

AMESBURY SCHOOL COMMITTEE BUDGET FINANCE SUBCOMMITTEE MEETING OF THE WHOLE
February 1, 2021

(Meeting conducted under the Executive Order Suspending Certain Provisions of the Open Meeting Law G.L. c.30A, Section 20, signed on March 12.2020)

Present at 5:35 p.m. were Mel Webster, Chair; Maryann Welch, Abigail Jurist Levy, Mayor Gove, Kate Currie, Peter Hoyt, Joan Liporto, Director of Finance and Operations and Elizabeth McAndrews, Acting Superintendent of Schools. Elaine Bucher arrived at 5:39 p.m.

Mr. Webster called the meeting to order at 5:35 p.m.

Acting Superintendent Elizabeth McAndrews and Director of Finance and Operations Joan Liporto presented the preliminary Fiscal 2022 budget. The budget represents a 3.14% increase over the fiscal 2021 budget and supports level services. The total proposed budget is \$37,582,090, with the city being asked to appropriate \$34,528,113 of that total.

In response to a question, Ms. Liporto revealed that the district will receive approximately \$925,000 in COVID-19 relief funds from the Federal and state government. The almost \$90,000 from the state has to be spent by the end of fiscal 2021, while the Federal funds can be spent through the end of Fiscal 2022.

After the presentation, Mr. Webster noted that budget workshops would be scheduled over the next 6 weeks to get the budget into form for an April vote.

The subcommittee of the whole then briefly discussed implementing a transportation fee for the remainder of this school year. By unanimous consensus, the committee decided to not impose a fee due to the ongoing uncertainty created by COVID-19.

Finally, by a unanimous vote of 7-0, the subcommittee voted to recommend the school committee approve budget transfers as requested by Ms. Liporto. The motion to approve was made by Ms. Currie and seconded by Ms. Welch.

At 6:43 p.m., a motion to adjourn was made by Mr. Hoyt, seconded by Ms. Welch and approved unanimously.