

**Newfound Area School District
Budget Committee Draft Meeting Minutes
Friday, January 12, 2018
Newfound Regional High School
Auditorium**

Budget Committee Members Present: John Jenness, New Hampton; Ruby Hill, Danbury; Christen Dolloff, Bristol; Gina Rescigno, Groton; Stan Newton, Hebron; Jeff Bird, Bridgewater; Jeff Levesque, School Board Representative,

Not Present: Skip Reilly, Alexandria

District Staff present: Stacy Buckley, Superintendent; Mike Limanni, Business Administrator

Called to order at 7:04.

Follow up/discussion from Budget Hearing

Ruby opened the meeting. She shared that there were no petitioned articles

Finalize and Approve 2018-2019 NASD Budget

Jeff Bird made a motion to accept the budget as presented. Seconded by Gina.

Ruby shared that she does not like the two parking lot projects. Gina asked about the \$100,000 that was voted into the fund last year. Mike Limanni clarified that those funds are for future projects and emergencies. It was originally established because there was no official plan, but now we have it in the instance of an emergency. The school board chose not to add funds to it this year because it was at an acceptable level. Ruby shared some history of the funds use such as the NMMS roof and underground oil tanks. Gina asked for confirmation that there are two funds, one for facilities and the other for emergencies which can be used only with budget committee approval and is discretionary at the end of the fiscal year in the instance that the budget has been exceeded. To illustrate, Stacy shared the example of spending the budget down to zero and then having to absorb the costs of a new special education student, which would be an appropriate use of the unused fund balance. Mike Limanni stated that the facilities fund more "safety" than "emergency." The fund can be funded by up to 2.5% of the budget at fiscal year-end. Mike shared that last year it was set at \$250,000, however, in order to offset the increase in taxes which was substantially less than 2.5%.

Ruby added that she spoke to some parents at both DES and NHCS. She's not against the projects, just against taking it out this year. Stacy shared that the CIP schedule is in jeopardy if not kept on track. Jeff asked if we have a capital reserve. We do not, but Mike shared that the improvements requested in the CIP actually fit into our budget. The districts goal is stabilization. Ruby clarified that the money put into the fund is only put in if it is left over at the end of the year. Stan asked for clarification that the default budget is less than the proposed operating budget this year.

Ruby called a vote on the motion. Motion passed, 6-0-0-2.

Recommendations on warrant articles

Article 4 – Operating Budget: To see if the Newfound Area Scholl District will vote to raise and appropriate as an operating budget, not including appropriations by special warrant articles and other

appropriates voted separately, the amounts set forth on the budget posted with the warrant or as amended by vote of the "First Session", for the purposes set forth therein, totaling Twenty-Three Million, Eight Hundred Thirteen Thousand, Five Hundred Ninety-Five Dollars (\$23,813,595)? Should this article be defeated, the Default Budget shall be Twenty-Three Million, Five Hundred Thirty-Five Thousand, Eight Hundred Thirty-Three Dollars (\$23,535,833) which is the same as last year, with certain adjustments required by previous action of the Newfound Area School District or by law; or the governing body may hold one special meeting, in accordance with RSA 40:13, X and XVI, to take up the issue of a revised operating budget only.

Motion to recommend the article was made by Jeff Bird, seconded by Christen Dolloff. 5-1-0-2 (Ruby Hill, Danbury opposed).

Article 2 – Expendable Trust Fund: Building Maintenance: To see if the Newfound Area School District will vote to raise and appropriate up to the sum of One Dollar (\$1.00) to be added to the Expendable Trust Fund: Building Maintenance, and to authorize the use/transfer in that amount from the undesignated fund balance available July 1, 2018 for this purpose?

Motion to recommend made by Ruby Hill. Seconded by Gina Rescigno. Motion passed 6-0-0-2.

Article 3 – Transfer of Hebron Village School Property: To see if the Newfound Area School District will vote to authorize the School Board to convey the land and buildings in Hebron currently being used as the town offices, being Tax Map 17, Lot 20, as well as the vacant land to the west of the town offices and easterly of West Shore Road that the district may have held an interest in being +/- 0.2 acres, to the town of Hebron on such terms and conditions as the School Board shall determine are in the best interest of the school district.

Motion to recommend made by Ruby Hill. Seconded by Jeff Bird. Stan asked for the history of how the district acquired the land. Stacy shared the history and the school in Hebron was closed in 1998, and the school board voted to give the property to the town, but the transfer was never actually made. We are releasing our interest in the property, if it ever existed. Stan asked if this is what is holding up the construction project to build a new town hall. Mike said that that may be the case. Motion passed 5-1-0-2 (Stan Newton, Hebron, opposed).

Ruby reminded the committee of the deliberative session February 3rd at 10:00 AM.

She also shared there is a hearing in Concord on the voucher bill next Tuesday if anyone would like to say anything to your legislator.

Gina Rescigno made a motion to adjourn. Seconded by Jeff Bird. Motion passed 6-0-0-2 and the meeting ended at 7:27 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kimberly A. Bliss
Budget Committee Clerk