

Monadnock Regional School District (MRSD)
EMERGENCY MEETING
School Board Meeting Minutes
January 23, 2024
ZOOM, Swanzey, NH

Members Present: Kristen Noonan, Betty Tatro, Lisa Steadman, Scott Peters, Stephanie Lawlor, Cheryl McDaniel-Thomas, Jeff Cesaitis, Gina Carraro and Jennifer Strimbeck. **Absent:** Eric Stanley, Dan LeClair, Brian Bohannon and Ed LaPlante.

Administration Present: J. Rathbun, Superintendent and J. Morin, Business Administrator.

1. **CALL TO ORDER:** S.Peters called the meeting to order at 7:00PM. He explained that this Emergency Meeting was called to order only for certain issues, the warrant, the manifest and a non-public session. These items can not wait until the next regular Board Meeting. The last meeting was canceled due to the weather.

2. **Public Comments:** There were no public comments.

3. **MATTERS THAT REQUIRE BOARD ACTION:**

a. **Warrant Articles:** L. Steadman explained that at the Budget Committee Meeting the committee reduced the proposed budget by \$200,000.00. They felt that there is wiggle room in the proposed budget. D. Coffman felt with the number of vacancies being filled there might not be so many subs. The Budget Committee would like to have a united front with the Board regarding their proposed budget. **MOTION:** L. Steadman **MOVED** to support the revised proposed budget warrant article in the amount \$37,750,000.00 for the 2024/25 year. **SECOND:** B. Tatro. **DISCUSSION:** J. Morin explained that there was a change in an out of district tuition transportation which would help with half of the \$200,000.00 which the district would need to find and the other half would be in the reduction of salaries and benefits. They are not reducing positions. This reduction will change the bottom line. She said that typically she would not suggest this but she felt it would be okay. She explained that not all of the new teachers hired will be a Master 7 and require a 2-family health benefits. The administration is willing to take the risk. The administration does not want to reduce positions. She did say she will not do this any other year. K. Noonan said it is very frustrating that the Budget Committee is working this way. It is not good budgeting to force us to cut for the sake of cutting. She is proud of the administration for finding the funds. C.McDaniel-Thomas commented that the 1 million warrant article has been absorbed in the budget. We are being asked to reduce but feel a little disappointed that they did not realize that the million plus warrant article was absorbed. S.Peters said he does not see any wisdom in not supporting. **VOTE:** 8.487/0/0/4.513. **Motion passes.**

b. Manifest: J. Morin would invite Board Members to come to the SAU and sign the warrant and also the manifest. **MOTION:** S.Peters **MOVED** to approve the manifest in the amount of \$1,265,802.09. **SECOND:** S.Lawlor. **VOTE:** 8.487/0/0/4.513. **Motion passes.**

4. Public Comments: S.Lawlor said she was asked to get clarification. She asked if the 2 staff members retiring and not being replaced in the budget were regular education teachers. J.Rathbun said yes.

5. Enter into Non-Public Session under RSA 91-A:3-II (c) Matters which, if discussed in public, would likely adversely affect the reputation of any person, other than a member of the public body itself, unless such person requests a meeting. MOTION: K. Noonan **MOVED** to enter into Non-Public Session under RSA 91-A:3-II (c) Matters which, if discussed in public, would likely adversely affect the reputation of any person, other than a member of the public body itself, unless such person requests a meeting. **SECOND:** L.Steadman. **VOTE:** 8.487/0/0/4.513. **Motion passes.**

6. ADJOURNMENT: MOTION: K. Noonan **MOVED** to adjourn the meeting at 7:39 PM. **SECOND:** C.McDaniel-Thomas **VOTE:** 8.487/0/0/4.513. **Motion passes.**
Respectfully submitted,

Laura L. Aivaliotis
Recording Secretary

VOTING KEY:Yes/No/Abstain/Absent