained that Dr. Pavlicek realigned the categories to show how we are funding expenditures over line item amounts. Costs of maintenance and technology are covered through staff exchange and increased IDEA and Medicaid funds.

Mr. Walker motioned to approve the FY17 Budget DESE Seven Category Adjustments.

Vote: 3-0-0

This document will be brought to the next School Committee meeting for approval.

FY18 Budget Calendar

Mr. Walker will schedule the November 9th School Committee/Warrant Committee meeting. December 14th will be the full budget presentation. Mr. Walker feels discussing the budget as early as possible is important since we would like the Selectmen to be involved in an override discussion by early November.

Purchase Order Process

The Purchase Order Process will be reviewed at the next Finance Subcommittee meeting.

Approval of Minutes

Mr. Walker motioned to approve the Finance Subcommittee Meeting Minutes of June 21, 2016.

Vote: 3-0-0

Meeting Adjourned at 8:15am