

Approved 12/14/2017

TOWN OF GILFORD
BUDGET COMMITTEE
PUBLIC MEETING MINUTES
December 7, 2017
6:30 PM

Members present: Timothy Sullivan, Sean Murphy, David Horvath, Harry Bean, Dale Channing Eddy, Norman Silber, David "Skip" Murphy, Chris McDonough, Dr. Leslie Suranyi Jr. and Susan Greene.

Members absent: S. Peter Karagianis (excused).

Chairman Silber called the Budget Committee meeting to order at 6:30 pm and in honor of Pearl Harbor Day asked veteran David Horvath to lead the assembly with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Chairman Silber announced Peter Karagianis was absent due to the death of his mother and let the committee know the time/place for her calling hours and services.

Approval of Minutes:

Chair Norman Silber asked if there were any errors, omissions or corrections to the 11/30/2017 meeting minutes. Sean Murphy made a motion to approve the minutes as presented; seconded by Dale Channing Eddy and passed with all in favor; (10-0)

Subcommittee reports:

Gilford Middle School: Sean Murphy presented the subcommittee report for the Gilford Middle School and discussed noted changes in the budget including decrease in salary for the aide/assistant, instructional equipment, student activity stipends, salaries for the summer programs, repairs, health supplies to name a few. These items were discussed in detail and Principal Peter Sawyer answered the committee's questions. Skip Murphy would like to know the cost of the flu vaccines. David Horvath asked if the School Administration provided a summary of the Teacher and Staffing Head Counts, 10-year history, to compare against the Student population. Superintendent Beitler will get this information. Mr. Silber inquired if there were any classrooms with no teachers. Mr. Sawyer said that teachers or special education uses all classrooms. Chris McDonough explained the teacher to student ratios and how those can vary based on subjects, etc. Mr. McDonough said the school board is looking out for taxpayers and that this year's budget is proof as it is down. Mr. Horvath asked if there was any historical records that projected student population for the building when built. Lengthy discussions ensued. Dale Channing Eddy made a motion to defer the vote on the Gilford Middle School budget as recommended by the subcommittee until they have the rest of the requested information; seconded by Skip Murphy and passed 9-1 (McDonough opposed).

Gilford High School Budget & 57 Accounts: Timothy Sullivan presented the subcommittee report for the Gilford High School in detail including student achievement curriculum terms, salaries, contractual services, athletics and Collective Bargaining agreements (CBA's) to name a few. Principal Anthony Sperazzo discussed these items as well as various others in detail. Principal Sperazzo answered the committee's questions. Skip Murphy asked at what point is enough, enough when it comes to the CBA's and pay raises. Chris McDonough stated that the School Board negotiates in good faith and the voters are the ones who approve the CBA. Discussion also ensued around the proposed special projects in the

maintenance budget like the roof, which is imperative. Mr. McDonough also told the budget committee that the School Board is trying to move in the direction of a merit system. Mr. Horvath asked if there were raises for 2017 in the CBA and asked when the next contract would be negotiated. Answer was yes and in 2020. David Horvath said he would like to see a budget committee member on the negotiating team. Discussion ensued regarding the Huot center, number of students who participated and the transportation for these students to the Huot center. Chair Silber stated that on page 9 of 11 under dues and professional services, he wants to see each of those in its own separate line items and indicated, if this is not done, he will recommend to the budget committee zero it out. Discussion ensued. Skip Murphy made a motion to request from the School all of the dues on page 9 of the GHS budget be broken into separate lines before the budget committee votes on this budget; seconded by Norman Silber who explained he would like these line items separate so that the budget committee can zero out if they choose. Chris McDonough said the School Board voted 5-0 not to separate out. Discussion ensued. Chair Silber called the vote. Motion passes, (7-2-1). Sean Murphy and Chris McDonough were opposed and Leslie Suranyi abstained. David Horvath made the motion to defer voting on the GHS budget as recommended by the subcommittee; seconded by Harry Bean and passed (8-2). Sean Murphy and Chris McDonough opposed).

Other items:

At the last meeting, Skip Murphy requested that in the Buildings and Grounds Budget, the list of special projects be ranked from most essential to least essential. Chris McDonough said the School Board discussed and felt all the projects are necessary and of priority. David Horvath asked why the painting of the GFS was not included in the bond; the bond was strictly for mechanical issues, not cosmetic.

Public comment: Mr. Roger Perry asked the School Administration about the student/teacher ratio in the high school and if there are contractual obligations regarding the size of the class. Chris McDonough stated that there is a policy in the School Board to have a maximum of 24 students. Discussion ensued.

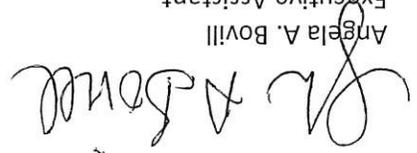
Next meeting

The next Budget Committee meeting will be on Thursday, December 14, 2017 at 6:30 pm.

Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 8:15 pm.

Respectfully submitted,



Angela A. Bovill

Executive Assistant