

1 **WILTON-LYNDEBOROUGH COOPERATIVE SCHOOL**

2
3 **BUDGET COMMITTEE MEETING**

4
5 **WLC-Library; WLC Conference Room**
6 **FINAL MINUTES**
7 **Monday, September 14, 2026**
8

9 **Committee Membership:** Alyssa Lavoie (Chair), Phil Brooks (Vice Chair)
10 Bridget Mooney (Secretary), Craig Alley, Kellie-Sue Boissonnault, Kate McClure, Bob Newton,
11 Bob Silva
12

13 **Present:** Brooks, Lavoie, McClure, Mooney, Newton, Silva, Dennis Golding (SB rep).

14 **Absent:** Alley, Boissonnault, vacant Wilton seat
15

16 Chair Lavoie called the meeting to order at 6:23
17

18 The meeting was live streamed, but due to a miscommunication, it was NOT recorded.
19

20 **Adjustments to the Agenda:**

21 A new category "Budget Committee Comments" will be added to the agenda this meeting
22 and all meetings going forward.
23

24 **Review Previous Meeting Minutes:**

25 Alyssa Lavoie motions to approve the February 5, 2026 Budget Committee Minutes
26 Bridget Mooney seconds the motion. All ayes. The motion passes.
27

28 Kate McClure motions to table the approval of the May 13, 2026 Budget Committee Minutes
29 until they have been revised for spelling errors and content clarification. Phil Brooks seconds
30 the motion. All ayes. Alyssa Lavoie will revise the 5/13/26 minutes.
31

32 The August 25, 2026 Budget Committee Minutes garnered much lively and at times heated
33 discussion. Chair Lavoie presented a revised version of the minutes. Bob Newton presented a
34 memo titled "Corrections to the August 25 Meeting Minutes" which highlighted the paragraphs
35 he wanted corrected.
36

37 Bob Newton stated that his motion made at the joint meeting regarding supporting the straw
38 vote by the school board was misstated and made the motion that it should be corrected to
39 his actual words. Alyssa Lavoie seconds the motion. All ayes.
40

41 Initially motions were made to accept certain changes to the original minutes (paragraph by
42 paragraph) with discussion following each motion. It became evident that this approach was
43 unproductive and could potentially take hours.
44

45 Alyssa Lavoie made the motion to accept all of her edits. Phil Brooks seconded the motion.
46 Discussion followed with Kate McClure questioning removing the words that were spoken
47 noting that the record should reflect the speakers actual words. Alyssa Lavoie said that some

48 of the words spoken could hurt the reputations of of the people being spoken about and
49 therefore should be altered.

50 Bob Newton made a motion to amend Alyssa Lavoie's motion. There was no second.

51 Alyssa Lavoie motion passed with four ayes, one nay and one abstention.

52

53 Bob Newton makes the motion to table the acceptance of the August 25, 2026 minutes until
54 the two absent board members have had the opportunity to express their opinions.

55 There was no second.

56

57 Alyssa Lavoie motions to approve the August 25, 2026 minutes as amended. Phil Brooks
58 seconds the motion. The motion passes with four ayes, one nay, one abstention.

59

60

61 **Committee Reports:**

62 **Strategic Planning:** Kate McClure stated that the committee was meeting tomorrow
63 (9/15/26) and she would have something to report following that meeting.

64 **Facilities:** Phil Brooks expressed how impressed he is with the facilities director. He
65 reported that the committee had a presentation by an Energy Management Company.

66 **Technology:** Bob Silva stated that the committee was meeting next week.

67 **School Board:** Kate McClure said the school board discussed priorities and goals at
68 their meeting and also expressed their concerns about the content of the budget
69 committee minutes.

70

71 **Budget Committee Protocols:**

72 A discussion was had about the start time of the budget committee meeting.

73 Bob Newton motions to begin all meetings of the budget committee at 7:00pm

74 Bob Silva seconded the motion. All ayes. The motion passes.

75

76 Alyssa Lavoie motions to begin the budget committee meetings to be held on December 7,
77 2026 and December 21, 2026 at 5:30pm

78 Bob Silva seconds the motion.

79 Five ayes, one nay. The motion passes.

80

81 Alyssa Lavoie makes the motion to approve the revised Budget Committee Rules of
82 Procedure and Operating Protocols.

83 Kate McClure seconds the motion.

84 Phil Brooks asks if the changes are highlighted in some way so the board can understand the
85 where the changes occur. Alyssa Lavoie explains that there are six pages in the back of the
86 document explaining every change.

87 No vote is taken.

88

89 Bob Newton makes the motion to table the approval of the Budget Committee Rules of
90 Procedure and Operating Protocols until the next meeting.

91 Kate McClure seconds the motion.

92 Five ayes, one abstention. The motion passes.

93

94 Bob Newton makes the motion that all future budget committee meetings be held here,
95 recorded and live streamed to the public.

96 Bob Silva seconds the motion.
97 Alyssa Lavoie points out that this issue is addressed in the Budget Committee Rules of
98 Procedure and Operating Protocols which we will be voting on in the next meeting.
99 Three ayes, three nays. The motion fails.

100

101 **Bob Newton's Memo:**

102 Bob Newton explains that he put out his memo in May and is open to corrections and
103 comments. Kate McClure says that she has read the memo and states her reasons for
104 objecting to the memo. Alyssa Lavoie says some of the ten requests make sense, but all the
105 preceding talk is very offensive and unprofessional. It represents Bob Newton's opinions, is
106 very adversarial and makes it difficult to be on board with his memo. There is general
107 agreement that those two pages do not represent the board as a whole. Bob Newton removes
108 those pages and asks that the board only consider his list of ten items.

109

110 Bob Newton makes the motion that we request from the School Board and Administration in
111 writing, based on a vote by this committee, comments on this list from the Bob Newton memo.
112 Phil Brooks seconds the motion.

113

114 Phil Brooks suggests that Bob Newton could have a discussion with the Administration to
115 decide how to get this done. He notes that these ten items would require a lot of time and
116 research and wonders who would do that work. Phil Brooks suggests the School Board and
117 Administration give a directive on the feasibility of fulfilling this request.

118 Bob Newton suggests presenting the ten point memo at a School Board meeting.

119 Alyssa Lavoie points out that the School Board has no authority over the Budget Committee.

120

121 Bob Newton rescinds his motion.

122

123 Bob Newton makes the motion that the Budget Committee authorize Bob Newton and one
124 other member of the committee to meet with the School Board and the Administration at a
125 School Board meeting to discuss items on the list and any other items that would be relevant
126 and useful to the Budget Committee's work.

127 Phil Brooks seconds the motion.

128

129 Bob Newton rescinds his motion.

130

131 Bob Newton makes the motion that the Budget Committee authorizes and instructs members
132 Bob Newton and Bob Silva to meet with representatives of the School Board and the
133 Administration for the collaborative discussion based on the items of page three of Bob
134 Newton's May 13th memorandum.

135 Alyssa Lavoie seconds the motion

136 All ayes. The motion passes.

137

138 Alyssa Lavoie explains the five question test which is a tool she developed to assist board
139 members in evaluating the relevance and usefulness of any questions they have for the
140 Administration.

141

142 **Public Comment:**

143 Bill Crouse – *Lyndeborough*- requests that the Budget Committee request from the

144 Administration a budget number reflective of what the departments feel is providing the
145 greatest benefit for the students. If we need to subtract monies later it will highlight what it is
146 we're giving up if HB1300 is instituted and will help justify to the public what we want to do.
147

148 He also would like to see items which end up being purchased with unexpended funds be put
149 into the budget.
150

151 Adam LaVallee – *Lyndeborough*- makes the request that the Golf team, a growing and
152 popular sport, be fully funded.
153

154 No online public comments.
155

156 **Budget Committee Comments:**

157 Kate McClure speaks to the research she did regarding the comment at the last meeting that
158 in the private sector a 5% surplus would not be acceptable. Her research found this statement
159 to be untrue and pointed out that the last three years show the school district's budget was
160 under 5%.
161

162 Bob Newton states that sports are highly useful and supports fully funding them.
163

164 Alyssa Lavoie fully supports Bill Crouse's comments.
165

166 The next meeting is on October 5th at 7:00 in the WLC Library.

167 We will review the first draft of the budget which will be released on September 28th.

168 All member should review the budget before the meeting.
169

170 Kate McClure makes the motion to adjourn the meeting.

171 Phil Brooks seconds the motion.

172 All ayes.
173

174 The meeting adjourns at 8:55pm

