

**WINCHESTER SCHOOL BOARD BUDGET MEETING  
NOVEMBER 12, 2020  
WINCHESTER SCHOOL GYMNASIUM**

Board Members Present: L. Picard, T. Kilanski, E. Holmes, T. Perkins,

Absent: J. Rokes

Administration Present: K. Dassau, V. Carey, M. Henry, I. Spencer

The meeting was called to order at 6:37pm by Chair, L. Picard.

**L. Picard MOVED to accept the Payroll Manifest dated 11/12/20 in the amount of \$199,558.54; SECONDED by: T. Perkins, VOTED: 4-0, MOTION PASSED.**

**BUDGET DISCUSSION:**

M. Henry advised KHS tuitions are down for a total of \$279,107– we currently have 162 students in Keene. The cost is \$30,624 for Special Ed and \$14,891 Regular Ed.

M. Henry distributed the budget and reviewed with the Board, with all the numbers except the one from the insurance company. They will decide their rates on 11/18. M. Henry advised there will be a \$1.5 million increase to the budget.

M. Henry advised the recommended budget number from the Board last year was \$12.8 million. That does not include the \$550,000 Warrant Article. The budget is up just shy of \$1 million including all Warrant Articles and the \$550,000.

M. Henry explained what they are proposing is \$5,000 more than last year. They haven't brought back everything. Did what they were asked to do.

V. Carey reviewed information Management Services equipment needed for remote and in-person learning when able. Advised there is no money in the budget for a computer teacher.

V. Carey gave the Board an update on the current COVID situation. Using the Global Epidemic Sight, last Tuesday there were 9.3 daily new cases in a seven day rolling average for Cheshire County; yesterday that number was 10.7 and today 12.1. New Hampshire is now in the orange zone. DHHS has sent down some additional decision making Matrix which include: the number of cases/clusters in the school; strain on staff; the number of students out with health related issues and time out for staff. V. Carey explained they have seen a strain on staff before, now there is an additional strain.

V. Carey explained they will complete this week and begin the fully remote model next week. If going out based on community spread, the Board would need to decide on a timeline as to when to return to hybrid learning and how long we would need to be at a certain level. Her recommendation is to be at a yellow level of five cases or less for 14 days.

L. Picard advised will keep this as a standing agenda item regarding return to hybrid learning and holiday travel. The Board will revisit next week for an updated plan of return.

L. Picard advised will go to Zoom meetings and post to necessary sights. Marie Braley will need to indicate it is a zoom meeting on the agenda.

L. Picard – Advised brainstorming with Administration as to how to provide necessary budget documents, etc. to everyone. The documents for the next meeting would be the same as tonight.

M. Henry will get the budget book to the Budget Committee before Thanksgiving.

M. Henry asked the Board to check their e-mails regularly so they can sign the MS-25.

**CITIZENS' COMMENTS:**

There was no ability for on-line comments tonight.

Ben Kilanski commented on the DOE-25. The Selectboard is hoping to do theirs at their meeting on 11/18 meeting. That will be different for them this year.

Ben Kilanski asked if all Grant monies coming in are listed as revenues.

M. Henry – Yes, but don't apply to the general fund.

Kevin Bazan – The budget is up \$1.5 million. He asked about the default budget; is there a number yet?

M. Henry – No; only contracts - bussing would be in there.

Kevin Bazan – So would include high school transportation?

M. Henry – Yes.

Kevin Bazan – Custodian?

M. Henry – No; explained.

K. Bazan is concerned about the difference between the default and the proposed budget. Maybe it is time for the Board to look at full-time Kindergarten, Custodian, etc. in Warrant Articles. If there is a big difference between the proposed and default budgets, they don't want to go through again what they are going through now.

L. Picard advised next week will be discussing Warrant Articles, too.

**L. Picard MOVED to go into non-public session under RSA91:A-3( c) at 7:27pm; SECONDED by: T. Perkins, VOTED: T. Kilanski – yes, E. Holmes – yes, T. Perkins – yes, L. Picard- yes, MOTION PASSED.**

**L. Picard MOVED to leave non-public session at 7:49pm; SECONDED by: T. Kilanski, VOTED: 4-0, MOTION PASSED.**

While in non-public session the Board discussed a contract with a Business Manager Services provider.

L. Picard reminded the Board will need to approve the budget next week. Advised if they have any questions send them to M. Henry or Administration. She doesn't want to call an emergency meeting because they don't have the budget ready for the Budget Committee.

L. Picard explained it is the responsibility of the Board and Administration to put what they feel are the most important items in the budget. The public doesn't understand all the details. It is Administration's job to provide that information to the Board. The Board needs to keep that in mind.

V. Carey advised if the Board needs a non-public session, need to be sure to have a place to be alone while meeting through Zoom. Could use ear buds if necessary.

V. Carey explained there was a problem with the all-call system and they have identified the problem. She will be sending a new all-call message.

There will be a non-meeting after the Board meeting tonight.

**L. Picard MOVED to adjourn the meeting at 7:57pm; SECONDED by: T. Perkins, VOTED: 4-0, MOTION PASSED.**

Sincerely,

Peggy Higgins  
School Board Secretary

