

Minutes – Wayland School Committee Finance Subcommittee
Jun 26, 2020

A meeting of the School committee's Finance subcommittee was called to order at 10:18 AM by Kathie Steinberg.

Present were:

Kathie Steinberg, chair
Ellen Grieco

Also present:

Susan Bottan, Business Administrator
Arthur Unobsky, Superintendent
Richard Whitehead, Director of Student Services
Chris Ryan, School Committee member-elect

1. Public Comment

There was no public comment.

2. Financial Matters

a. Update on Town and School Finances

Finances are uncertain. The 1/12th budget has been approved by the Department of Revenue. Reimbursements come back to Free Cash and not back to the school budget. Susan continues to work with Brian Keveny and Louise Miller regarding Pegasus and The Children's Way reduction in revenue receipts. Susan will report back after reviewing the various options.

The district is working through the redesign of summer fee-based programs. The programs would need to go through the regular budget approval process.

b. Review of EOY FY20 Budget Estimates

This was covered in the School Committee meeting. Susan's projections remain the same.

c. Review and Discussion of Financial Impact of FY21 1/12th Budget

Taken out of order, Susan reported that municipalities who have not yet voted an appropriation for their budgets will shift to the 1/12th budget. She outlined how the budget is determined. The submitted budget was approved by the Department of Revenue. Susan reviewed the funding of the budget in effect and the transfer (not an increase) between personnel and non-personnel.

Susan identified several areas that may require additional funding. Most of these expenses are around health and safety including supplies and personnel. The need for ventilation capital expenditures was discussed.

Susan discussed the allocation of the appropriation. The district is limiting expenditures to essential items only. Susan will need to manage the budget to ensure we stay within the appropriation.

d. Review and Discussion of FY21 Budget including Possible Revisions and Reallocations

Taken out of order, Richard reported on the reallocation of the special education budget. During the remote period the delivery of services was interrupted. The district conducts over 500 assessments per year, but these have not been occurring. There is no relief provided on assessment or delivery of services under federal law. The district is required to clear up the backlog and stay current. As a result of movement of students in and out of some tuition-based programs, the district has been able to reallocate funds to hire additional staff. This will NOT increase the overall budget. Richard discussed the advantages of in-district vs out of district placements. This will enable the district to meet its legal and mandated responsibility and minimize any liability for not providing the required services.

(6) Adjournment

Upon a motion made by Ellen Grieco, seconded by Kathie Steinberg, the Finance subcommittee voted (2-0) to adjourn the meeting at 12:19 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathie Steinberg

Corresponding documents
Agenda