

**TIMBERLANE REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT BUDGET COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES**

**Special Meeting
January 16, 2020 *****After Public Hearing (7:00pm)*******

**Timberlane Regional Performing Arts Center
Room #717**

Call to Order

Chairman Mascola opened meeting of the Timberlane Regional School District Post-Public Hearing call to order at 8:20pm with the roll call.

Roll Call

Present: Peter Bealo, Brian Boyle, David Gerns, Julie Hammond, John Hughes, Michael Mascola, Todd McCormick, and Alan David

Not in Attendance: Cathy Gorman and Phil Sherwood

Administrators Present: Geoff Dowd, CFO/Business Administrator

Pledge of Allegiance

Mr. Mascola led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Warrant Discussion and Recommendation on Articles

Article 2 – Operating Budget of the District

“Shall the voters of 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 \$72,999,000? Should this article be defeated, the operating budget shall be \$72,174,779 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)”

Discussion ensued relative to changes by the School Board to the Default Budget and rationale. Discussion on impact of gap between Operating Budget and Default Budget growing wider.

MOTION:	To Reduce School Board Account 100.2319.890 by \$100,000.00. Motion made by Todd McCormick, 2nd by Peter Bealo.
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8:50 – School Board Member Dr. Kim Farrah entered room to give input on Article 6 relaying that Article 6 is not written correctly and should be rewritten as follows: Should Article 1 fail, shall the proposed budget fail. Peter Bealo questioned, minimal discussion.

Geoff Dowd CFO/Business administrator clarified that that if Article 6 changes on the floor, it would be re-voted on. Michael Mascola redirected conversation back to Motion being discussed before Kim entered.

Discussion regarding the \$100,000 being included in the School Board’s account in the Operating Budget for ‘transition costs’ relating to with SAU Withdrawal Article 7. Since the language for the Withdrawal is statutory,

no funds can be included, therefore the School Board included \$100,000 in its own budget line in the Operating Budget for the cost. Since Citizen’s Petition Article 10 covered this by requesting \$100,000 for transition cost funding if Article 7 (the Withdrawal article) passes, then the voters could vote on that appropriation separately.

Mr. Mascola called for a vote on the Motion to Reduce the School Board Account 100.2319.890 in the Operating Budget by \$100,000.

VOTE:	To reduce School Board Account 2319.890 by \$100,000.00. Motion made by Todd McCormack, 2nd by Peter Bealo. The motion passed (5-3-0) (Brian Boyle, Alan David and John Hughes not in favor).
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Michael Mascola redirected meeting back to delta between the two budgets.

MOTION:	Motion by Peter Bealo 2nd by Alan David to reduce 100.4600.450 line to \$892,200.00.
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Discussion surrounding the amount included in the proposed Operating Budget compared to what the voters would support. Mr. Mascola called for a vote on the Motion to reduce line 100.4600.450 to \$892,200.

VOTE:	The motion passed (7-1-0) (John Hughes not in favor.)
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The Budget Committee discussed the need for their recommendations on warrant articles which are monetary in nature.

Mr. Mascola will call for a vote on each monetary warrant article in the form of a “Recommend”.

VOTE:	Michael Mascola requested a vote to recommend Article 2 with the new proposed budget \$72,999,000.00. The vote was (8-0-0) to recommend Article 2.
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Article 2 is recommended by the Budget Committee 8-0-0.

Article 3 – Capital Reserve Fund by Surplus

“Shall the voters of the Timberlane Regional School District raise and appropriate up to \$250,000 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 those funds in the June 30, 2020 unassigned fund balance available for transfer on July 1 of this year which were apportioned as Capital Expenses in 2019-2020 in accordance with Article 6 of the Timberlane Regional School District Articles of Agreement? No amount to be raised by additional taxation. (MAJORITY VOTE REQUIRED)”

VOTE:	Michael Mascola requested a vote to recommend Article 3. The vote was (8-0-0) to recommend Article 3.
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Article 3 is recommended by the Budget Committee 8-0-0.

Article 4 – Three Year Collective Bargaining Agreement (Timberlane Support Staff Union)

“Shall the voters of the Timberlane Regional School District approve the cost items included in the collective bargaining agreement reached between the Timberlane Support Staff Union and the Timberlane Regional School

Board, which calls for the following increases in salaries and benefits at the current staffing levels over the amount paid in the prior fiscal year:

Fiscal Year	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23
Estimated Increase	\$305,644	\$242,921	\$231,638

3-Year Total **\$780,206**

And further to raise and appropriate the sum of \$305,644 for the 2020-21 fiscal year, such sum representing the additional costs attributable to the increase in salaries and benefits required by the new agreement over those that would be paid at the current staffing levels? (MAJORITY VOTE REQUIRED)”

Discussion by the Budget Committee on Article 4.

VOTE:	Michael Mascola requested a vote to recommend Article 4, the vote was (8-0-0) to recommend Article 4.
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Article 4 is recommended by the Budget Committee 8-0-0

Article 5 -- Was discussed and the article requests a special meeting which is non-monetary. No vote is needed by the Budget Committee.

Article 6 – Middle School Roof Maintenance and Repair

“Shall the voters of the Timberlane Regional School District raise and appropriate \$500,000 for maintenance and repairs of the Timberlane Regional Middle School roof as referenced in the Timberlane Regional School District Capital Improvement Plan? This special warrant article will be a non-lapsing appropriation per RSA 32:7, VI and will not lapse until June 30, 2023. (MAJORITY VOTE REQUIRED)”

Although Dr. Farah previously indicated the School Board modified the language of Article 6, the Budget Committee reviewed the Article as presented at the Public Hearing without the modified language since the language had not been provided to the Budget Committee.

VOTE:	Michael Mascola requested a vote to recommend Article 6. The vote was (7-1-0) to recommend. (Brian Boyle not in favor)
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Article 6 is recommended by the Budget Committee 7-1-0 with original language presented at the Public Hearing.

Discussion on what circumstances would allow the Budget Committee to re-vote on Article 6.

Article 7 – Withdrawal from SAU55. Michael Mascola noted Article 7 did not have a monetary impact and there was nothing for the Committee to vote on.

Article 8 – General Acceptance of Reports. Michael Mascola noted Article 8 did not have a monetary impact and there was nothing for the Committee to vote on.

Article 9 – Expendable Trust Fund for Withdrawal by Petition

“If Article 7, Withdrawal from SAU55, is approved, shall the Timberlane Regional School District raise and appropriate the sum of \$228,600 to fund a new expendable trust fund and to authorize the Timberlane School Board to use/transfer money from this fund to pay Timberlane’s share of ongoing healthcare liabilities of retired SAU55 employees?”

Discussion on what the actual cost would be and who the author of the Article was. Should this article pass, and Article 7 (the Withdrawal) pass, this expendable trust fund would be funded by appropriations in the upcoming budget year, with funds held by the Trustees of the Trust fund and drawn down by the School Board in future years to satisfy those ongoing health obligations of past SAU 55 employees. Since the obligation is for a future amount, the amount is not easily ascertainable or exact.

VOTE:	Michael Mascola requested a vote to recommend Article 9. The vote was (2-6-0) to recommend with Peter Bealo and David Gerns in favor.
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Article 9 is Recommended (2-6-0) or alternatively, Not Recommended (6-2-0).

Article 10 – Funding for Transition in Preparation for Withdrawal from SAU55 by Petition of Rob Collins.

“If Withdrawal from SAU55 is approved, shall the voters of the Timberlane Regional School District raise and appropriate \$100,000 to fund the recommended transition period defined in the SAU55 Withdrawal Plan by the SAU55 Withdrawal Planning Committee?”

Discussion surrounded what kind of impact this warrant would have on the SAU Withdrawal Petition (Article 7). This funding requested in Article 10 could not be attached to Article 7 since the language in Article 7 is prescribed by statute.

VOTE:	Michael Mascola requested a vote to recommend Article 10. The vote was (5-3-0) to recommend, with Brian Boyle, Julie Hammond, and Alan David voting to not recommend.
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Brian Boyle left meeting to join the School Board meeting after discussion and voting on Articles.

Approval of Meeting Minutes

Michael Mascola requested a Motion to approve all minutes from 11/14/2019, 12/12/2019, and 12/16/2019. John Hughes question attendance piece of 12/16/2019 minutes. Mr. Dowd had no problem with the requested change to the 12/16/2019 minutes in the attendance section.

MOTION AND VOTE:	Motion by Peter Bealo, 2nd by Julie Hammond to approve the November 14, 2019 minutes. The motion passed (7-0-0) unanimously.
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MOTION AND VOTE:	Motion by Peter Bealo, 2nd by Julie Hammond to approve the December 12, 2019. The motion passed (7-0-0) unanimously.
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MOTION AND VOTE:	Motion by Peter Bealo, 2nd by Julie Hammond to approve the December 16, 2019 meeting as amended. The motion passed (5-0-2) with David Gerns and Julie Hammond abstaining.
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Adjournment (Approx. 9:30pm)

The Budget Committee will meet next immediately following the Deliberative Session, which takes place on February 6, 2020 at 7:00pm at the Timberlane Regional High School Gymnasium.

MOTION AND VOTE: Motion by Peter Bealo, 2nd by Alan David to adjourn. The motion passed (7-0-0) unanimously.
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Respectfully submitted,

Geoffrey Dowd
Recording Secretary Pro-tem

The meeting can be viewed by following this link: <https://vimeo.com/385547328>

Approved by the Budget Committee on February 6, 2020.