

Mt. Greylock Regional School District

Finance Sub Committee

Date: June 1, 2020

Location: via Zoom virtual meeting

Start: 4:03 PM

Adjourn: 5:13 PM

Per Governor Baker's order suspending certain provisions of the Open Meeting Law, G.L.c. 30A sec. 20, this meeting will take place virtually via ZOOM

In Attendance :

Committee Members:

Jamie Art, Regina DiLego, Carrie Greene

Others: Asst Supt/Bus Mgr Andrea Wadsworth, Towns Managers Jason Hoch (W) and Kelli Robbins (L), Lanesborough Town Accountant Amy Lane, Stephen Dravis- iBerkshires

- I. Call meeting to order at 4:03 pm Art noted that Supt Grady unexpectedly could not joint he meeting today.
- II. FY21 Budget Discussion: Art opened with summarizing the objective of the meeting as considering any potential shortfall in the FY21 budget as a result of reductions in state aid and other revenues compared to when the School Committee voted its FY21 budget. To that end, he turned the meeting over to Wadsworth. She reviewed the FY21 operating budget with various scenarios of a 5-20 % reduction in revenues. She met with the Administrative team (minus the Superintendent) to explore options for reductions and savings. She made recommendations for offsetting the shortfall from choice and tuition, thereby not impacting the requests from the towns as already presented. DiLego requested a review of the current balances in the revolving accounts, which Wadsworth provided. Greene asked if the towns will be looking for us to come in with a lower assessment. Art responded that there had been no indication of that to him at this point. Superintendent Grady (just home from the hospital) texted the group to remind us of the necessity of uploading a 1/12 budget to the state by end of day today. The Committee shifted gears and Wadsworth explained how the 1/12 budget works: 1/12 of the FY20 budget is allocated for expenditures each month until a budget is voted by the towns. Any monies not spent in a given month roll to the next month. In our case, since the budget is relatively flat from FY20 to FY21, there will be minimal impact to us from this method of operating. There is no vote required – Admin simply wanted us to see what that would look like and why/how it is done. Wadsworth noted that any change we make to the budget after the towns vote it requires a revote of the towns. Greene asked if this was true even if the budget is reduced to which Wadsworth responded yes. DiLego noted that this would only apply if the assessments are impacted – not if choice or tuition is impacted. Wadsworth agreed. Art asked the town managers if they believe there will be a request to reduce. Robbins said there is the potential consideration

for requesting a reduction in the assessment. Hoch stated that there is currently no ask right now. He noted that the challenge is the timing of all of this. In response to a question from Art, Hoch stated that he is unsure at this point when Williamstown's town meeting will occur. Robbins noted that the revolving fund sheet presented by Wadsworth was helpful, and requested it be sent to the Town Managers. Hoch mentioned examining grant funding and if reductions there warrant similar reductions in programs offered instead of backfilling. Wadsworth explained that our grants from FY 19 rolled to FY20 so she is able to use FY20 for FY21 to eliminate a backfilling situation. Art noted that although we examined the revenue side and potential cuts there, we also need to consider any increases to spending because of mandates around reopening in the fall. Wadsworth said that the reopening committee is meeting with the Superintendent on Wednesday to discuss scenarios and plans. Greene asked about athletics and any guidelines there for the fall. Wadsworth said no recommendations have come forth to date. The full Committee will look at these documents on Thursday and more discussion will happen then. Lanesborough is discussing postponing its Town meeting which is currently set to happen June 9th. Any change in their meeting extends the timeline to make changes if necessary. Art felt the consensus of the Subcommittee is comfort with the 1/12 budget and it is ready to be uploaded to the state. Greene and DiLego agreed.

- III. Other business not anticipated by the Chair within 48 hours of the meeting : None
- IV. Greene moved to adjourn at 5:13 pm. Art seconded. Greene aye, DiLego aye, Art aye.

Respectfully submitted by Regina DiLego