

Monadnock Regional School District

Budget Committee Meeting Minutes

May 28, 2019

Monadnock Regional MS/HS Annex, Swanzey, NH

Members Present: Wayne Lechliden, Dan Coffman, Adam Hopkins, Brian Bohannon, School Board Rep., Meghan Foley, JoAnne Daris, Douglas Bersaw, Tom Matson and Wayne LaCoste. **Absent:** Thomas Parker, Jillian Exel, Open Seat for Swanzey and Open Seat for Gilsum.

Also Present: L. Aivaliotis, Recording Secretary.

1. Public Comments: K. Wheeler thanked the members of the Budget Committee who attended the Feasibility Meeting.

2. Approval of the April 23, 2019 Meeting Minutes: MOTION: A. Hopkins **MOVED** to approve the Budget Committee Meeting minutes of April 23, 2019 as presented. **SECOND:** D. Coffman. **VOTE:** D. Bersaw-abstain, JoAnne Daris-abstain and unanimous for remaining members. **Motion passes.**

3. Budget Oversight:

a. MRSD Monthly Expense Report: W. Lechliden passed out the Monthly Expense Report provided by the administration.

b. What major transfers occurred since the last meeting? B. Bohannon explained the Board approved a transfer in the amount of \$13,155.00 for a floor scrubber. The Board also approved the following items to be funded with the surplus: ELA Reading program in the amount of \$195,293.61 for grades K-6, a tractor in the amount of \$34,000.00, a truck with a plow in the amount of \$39,452.00 and painting of the halls, lockers and door trim at the MS/HS in the amount of \$76,600.00.

c. What major expenses are anticipated for next month? There are no major expenses anticipated for next month.

d. Early Retirement Offer? W. Lechliden mentioned the letter regarding early retirement. This is a budgeted item.

4. Motions from April Meeting (Administration communication and clarification):

a. Motion 1: Use the three-year average spend to create the proposed operating budget:

b. Motion 2: Adm. provide 2019-2020 line by line budget approved by the voters in March 2019 by June Meeting: D. Bersaw commented when we look at the new budget and look back at the budget it may not be apples to apples with the corrected codes. B. Bohannon commented we have a new Business Administrator and the new software is coming in January.

c. Motion 3: Adm. provide Default Budget for the September meeting with all changes and footnotes for any changes: The Budget Committee discussed the Default for September and at that time the GMR will not be back. They decided to ask the administration for the information in November. **MOTION:** A. Hopkins **MOVED** to request from the administration a preliminary calculation of the default number for our November 2019 meeting. **SECOND:** B. Bohannon. **DISCUSSION:** D. Coffman said to make the request known and have the administration improve on their efforts. The GMR and the lane changes were an issue. B. Bohannon asked what is the harm with doing everything except the GMR and the lane changes. W. Lechliden said it will be black and white if we wait until November. T. Matson would agree. **VOTE:** B. Bohannon-yes, D. Bersaw-no, W. Lechliden-yes, A. Hopkins-yes, J. Daris-yes, W. LaCoste-yes, T. Matson-yes, M. Foley-yes, D. Coffman-yes. **Motion passes.**

d. Budget Book: (two sets of data per cost center): The Budget Committee is still looking for the staff cover sheets. B. Bohannon explained the auditors said not to do anything by hand. D. Coffman said it is pretty accurate, the payroll. The information they need is the name, position, subject and building code. We cannot see how we value our employees. We want to see the pay for those who work hard or do not. T. Matson asked is the Troy teachers are paid differently than other schools in the District. That information should be available school by school. T. Matson would like to see a detailed budget for every school. W. LaCoste commented the administration is dragging their feet. This could be done in an hour. D. Coffman said the administration may think there are other reasons for this information. M. Foley suggested the payroll and W. Lechliden said he would like the information in a form we are accustomed to. **MOTION:** W. LaCoste **MOVED** to request 2 sets of data per cost center for the June 25,

2019 meeting. **SECOND:** D. Bersaw. **DISCUSSION:** B. Bohannon suggested if you have asked for information and are not getting it possibly ask in another way. W. Lechluder said he can see the writing on the wall. They do not want to be here and we do not have the right to request them to be here. They will not be happy with the fallout. He said he has seen more disrespect in prior years. He thinks they do not like the questions being asked. J. Daris asked if there is a way to fix this. D. Coffman said there is a believe that this is an unnecessary body. They are giving us the minimum. There are some issues that the administration feel are not important. W. Lechluder said he gets along with the School Board but there are difference of opinions. The comment about the principal was the issue. W. LaCoste commented on the fact there was the issue about disbanding the Budget Committee. W. Lechluder said it was not the administration. W. LaCoste does not know who did it. **VOTE:** B. Bohannon-no, D. Bersaw-yes, W. Lechluder-yes, A. Hopkins-yes, J. Daris-yes, W. LaCoste-yes, T. Matson-yes, M. Foley-yes and D. Coffman-yes. **Motion passes.**

5. Administration Report: The administration is not present.

6. Budget Committee Schedule: June 25, 2019 is the next meeting. The Budget Committee will not be meeting in July or August.

7. Any other items the committee wishes to discuss: T. Matson commented it would make sense to put the surplus in a Capital Reserve. D. Bersaw said you would need a warrant article. W. Lechluder said we should not have a surplus. T. Matson suggested putting the entire surplus in a Capital Reserve. W. LaCoste commented why as a Budget Committee are we discussing this. It is not logical. B. Bohannon commented the surplus should not exist. W. LaCoste said a \$400,000.00 surplus is good budgeting but a \$3,000,000.00 surplus you should be run out of town.

It was commented the relationship with the administration is broken. B. Bohannon would suggest extending an olive branch and sit down with the administration. We are looking to repair and work through the issues. W. Lechluder said point taken. Ask them to show up at the June meeting. L. Witte and J. Swanson need to come and repair this. There is no progress being made. D. Coffman said the Board should instruct the administration to attend the meetings. B. Bohannon said it would not be constructive if we told her to go. It may take a conversation. W. Lechluder said he does not believe she cares for this format. B. Bohannon commented anytime you avoid conflict it will stop from making

progress. W. LaCoste said it is like we are accepting blame. No one was mistreated, people need to grow up and do their job. M. Foley asked if the administration did not like our questions about the warrant articles. W. Lechluder said they are not responsible for the warrant articles. W. LaCoste said it was not implied. D. Coffman said the warrant is a result of this issue. T. Matson would like to invite L. Witte to the next meeting to review her contract. J. Daris said she did not like the meeting when this all started. She is new to the Budget Committee, this is a learning experience and someone needs to take the first step. W. Lechluder will call L. Witte and invite her to the June meeting. B. Bohannon will contact the administration as well and invite them. D. Coffman said the information we receive from them is important.

It was commented to create trusts for any future projects.

8. **Superintendent's Comments:** The Superintendent is not present.
9. **Chairperson Comments:** There were no additional comments.
10. **Public Comments:** There were no public comments.
11. **Motion to adjourn: MOTION:** D. Coffman **MOVED** to adjourn the meeting at 8:26 PM. **SECOND:** T. Matson **VOTE:** Unanimous for those present. **Motion passes.**

Respectfully submitted,

Laura L. Aivaliotis
Recording Secretary