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Newfound Area School District

Public Hearing Article 2 (by petition): Tax Rescission

Danbury Elementary School MPR

February 17, 2017 4:30 p.m.

School Board present: Jeff Levesque, Sue Cheney, Jason Robert, Sharon Klapyk

District Staff present: Stacy Buckley, Michael Limanni

Public present: Lucille Keegan, Bristol; Roxanne Winslow, Danbury

Jeff Levesque opened the hearing at 4:30 p.m. followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

The school board chair read the petitioned article 2 that rescinds the tax cap currently placed on the local education tax. He explained the school board is neutral so any opinions expressed are personal opinions. Jeff Levesque and Sue Cheney spoke in favor of the petitioned article.

Lucile Keegan, Bristol, introduced her reasons for submitting the petitioned article.

Roxanne Winslow inquired as to the purpose of the tax cap. Michael Limanni explained the 2% cap is on local assessment and not on the budget. Local education tax is one source of revenue and the state aid is another source but unfortunately, Groton has lost state aid this year.

Jeff Levesque said In addition to this loss of revenue, increases such as the cost of retirement forces the board to seek additional revenue. The tax cap on the portion of the amount that can be raised can impact what the board can do to maintain buildings.

Mike Limanni added that other towns with tax caps are also struggling to meet student needs.

Sue Cheney made a motion to adjourn at 4:40 p.m. Jeff Levesque seconded. ***Motion Passed***

Meeting was adjourned at 4:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Ruth Whittier, School Board Clerk