

MINUTES OF THE DELIBERATIVE SESSION
SANBORN REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
FEBRUARY 4, 2015

The Meeting was called to order by Interim Moderator, Electra Alessio at 7:07 PM, held at the Sanborn Regional High School Auditorium at 17 Danville Road in Kingston, New Hampshire.

Moderator opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance and welcoming the public. Moderator introduced Attorney Peter Bronstein, Carol Coppola, and Dr. Brian Blake, Superintendent, School Board Members, Dustin Ramey, Jon LeBlance Wendy Miller, Corey Masson, Nancy Ross, and Chairperson Janice Bennett. Also the School Budget Committee, Barry Gluck, Chairman, Beth Scanlon, Roger Clark, Allen Felisberto James Doggett, Patricia Stephan, and Cheryl Gannon, and Melissa Fowler, Interim School District Clerk.

Moderator announced that all non-registered voters must be seated in the upper balcony. Also there would be no discussion on Article 1 and would be moved forward to the ballot as printed.

Before the session Anne Collyer submitted a petition of 15 registered voters, to require that any votes taken on the school budget article be taken by secret ballot.

Accepted by the Moderator and submitted to the School District Clerk for filing.

ARTICLE 1: To elect the following School District Officers:

School Board:

- One member from Kingston for three years
- One member from Newton for three years
- One member-at-large from Kingston/Newton for three years

Moderator:

- One elected for one year

Budget Committee:

- One member from Kingston for three years
- One member from Newton for three years

Moderator read article 2: Shall the reports of school district agents, auditors, committees, or officers chosen be accepted and placed on file?

Motion made by Janice Bennett to accept article 2 and seconded by James Doggett.

Moderator read article 3: Shall the Sanborn 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 at the first session, for the purposes set forth therein, totaling Thirty Four Million Eight Hundred Twelve Thousand Three Hundred Thirty Three Dollars (\$34,812,333)? Should this article be defeated, the default budget shall be Thirty Four Million

Two Hundred Twenty Six Thousand Sixty Four Dollars (\$34,226,064), which is the same as last year, with certain adjustments required by previous action of the Sanborn 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. (This warrant article does not include appropriations in any other warrant article.) Recommended by the Budget Committee (4-2) Recommended by the Sanborn Regional School Board (5-0) Estimated Tax Impact Kingston: \$1.13/\$1,000 Newton: \$1.43/\$1,000.

Motion made by Barry Gluck to accept article 3 and seconded by Allen Felisberto.

Moderator asked if there any questions or comments on article 3.

Barry Gluck, Budget Committee Chairman, presented the budget to the audience

Anne Collyer from Newton asked to go back to a couple of slides that were presented during the budget breakdown. The projected state portion and projected student enrollment and a question on the retirement system.

Barry Gluck asked for Carol Coppola help in answering the questions. The state portion has decreased through the past years, and the projected student enrollment is projected to decrease. The teacher's retirement are calculated by the state rates.

Jim Baker from Newton asked on the Retirement System slide why the blue lines at the bottom are straight lined and the greens spike way up in the last 3 years?

Barry Gluck answered because the teacher's retirement and rates are mandated by the state.

Anne Collyer from Newton commented that is the calculation based on \$3800 per student.

Carol Coppola would like to clarify that the calculation is a state formula that many factor are needed. She added it is not as easy as divided the number of students into the budget and that is for each student. The factor could be some students get discounts, if you go to the Dept. of Education website around the middle of November they will have the formula.

James Baker from Newton asked to go back to the retirement slide and why the jump from 2013 – 2016?

Dr. Blake answered the question with a lot of calculations go into the Retirement System, all fulltime staff, when a staff member will retire, and who will be retiring different rates apply. Some information also depends on legislation.

Scott B from Newton asked to go back to the slide about the 1st grade teacher and is that a total amount for the cost of that teacher?

Barry Gluck answered with yes that is the total amount.

Jason Fara from Newton commented by thanking the committees for all their hard work and time that goes into the budget. Then asked the question why the budget was decreased.

Barry Gluck answered the question but each person came to the meeting on what they feel can be cut. The committee brainstorms on the best possible cuts that would not hurt education. They can only make recommendation they do not have the final say the administration does.

Richard Dupre from Newton asked the question who over sees how the Superintendent spends the funds.

Barry Gluck responded that the School Board over sees how the funds are spent.

Moderator commented that the School Board has a fiduciary responsibility to the District that they take seriously.

Kathy Shear from Newton commented that in the working world we would compare actuals to project to get the figures.

Dr. Blake answered yes the Business Administration does do that.

Peter Broderick would like to make a motion to decrease the budget to 33,542,754, seconded by John Marzilli.

Moderator explains that the motion will decrease the budget by \$1,269,579 and if there are no further discussions we will conduct a secret ballot.

Corey Masson speaks against the motion with concern of Special Education Students they need more care. He asked do you have a student that needs special education, you as a taxpayer deserve the care and so does your child.

James Baker spoke on support of the amendment for the decrease explain that he has lived in Newton since 1987 and his taxes for a year were \$4600 and now are \$8000. If the taxes continue to increase like they are he and many others will not be able to offered to live in Newton. I support the school just because I want my taxes lower does not mean I do not support education.

Anne Collyer spoke on support of the amendment looking for a leaner budget.

Jason Fara spoke against the amendment because the money will support better education then he ever got when he was in school. He feels that kids do not fall through he cracks now as they did years ago.

Mike Salade from Kingston spoke against the amendment explained that the smaller classes are due to AP classes and Special Education where it is needed. He added that those teachers that teach in those smaller classes also have a complete schedule in other classes for the day, which is

not the only class for the day. If the District did not have the Special Ed classes available for that student that needed it, the district would have to supply that help from a different facility which could cost \$57000 a year.

Kathy Sheen from Newton spoke against the amendment expressed that she moved her family here because of the smaller class sizes and because of the school District. She understood when she moved here that NH pays for all things through their property taxes.

Tammy Gluck from Newton spoke against the amendment stated that we all have to sacrifice things and the Budget committee, School Board, and Business Administration have all done that with this budget. She expressed her concern with the cut funds will be giving up education for the children and getting them prepare for college.

Moderator announced with no further discussion on Article 3 we will conduct the secret ballot on the vote for the amendment.

Barry Gluck started to explain the process, when Mr. Sheehy expressed he was out of order, when the Moderator asked for order and we will continue with the secret ballot.

Intermit School District Clerk conducted the secret ballot with Ballot A being used for the vote.

Clerk hand counted the ballots with supervisors of the checklist present from both Kingston and Newton.

Moderator read the result of the secret ballot on the amendment to Article 3 explaining it was defeated.

Yes 51 No 106

James Barker made a motion to amend article 3 to 33,600,000 and second by Anne Collyer

Intermit School District Clerk conducted the secret ballot with Ballot B being used for the vote.

Clerk handed counted the ballots with supervisors of the checklist present from both Kingston and Newton.

Moderator read the result of the secret ballot on the amendment to Article 3 explaining it was defeated.

Yes 43 No 97

Moderator asked if there was any more discussion on Article 3 and if not we could move on to article 4.

Corey Masson made a motion to restrict article 3 seconded by Wendy Miller

Moderator asked for all those in favor of the restriction please say yes and those opposed by saying No.

There was an overwhelming amount of Yes's compared to the No's, Moderator declared that the Yes's have it and there would be no more discussion on Article 3 and move to the ballot as printed.

Moderator read article 4: Shall the Sanborn Regional School District approve the cost items included in the collective bargaining agreement for support staff reached between the School Board and the Sanborn Regional Education Association which calls for the following increases in salaries and benefits at current staffing levels over the amount paid in the prior fiscal year:

	<i>YEAR</i>	<i>Estimated Increases</i>
<i>1</i>	<i>2015-2016</i>	<i>\$ 21,903</i>
<i>2</i>	<i>2016-2017</i>	<i>\$ 72,639</i>

and further, to raise and appropriate the sum of Twenty One Thousand Nine Hundred Three Dollars (\$21,903) for the 2015-16 fiscal year, such sum representing the additional costs attributable to the increase in salaries and benefits over those of the appropriation at the current staffing levels? Recommended by the Budget Committee (6-0) Recommended by the Sanborn Regional School Board (5-0) Estimated Tax Impact Kingston: \$.02/\$1,000 Newton: \$.02/\$1,000

Motion made by Jon LeBlance to accept article 4 and seconded by Beth Scanlon.

Moderator stated if there is no further discussion on Article 4 it will go forward to the ballot as submitted.

Moderator read article 5: Shall the District change the purpose of the Facilities Use Revolving Fund established in accordance with RSA 194:3-c by vote on article 5 at the 2007 School District meeting, which is funded by receipts of rental charges for the use of school facilities, so that it may be used for maintenance, technology cost, and improvement of the District facilities and grounds, with said receipts to be withdrawn from the revolving fund and disbursed monthly, as needed? (No tax impact)(Majority vote required). Recommended by the Sanborn Regional School Board (5-0)

Motion made by Nancy Ross to accept article 5 and seconded by Janice Bennette

Moderator stated if there is no further discussion on Article 5 it will go forward to the ballot as submitted.

Moderator read article 6: Shall the Sanborn Regional School District vote to establish a capital reserve fund under the provisions of RSA 35:1 to be named Historic Seminary Building Fund for the purpose of funding the renovation and necessary maintenance needs of the Sanborn Seminary building and grounds? To raise and appropriate the sum of up to One Hundred Thousand Dollars

(\$100,000) to be placed in said fund, with such amount to be funded from the June 30, 2015 unreserved fund balance available for transfer on July 1, 2015, and further to name the Sanborn Regional School Board as agents to expend the fund? This amount to come from fund balance and no amount to be raised from additional taxation. (Majority vote required). Recommended by the Budget Committee (4-2) Recommended by the Sanborn Regional School Board (3-2)

Motion made by James Doggett to accept article 6 and seconded by Dustin Ramey.

Moderator asked if there are any questions or comments on article 6.

Dustin Ramey spoke on article 6 with information on why the article is important. If the article is approved the Sanborn Seminary Building Capital Reserve Fund would only be funded with surplus, and that maintenance are necessary to retain the structural integrity of the building.

George Korn from Kingston asked how many Capital Reserve Funds does the District have and what are the balances of those accounts?

Carol Coppola spoke to Mr. Korn's question that she would get that information shortly move on to the next question.

Robert Miller asked why the Budget Committee voted 4 to 2 on the recommendation. Also, why did the School Board vote 3 to 2 on their recommendation?

To answer the question for Mr. Miller article 7 needed to be discussed before being read by the Moderator.

The Moderator allows the discussion to get the information out to the voters.

Corey Masson spoke against article 6 because he would like to see the Article 7 pass before article 6 and because of the voting structure that concerns him.

Wendy Miller made a motion to switch article 6 and article 7 on the voting ballot, seconded by Corey Masson.

The amended went in front of the voters and was defeated by no's

James Doggett spoke in favor of article 6 because he feels we need to do something with the building so the Capital Reserve Fund is the best way to do that.

Mr. Miller asked how many years would the tax payers fund this?

James Doggett spoke to Mr. Miller explaining that it would need money for many years and that there is no decision on how long it would take or how much money.

Chery Gannon gave some information on how the Capital Reserve Funds works and it would be every year.

Mr. Miller did not like those answers and did not agree with the process.

Roger Hamel from Newton expressed that article 6 and article 7 is printed that the amount to come from fund balance and no amount to be raised from taxation. Mr. Hamel said I do believe that it does raise the taxes.

Carol Coppola has the answer to that question earlier for Mr. Korn the District currently has 2 Capital Reserve Fund accounts, and commented on Roger Hamel statement that it state additional taxation in article 6.

Moderator stated if there is no further discussion on Article 6 it will go forward to the ballot as submitted.

Moderator read article 7: Shall the Sanborn Regional School District vote to establish a capital reserve fund under the provisions of RSA 35:1 to be named the Technology Fund for the purpose of funding the technology needs of the district? To raise and appropriate the sum of up to One Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$100,000) to be placed in said fund, with such amount to be funded from the June 30, 2015 unreserved fund balance available for transfer on July 1, 2015, and further to name the Sanborn Regional School Board as agents to expend the fund? This amount to come from fund balance and no amount to be raised from additional taxation. (Majority vote required). Not Recommended by the Budget Committee (4-2) Recommended by the Sanborn Regional School Board (5-0)

Motion made by James Doggett to accept article 7 and seconded by Dustin Ramey

Moderator commented that we discussed article 7 along with article 6 so she understand that most of the question and commented has been taken care of.

Moderator stated if there is no further discussion on Article 7 it will go forward to the ballot as submitted.

Moderator adjourn the meeting at 10:51 PM