

Timberlane Regional School Board

Atkinson, Danville, Plaistow and Sandown
New Hampshire

Public Hearing
January 11, 2011

Performing Arts Center
Plaistow, NH

Call to Order

At the Performing Arts Center in Plaistow, NH Mrs. Michelle O'Neil, Budget Committee Chairperson called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

Budget Committee Roll Call

Heidi Chaput, Michele Conte, Len Mullen, Michele O'Neil, Catherine Rothford. **Absent:** Charles Balanoff, Norman Bouchard, Cathy Lisi and Christine Maffeo.

Timberlane Regional School Board Roll Call

Lori Aubrey, Robert Collins, Madam Chair Kosta, Michael Mascola, Louis Porcelli and Lisa Withee. **Absent:** William Baldwin, John Paone and Nancy Steenson.

Administrators in attendance:

Richard La Salle	Superintendent of Schools
George Stokinger	Business Administrator
Nancy Danahy	Director of Human Resources

Michelle O'Neil led the assembly in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mrs. O'Neil reviewed the presentation agenda noting that the process, budget, default budget and warrant will be reviewed.

Budget Process

Mrs. O'Neil informed the public that the process begins at the building level with Administrators and Directors. The budget is then forwarded to the Superintendent who is the liaison to the School Board and Budget Committee. The School Board and Budget committee then moved the proposed budget in the form of a warrant to the public hearing and deliberative session. The warrant is then presented to the public for their consideration via the voting process.

Mrs. O'Neil then reviewed the budget requests and major drivers to the overall budget; she concluded with the comparison of the proposed budget to the default budget.

Review of the proposed Warrant and 2011-2012 Budget

Mrs. O'Neill then read the following

To the inhabitants of the School District of the Towns of Atkinson, Danville, Plaistow, and Sandown, New Hampshire, qualified to vote in District affairs:

First Session of Annual Meeting (Deliberative)

You are hereby notified to meet at the Timberlane Performing Arts Center, Greenough Road, Plaistow, New Hampshire, on Thursday, the 10th day of February 2011, at 7:00 p.m. This session shall consist of explanation, discussion, and debate of warrant articles number 2 through number 5. Warrant articles may be amended subject to the following limitations: (a) warrant articles whose wording is prescribed by law shall not be amended and (b) warrant articles that are amended shall be placed on the official ballot for a final vote on the main motion, as amended.

Second Session of Annual Meeting (Voting)

Voting on warrant articles number 1 through number 5 will be conducted by official ballot to be held in conjunction with town meeting voting to be held on Tuesday, the 8th day of March, 2011, at the Town election polls in Atkinson, Danville, Plaistow, and Sandown, New Hampshire

Atkinson Voters Voting will be conducted at the Atkinson Community Center from 7am -8pm

Danville Voters Voting will be conducted at the Danville Fire Association Hall from 8am-7pm
 Plaistow Voters Voting will be conducted at Pollard School from 7am-8pm
 Sandown Voters Voting will be conducted at the Sandown Town Hall from 8am-8pm

Article 1 - Election of Officers (March 8th only)

To choose the following school district officers:

Atkinson Voters	School Board Member	3-Year Term
Danville Voters	School Board Member	3-Year Term
Plaistow Voters	School Board Member	3-Year Term

Atkinson Voters	Budget Comm. Member	3-Year Term
Danville Voters	Budget Comm. Member	3-Year Term
Plaistow Voters	Budget Comm. Member	3-Year Term
Sandown Voters	Budget Comm. Member	2-Year Term

Article 2 – Operating Budget

Shall the Timberlane Regional School District raise and appropriate as an operating budget, not including appropriations by special warrant articles and other appropriations voted separately, the amounts set forth on the budget posted with the warrant or as amended by vote of the first session, for the purposes set forth therein, totaling **\$62,437,055**? Should this article be defeated, the operating budget shall be **\$62,708,119** which is the same as last year, with certain adjustments required by previous action of the Timberlane Regional School District or by law; or the governing body may hold one special meeting, in accordance with RSA 40:13, X and XVI, to take up the issue of a revised operating budget only. Note: Warrant Article 2 (the operating budget) does not include appropriations proposed under any other warrant articles. (MAJORITY VOTE REQUIRED)

Article 3- Capital Reserve Fund

Madam Chair Kosta of the Timberlane Regional School Board read articles three, four and five;

Shall the Timberlane Regional School District raise and appropriate up to **\$200,000** to be placed in the School Building Construction, Reconstruction, Capital Improvement and Land Purchase Capital Reserve Fund established in 1996, with such amount to be transferred from the June 30, 2011 undesignated fund balance (surplus) available for transfer on July 1 of this year? (MAJORITY VOTE REQUIRED)

(The funds for this article come from the 2010-2011 school budget surplus, not from additional taxes.)

Mr. Stokinger explained the amount that is requested to be placed in the School Building construction, Reconstruction, Capital Improvement and land Purchase capital Reserve Fund has been increased from \$100,000 to \$200,000. The funds have been used for emergency projects and the Atkinson Academy kitchen renovation which has resulted in a lower than comfortable fund balance. The amount has not increased in years and Mr. Stokinger feels that the \$200,000 amount is adequate to come from surplus money if available.

Article 4

Shall the Timberlane Regional School District vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$300,000 to renovate the kitchen at Pollard School and to authorize the District to withdraw up to the sum of \$300,000 from the existing School Building Construction, Reconstruction, Capital Improvements and Land Purchase Capital Reserve Fund for that purpose? (MAJORITY VOTE REQUIRED)

(The funds for this article come from existing money in the District’s Capital Reserve Fund, not from additional taxes. This article, therefore, will not increase the 2011 tax rate.)

Mr. La Salle informed the public of the kitchen maintenance history throughout the district. He reviewed the results of the Crabtree report that noted the equipment replacement/repairs suggestions as well as major renovations. He noted the Danville kitchen was renovated in the summer of 2009 and the Atkinson Academy kitchen in 2010. The Pollard kitchen problems include a kitchen hood replacement as well as the hot water heater location, efficiency issues, work flow, bathroom locations and loading area. Mr. La Salle clarified the School Building Construction, Reconstruction, Capital Improvements and Land Purchase Capital Reserve Fund could fund the renovations up to \$300,000 which will result in no effect to the tax rate.

Madam Chair Kosta then read Article 5

Article 5-General Acceptance of Reports

Shall the Timberlane Regional School District accept reports of agents, auditors, and committees as written in the 2010 Annual Report? (MAJORITY VOTE REQUIRED)

Mrs. O'Neil reminded the public that the Deliberative Session is scheduled for February 5th at the Performing Arts Center to begin at 7PM.

Mrs. O'Neil provided an opportunity for the public to ask questions;

Mr. Acciard from Atkinson inquired about the total 2010 budget expenditures including the fund transfer, referring to the previous deliberative session (2010). Mr. Acciard estimated the increase of money expended from the 2008 school year \$54,000,000 to the 2010 year of 59,000,000 to be a 10.2% increase. Mr. Stokinger was able to confirm from the annual report the 2008 total budget expenditures with the fund transfer amount was \$58,690,463.

Mr. Acciard then asked if \$1.2m dollars was spent from the 2010-2011 budget for building plans as he remembers from a school board meeting. Mr. Stokinger explained that a public workshop was held for district-wide long term building plans which when the architect was pressed for an estimated figure he estimated at approximately \$900,000. It was never referenced in the 2010-2011 budget.

Mr. La Salle pointed out that the budget is developed two years in advance and is based on needs. The 2009-2010 budget was within 6% of the money expended which is an accomplishment since many figures are estimates. He continued to clarify that the budget is based on needs only.

Mr. Acciard then asked if committees were formed to research each line item. Mrs. O'Neil offered to review the budget presented this evening line by line to which was rejected by Mr. Acciard.

She then clarified the Budget Committee has performed their due diligence by putting together the best possible budget. They will then present the budget to the citizens at the Deliberative Session and provide a public opportunity for citizens' to make changes.

Other

Having no other business to present Mrs. O'Neill adjourned the meeting at 7:30 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,



Nancy Danahy
TRSB Clerk