

## **Minutes of Barrington School Committee Meeting with the Committee on Appropriations**

**Tuesday, May 9, 2017**

**7:00 p.m.**

A joint meeting of the Barrington School Committee with the Barrington Committee on Appropriations was held on Tuesday, May 9, 2017 in the Administration Building. School Committee Chair Kate Brody called the School Committee meeting to order at 7:05 p.m. Present were Mrs. Brody, Mrs. Clancy, Mr. Alessandro, Dr. Douglas, Mrs. Pine, Mr. Messore, Dr. Dillon and Mr. Tarro.

Committee on Appropriations Chair Geoffrey Grove called the Committee on Appropriations meeting to order at 7:06 p.m. Present were Mr. Grove, Vice Chair Mr. Chad Mollica, Mr. Donald Gralnek and Mr. Richard Staples. Absent was Ms. Melissa Horne.

The Committee on Appropriations conducted its specific business relative to approval of the Budget Hearing Presentation for Wednesday, May 10, 2017.

Mrs. Brody provided an overview of the timeline for the Committee on Appropriations review of the proposed operating budget for the Barrington Public Schools and noted that there had been missed opportunities for a collaborative discussion to reach consensus relative to the budget recommendation by the Committee on Appropriations. She noted that the School Committee and Administration had met with the Committee on Appropriations on March 21, March 29 and April 11 and that clarification relative to specific questions from the Committee on Appropriations had been a focus of the discussions. The Committee on Appropriations feedback to the Administration and School Committee had consistently acknowledged the reasonable request of the proposed FY18 operating budget and the effort to continue close scrutiny of the budget to identify opportunities for operational savings.

The Committee on Appropriations meeting agendas on April 18 and April 25 reflected a change in format with no Public Comment on the agendas; as such, there was no opportunity for the School Committee to either address or respond to questions and comments from the Committee on Appropriations relative to the operating budget for the Barrington Public Schools.

The Committee on Appropriations and the School Committee engaged in a lengthy discussion relative to FY18 proposed and operating budgets, suggested priorities for focus during negotiations for the next collective bargaining process, and the potential for expansion of the role of the Budget Forecasting Committee as a collaborative opportunity. Mrs. Brody refuted the statement by Mr. Grove that the budget reductions, made by the Administration and School Committee to ensure compliance with the Committee on Appropriations recommendation for a level funded FY18 operating budget, were "Draconian cuts that were cynical and designed to inflict maximum pain, that sacrifices had been borne by the municipal side, and that the School Committee is shirking its duty with its recommended budget changes."

Mrs. Clancy departed the Budget Workshop at 7:50 p.m.

The Committee on Appropriations reiterated its intent to proceed with its budget recommendation for a level funded FY18 operating budget for the Barrington Public Schools. It was the consensus of the School Committee to support its proposed FY18 level services operating budget. The Committee on Appropriations and the School Committee were unable to reach consensus relative to the budget recommendation that will be endorsed by the Committee on Appropriations. The Committee on Appropriations will present its budget recommendation and hear public comment at the Budget Hearing on Wednesday, May 10, 2017.

Mr. Mollica moved and Mr. Gralnek seconded to adjourn the Budget Workshop at 8:30 p.m. The motion carried with Mr. Grove, Mr. Mollica, Mr. Gralnek and Mr. Staples voting in the affirmative for the motion.

**Mr. Alessandro moved and Dr. Douglas seconded to adjourn the Budget Workshop at 8:31 pm. The motion carried 4-0 with Mrs. Brody, Mr. Alessandro, Dr. Douglas and Mrs. Pine voting in the affirmative for the motion.**