

**Lyme School District
School Board Regular Meeting
Tuesday, December 17, 2019**

approved as is, 1/28/20

Board Members Present: Vince Berk, Yolanda Bujarski, Hayes Greenway, Matthew Hayden. Jonathan Voegelé, Becky Wipfler. Administrators: District Administrator Jeff Valence, Coordinator of Business Services Janet Mitchell. Recorded by Roger Lohr

1. Call to Order Chair Jonathan Voegelé called the meeting to order at 7:15 PM.

2. Consent Agenda

A motion was made and seconded (Greenway, Wipfler) to approve the public meeting minutes of December 10, 2019 as submitted. The motion was approved 4-0-2 (Voegelé, Wipfler abstained).

3. Reports

A. Chair Report

The Executive Committee is working on the CBA and the agreement salary parameters that were proposed will be reviewed by the state representative for the education association.

4. Non Public Session

A motion was made and seconded (Berk, Bujarski) to enter nonpublic session in accordance with NH RSA 91-A:3 II (a) to address employee matters and (e) negotiations. The motion passed 6-0-0. The roll call was conducted and the Board entered nonpublic session at 7:21 PM.

A motion to reconvene the public meeting was made and seconded (Greenway, Hayden). The motion passed 6-0-0.

The public session reconvened at 7:55 PM.

5. Business Requiring Action or Discussion

Proposed 2020-21 Lyme School District Budget

DA Valence stated that a draft of the proposed school budget for 2020-21 will be brought to the Lyme Budget Committee on December 18. He reviewed the budget process and timeline and showed information related to changes in the proposed school budget on some slides for the Board.

There was a \$45,000 mistake and a list of reductions to cover that amount was explained. The total proposed budget is \$7,150,197 which is a decrease of about \$170,000 from last year's budget and a 2.32% decline. This amount does not include the potential new CBA agreement. The decreases suggested by the administrators included high school \$38,000, high school special education \$62,000, buildings and grounds, substitutes, transportation, and school board (related legal and advertising). Each \$10,000 of the budget represents .14%.

Chromebooks would be acquired for the third grade and used until the sixth grade. New Chromebooks would be issued for sixth through eighth grade.

There may be an out-of-district placement which would be covered by the SPED Trust. The balances of the trusts included: High School = \$623,000, Special Education = \$298,000, Retirement = \$53,000, Enrollment = \$96,000, Maintenance = \$44,000.

The high school enrollment and plan to cover the projected high school enrollment increases were reviewed. In the last three years high school enrollment has unexpectedly declined, but in 2023-24 it is projected that the High School Trust would be insufficient to prevent a major spike in town taxes associated with the school district budget. The factors for the decline in high school students are uncertain but probably involve students enrolling in private schools and families moving away. The Board discussed the plan to moderate use of the High School Trust so that it could help the town smooth annual tax variation. Another factor involving the Dresden tuition was unknown at the time and additionally the amount of tuition increase at the various high schools was unknown.

The Board discussed the number of projected high school students for next year and how the Lyme Budget Committee will perceive the proposed school budget, priorities, uncertainties, and how or whether to apply the trusts.

There was a Board consensus to bring a proposed school budget to the Budget Committee that was 1% below last year's budget with 94 high school students projected to enroll. The school administrators will recommend changes to the budget that fit the Board's parameters.

6. Adjournment

A motion was made and seconded (Hayden, Greenway) to adjourn the meeting at 10:15 PM. The motion was approved 6-0-0.