

REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 7
BARKHAMSTED ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
BOARD OF EDUCATION MINUTES

April 4, 2024 – Immediately following the Barkhamsted Informal Budget Presentation

MOTIONS

PRESENT: Chair Ms. Molly Sexton Read (B), Vice-Chair Mr. Robert Jerram (NH), Ms. Deborah Bell (N), Ms. Kim Crone (N), Ms. Mary Duran (B), Ms. Theresa Kenneson (C), Superintendent Steven K. LePage, Director of Finance & Operations Mr. James Gaskins.

Absent: Secretary/Treasurer Mr. Noel Gauthier (NH), Ms. Lisa Fragale(C),

CALL TO ORDER: Ms. Sexton Read called the Board of Education meeting to order at 7:38 p.m.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION by Ms. Kenneson, seconded by Ms. Bell, to **APPROVE** the March 27, 2024, Board of Education Second Informal Budget Presentation- Norfolk Meeting Minutes, as presented. **AYE:** Ms. Sexton Read, Mr. Jerram, Ms. Bell, Ms. Crone, Ms. Duran, Ms. Kenneson. **NAY:** None. **ABSTAIN:** None. **MOTION PASSED.**

MOTION by Mr. Jerram, seconded by Ms. Crone, to **APPROVE** the March 27, 2024, Regular Board of Education Meeting Minutes, as amended. **AYE:** Ms. Sexton Read, Mr. Jerram, Ms. Bell, Ms. Crone, Ms. Duran, Ms. Kenneson. **NAY:** None. **ABSTAIN:** None. **MOTION PASSED.**

Budget Update 2023-2024 – Mr. Gaskins expressed that the salary line for the 2023-2024 budget is in deficit due to new hires being hired over the budgeted salary for the particular positions. Due to this situation, the special education outplacements, the shortfalls in the tuition, AG-ED state funding shortfalls, and the excess cost grant shortfalls, Mr. Gaskins is recommending a spending freeze for all RSD#7 departments for the rest of the 2023-2024 school year. A brief discussion followed.

NEW BUSINESS

Adoption of the RSD#7 2024-2025 Budget to take to Annual Regional Budget Hearing

MOTION by Mr. Kenneson, seconded by Ms. Crone, to **ADOPT** the RSD#7 2024-2025 Budget of \$24,270,092, representing a 3.47% increase above the 2023-2024 Adopted Budget to take to the Annual Regional Budget Hearing on Monday, April 22, 2024 at 7:00 p.m. in the Roberta S. Ohotnicky Little Theater. **AYE:** Ms. Sexton Read, Mr. Jerram, Ms. Kenneson, Ms. Bell, Ms. Crone, Ms. Duran. **NAY:** None. **ABSTAIN:** None. **MOTION PASSED.**

Approval of BOE Transfers

MOTION by Ms. Duran, seconded by Ms. Bell, to **APPROVE** the BOE Transfer report dated 1/1/24 to 3/31/24, as presented. **AYE:** Ms. Sexton Read, Mr. Jerram, Ms. Kenneson, Ms. Bell, Ms. Crone, Ms. Duran. **NAY:** None. **ABSTAIN:** None. **MOTION PASSED.**

CORRESPONDENCE

Erick Wildes – Letter of Resignation

MOTION by Ms. Kenneson, seconded by Ms. Crone, to **ACCEPT** Mr. Wildes's letter of resignation with regret and appreciation, as presented. The RSD#7 BOE greatly appreciates Mr. Wildes twenty years of service to the RSD#7 students, staff and the community with sincere gratitude and wishes him all the best.

AYE: Ms. Sexton Read, Mr. Jerram, Ms. Kenneson, Ms. Bell, Ms. Crone, Ms. Duran. **NAY:** None. **ABSTAIN:** None. **MOTION PASSED.**

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION by Ms. Kenneson, seconded by Ms. Crone, to **ADJOURN** at 8:13 p.m. **AYE:** Ms. Sexton Read, Mr. Jerram, Ms. Bell, Ms. Crone, Ms. Duran, Ms. Kenneson. **NAY:** None. **ABSTAIN:** None. **MOTION PASSED.**

The next meeting will be on April 22, 2024~ the Regional Budget Hearing in the RSD#7 Little Theater at 7:00 p.m. A Regular BOE Meeting will immediately follow.

Respectfully submitted,

Diane Barrett
Board Clerk