

Wareham School Committee

December 15, 2022

The Chair called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

Attendance: Kevin Brogioli, Geoff Swett, Joyce Bacchiocchi, Apryl Rossi and Brennan McKiernan

No public participation.

Pilot Clubs: Wareham Elementary School presented a School Newspaper to be edited by the 4<sup>th</sup> graders, with each grade responsible for a section.

Mr. Swett asked if there were budget concerns, and Dr. Chandler responded that the new clubs would replace inactive clubs that were budgeted for.

The second club, Student Council, was proposed by Ms. Pike, Elementary Teacher. She stated she is hoping to have the club align with the district strategic plan. Ms. Rossi asked if the WMS and WHS student councils could mentor the elementary school.

Both pilot clubs would take place after school, the same as band.

Ms. Rossi made a motion to approve the two pilot clubs, Mr. McKiernan seconded the motion.

Roll Call Vote: Kevin Brogioli - yea, Geoff Swett - yea, Joyce Bacchiocchi – yea, Apryl Rossi – yea, Brennan McKiernan - yea

Yea – 5, Nay – 0 Abstain – 0

VOTE: 5-0-0

Auditorium Lighting:

Scott Palladino announced that Mr. Roth, Music Teacher could not be in attendance. Mr. Roth is requesting the School Committee vote in favor of moving forward with the CPC (Community Preservation Coalition) program to fund the cost of repairs of Auditorium Lighting including the following:

Lighting – 16 fixtures fully illuminate

Stage Lighting

Curtains repairs and rigging

Sound System

Ms. Bacchiocchi asked for the timeline. Mr. Palladino responded that the Mr. Roth is hoping for Spring Town Meeting. Mr. McKiernan would like to see the performance space used by the community as well.

Mr. Swett asked is there a Plan B. He also questioned what segment of the CPC funds are being requested, as this project is not historical, and it is not recreational. Mr. Palladino will need to provide a future update with this information.

The Chair asked for a motion to move forward with the project with CPC project.

Mr. Swett made a motion, seconded by Ms. Rossi

Roll Call Vote: Kevin Brogioli - yea, Geoff Swett - yea, Joyce Bacchiocchi – yea, Apryl Rossi – yea, Brennan McKiernan - yea

Yea – 5, Nay – 0 Abstain – 0

VOTE: 5-0-0

#### Drivers Education, Tina Clark

Ms. Clark, Drivers Instructor since 1998, announced that the price of the class has been the same since 2005. There are now fewer driving schools in the area, and Wareham is receiving many students out of district. The average cost is \$55-\$95 per hour, and currently charge \$40, and looking to increase the program to \$50.

Ms. Rossi asked how many vehicles in the fleet. Ms. Clark responded there are 2 vehicles.

New instructors must be certified through the registry, and certified to be an instructor.

Wareham residents who participate in this program: 120 – 140 students are actively going through the Driver's Ed program. Of this number, 50 of these students are out of district.

Ms. Bacchiocchi asked if there is a limit to the number of students who participate. Ms. Clark likes to keep the class size to 30.

Swett made a motion to approval the increase, Ms. Bacchiocchi seconded the motion.

Roll Call Vote: Kevin Brogioli - yea, Geoff Swett - yea, Joyce Bacchiocchi – yea, Apryl Rossi – yea, Brennan McKiernan - yea

Yea – 5, Nay – 0 Abstain – 0

VOTE: 5-0-0

#### Finance Report:

Ms. Flynn presented the two reports for October and November. She has concerns about the substitute lines, and is also looking at home and hospital tutoring. Funds have been encumbered, however what is left in those accounts for the unexpected funds is very low. Ms. Flynn continues to monitor utilities. Circuit breaker carryover is also monitored.

Chair Brogioli asked about the deficit regarding substitutes, and Ms. Flynn responded after all LEA accounts are exhausted, we would need to look into utilizing ESSER funds.

Mr. Swett asked about freezes or holds on accounts and asked the Superintendent if he has a philosophy on this. Dr. D'Andrea responded that Ms. Flynn has been projecting what we

need to get through the remainder of the school year. We freeze a budget when the budget becomes too tight, and announced he has recently done this.

Ms. Rossi made a motion to approve the bill and payroll warrant, seconded by Mr. Swett

Roll Call Vote: Kevin Brogioli - yea, Geoff Swett - yea, Joyce Bacchiocchi – yea, Apryl Rossi – yea, Brennan McKiernan - yea

Yea – 5, Nay – 0 Abstain – 0

VOTE: 5-0-0

Gifts:

Dr. D’Andrea presented two gifts:

Noah Young donated \$150 to the music and drama departments.

Ms. Rossi made a motion to approve the gift, seconded by Mr. McKiernan

Roll Call Vote: Kevin Brogioli - yea, Geoff Swett - yea, Joyce Bacchiocchi – yea, Apryl Rossi – yea, Brennan McKiernan - yea

Yea – 5, Nay – 0 Abstain – 0

VOTE: 5-0-0

The second gift was from Kristen Willard: One desk, two vertical files, three cubicles

Ms. Rossi made a motion to approve the gift, seconded by Mr. Swett

Roll Call Vote: Kevin Brogioli - yea, Geoff Swett - yea, Joyce Bacchiocchi – yea, Apryl Rossi – yea, Brennan McKiernan - yea

Yea – 5, Nay – 0 Abstain – 0

VOTE: 5-0-0

FY 24 Budget: \$33,510,309.00 (4.67% increase)

The Chair announced that at the recent public hearing a level service budget was presented. Ms. Flynn and the Superintendent are new to this budget, and have learned the budget very well, and feels the recent presentation is more accurate and transparent.

Ms. Flynn presented accurate payroll lines, specifically substitute lines.

Fin Com made it very clear that they could not support the 7% increase. The budget was revised to 4.67% increase. Mr. Swett said, it is a balance. Dr. D’Andrea went through the budget line by line with all principals and with Ms. Flynn.

The Superintendent looked at personnel, retirements, reduction of positions, and the insurance monies to the town without impacting the students. The reductions are impacting the district. Anything more than that will impact students.

Dr. D' Andrea would rather not outline the positions that would be removed as nothing is finalized and is looking into grant opportunities.

Mr. Swett suggested that people might be confused as to why the Supt presented 7% increase, and why we immediately didn't go to the recent percentage, as it does impact the district. 4.67% is the next level of filtering of the budget. Mr. Swett feels this is the right number and hopes the town will find a way to approve it.

Ms. Rossi stated that 7.57% was a level service budget without any additions. Ms. Rossi hopes the town realizes the impact the new budget will make on the district, and hopes the town really rallies behind the school.

Chair Brogioli announced he would recuse himself from the Net and Total vote, due to a conflict of interest, with a family member on staff.

**Net: \$30,689,307.00**

Ms. Rossi made a motion to approve the budget, seconded by Mr. Swett

Roll Call Vote: Kevin Brogioli - abstain, Geoff Swett - yea, Joyce Bacchiocchi – yea, Apryl Rossi – yea, Brennan McKiernan - yea

Yea – 4, Nay – 0 Abstain – 1

VOTE: 4-0-1

**Non-Net: \$2,821,002.00**

Ms. Rossi made a motion to approve the budget, seconded by Mr. Swett

Roll Call Vote: Kevin Brogioli - yea, Geoff Swett - yea, Joyce Bacchiocchi – yea, Apryl Rossi – yea, Brennan McKiernan - yea

Yea – 5, Nay – 0 Abstain – 0

VOTE: 5-0-0

**Total: \$33,510,309.00**

Ms. Rossi made a motion to approve the budget, seconded by Mr. McKiernan

Roll Call Vote: Kevin Brogioli - abstain, Geoff Swett - yea, Joyce Bacchiocchi – yea, Apryl Rossi – yea, Brennan McKiernan - yea

Yea – 4, Nay – 0 Abstain – 1

VOTE: 4-0-1

Bus Driver Contract Vote:

Ms. Rossi made a motion to approve the contract, seconded by Mr. Swett

Roll Call Vote: Kevin Brogioli - yea, Geoff Swett - yea, Joyce Bacchiocchi – yea, Apryl Rossi – yea, Brennan McKiernan - yea

Yea – 5, Nay – 0 Abstain – 0

VOTE: 5-0-0

Mr. Swett publicly stated that the School District is moving in the right direction and complimented the Superintendent and Director of Finance.

Ms. Rossi made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Mr. McKiernan

Roll Call Vote: Kevin Brogioli - yea, Geoff Swett - yea, Joyce Bacchiocchi – yea, Apryl Rossi – yea, Brennan McKiernan - yea

Yea – 5, Nay – 0 Abstain – 0

VOTE: 5-0-0

Meeting adjourned at 7:53 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by: \_\_\_\_\_

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Kevin Brogioli", is written over a horizontal line.