

December 2, 2015

A joint meeting of the Wareham School Committee, Board of Selectmen and Finance Committee was held on Wednesday, December 2, 2015 at 7:00 p.m. in the Wareham Middle School Auditorium.

School Committee present: Geoff Swett, Rhonda Veugen, Mel Lazarus, Cliff Sylvia, Judy Caporiccio, and Noah Wambolt, student rep

School Administration: Dr. Shaver-Hood, Michael MacMillan, and Mrs. Ruiz, recording secretary

Board of Selectmen present: Patrick Tropeano

Board of Selectmen absent: Peter Teitelbaum, Alan Slavin, Stephen Holmes, Judy Whiteside

Town Administrator Derek Sullivan

Finance Committee present: Patricia Rumney, David Heard, Tom Worthen, Bernard Pigeon, and Stuart Novick

Finance Committee absent: Joan Fontes

Chair Swett called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m. He announced that the meeting was being taped by the recording secretary and by WCTV, video and audio. Chair Swett, Mr. MacMillan and Dr. Shaver-Hood will be monitoring their emails during the meeting if anyone from the public had questions regarding the budget.

#### **FY' 17 Budget Public Hearing**

Dr. Shaver-Hood appreciated the board's working collaboratively in the budget process and for the school committee providing vital input. She also thanked the administrators for developing the budget document presented this evening. An overview of the last two budget years was given which included staffing, building changes, program offerings, technology, and bus transportation. The vision was to provide educational experiences for a competitive advantage for our students.

The FY17 Budget presented is a level service budget totaling \$28,382,503.

Mr. MacMillan reviewed the timetable in order to get the budget amount to the Town Administrator prior to January 5th in keeping with the town charter. He and Dr. Shaver-Hood highlighted that following areas:

- Budget Summary
- Proposed Budget by net and non-net chart 2012 through 2017
- Student Enrollment Trends
- Student Enrollment Projections by NESDEC
- Building Footprint and Usage
- Staffing from 2012 through 2016 decrease of 21 employees
- Salaries
- Negotiations for 2016 with Para, Bus Drivers, Custodians, Food Service Workers
- Out of District SpEd Tuition - rate of increase fallen but large expenditure for the number of students and cost
- Expenditure Trends - Heating, Utilities, Substitutes
- All Other Supplies and Services - an increase of no more than 1%
- FY17 Budget Priorities - to meet the needs of all the students in Wareham - technology, in-district sped services, social/emotional/academic learning, professional development of staff

- Projects Within Budget - upgrading textbooks, additional instructional materials, completion of chrome books and iPads, online student support, further development of International Baccalaureate Program, sped health services and transportation, security and building maintenance - roof, desks, doors, carpet, tile
- Priorities not in the budget - culinary equipment and position at WHS; additional ELL teacher; support and professional staff in sped; upgrading security at WMS and WHS

The next steps will be a formal vote by the School Committee to submit to the Town Administrator and work with Town Administrator, Board of Selectmen, Finance Committee, and School Committee on adjustments and an ongoing focus on unmet priorities within the budget, and capital priorities in early 2016.

Dr. Shaver-Hood welcomed questions and comments from the public by calling or emailing her.

Chair Swett opened the floor for questions from the boards and Town Administrator.

The Town Administrator thanked Dr. Shaver-Hood and Mr. MacMillan for their hard work and outreach to him during the budget process.

A question from a Finance Committee member as to the increase in the Assistant Principal budget line.

It was explained that the administration had reconfigured staff in Unit A stipend positions and negotiated with Union to place these positions into Unit B administrators with additional oversight in academics, discipline, and special education.

Chair Swett opened the floor for questions/comments from the audience. There were none

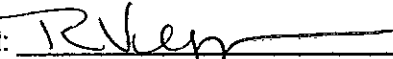
Chair Heard of the Finance Committee thanked the School Administration and Committee for getting its budget out early and applauded them for their work this year.

Chair Swett closed the hearing.

Dr. Sylvia moved to adjourn, seconded by Mr. Lazarus.

VOTE: yea - 5; nay - 0; abstain - 0

The meeting adjourned at 7:38 p.m.

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

**List of documents:**

- WPS Public Hearing Budget Request FY 2017
- WPS Review of FY15 and FY16

RECEIVED

FEB 23 2016

TOWN OF WAREHAM  
TOWN CLERK