

# TOWN OF HUDSON

## Budget Committee

Shawn Jasper, Chairman · Jonathan Maltz, Vice-Chairman

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### Budget Committee Meeting Minutes November 20, 2014

#### A. Call to Order

Chairman Shawn Jasper called the meeting to order at 7:00.

#### B. Pledge of Allegiance

Len Lathrop led the Pledge.

#### C. Attendance

**Members Present:** Chair Shawn Jasper, Vice-Chair Jonathan Maltz, Jim Barnes, Randy Brownrigg, John Drabinowicz, Joyce Goodwin, Geoffrey Keegan, Stephen Nute, Selectman Liaison Pat Nichols, School Board Liaison Patty Langlais

**Members Absent:** Malcolm Price

#### D. Public Input

None provided.

#### E. Review of School Budget

School Superintendent Bryan Lane presented an overview of the School Budget for FY2016. Asst. Superintendent Phyllis Schlichter, Director of Special Services Jeanne Saunders, and Business Administrator Karen Burnell provided information on various topics.

The initial budget proposal would increase the tax rate by approximately \$1 per thousand assessment. However, it was noted that the Health and Dental insurance

costs are coming in below the original estimates provided in the budget under review. Health insurance increase will be 2.4% instead of the estimated 8% increase and the Dental insurance increase will be 1.1% instead of the estimated 4.4%. This decreases the FY2016 budget by \$322,854.

**Motion:** John Drabinowicz moved to reduce the FY2016 School Budget by \$322,854 to an adjusted total of \$50,047,159. Motion seconded by Joyce Goodwin.

**Vote:** Motion passed 10-0.

The following were requested by the Committee from the School Administration. These will be provided for the next meeting.

1. The budget information be provided in spreadsheet format in addition to the pdf format.
2. The actual enrollment figures for the past 5 years were supplied. Projections for the next 5 years also be provided.
3. The job description for the Integration Specialist will be provided.
4. A summary of the staffing changes in Special Education Services will be provided.
5. A five year history of the fund balance at the end of the fiscal year will be provided.

## **F. Warrant Article Straw Votes**

Straw votes on two Warrant Articles were taken.

1. Warrant article 5 – Shall the Hudson School District vote to raise and appropriate a sum up to \$100,000 to be added to the Special Education Expendable Trust Fund? This sum to come from June 30 fund balance available for transfer on July 1. No amount to be raised from taxation.

**Straw vote:** Passed 9-2, all in favor except John Drabinowicz and Randy Brownrigg opposed.

2. Warrant article 6 – Shall the Hudson School District vote to raise and appropriate a sum up to \$100,000 to be added to the existing Capital Reserve School Renovation Fund? This sum to come from June 30 fund balance available for transfer on July 1. No amount to be raised from taxation.

**Straw vote:** Failed 4-6, with Geoffrey Keegan, Jim Barnes, Stephen Nute, and Patty Langlais in favor, remaining members opposed.

### **G. Approval of Minutes**

Motion: Patty Langlais moved to approve the minutes of the Oct. 16 2014 Budget Committee meeting. Motion seconded by John Drabinowicz.

**Vote:** Motion passed 8-0-2, Joyce Goodwin and Pat Nichols abstained.

### **H. Other Business/Comments**

### **I. Adjournment**

Meeting adjourned at 9:34pm.

November 20, 2014

Jim Barnes.

Clerk