

Minutes: November 22, 2010  
Hudson Municipal Budget Committee

Meeting: Budget Committee: Town of Hudson / Hudson School District

Where: Town Hall – Community Development Room

Date: November 22, 2010.

Attendees:

Normand Martin (NM)  
Jonathan Maltz (JM)  
Joyce Goodwin (JG)  
John Drabinowicz (JD) arrived 7:15 pm  
Charlotte Schweiss (CS)  
Laura Bisson (LB)  
Michael Buczynski (MB)  
Roger Coutu (RC)  
Thaddeus Luszey (TL)  
Steve Nute (SN)  
Susan Guarino (SG)-absent

1. Chairman Martin called the meeting to order at 7:03 PM.
2. NM led the Pledge of Allegiance.
3. Public Input – None
4. RC reviewed the school portion of the tax rate based on the budget being presented tonight.
5. Superintendent Randy Bell announced that two items were distributed to members tonight. They are the Executive Summary of the budget and the consolidated Elementary School Budget (which will be presented next week).. RB explained how the Executive Summary has been organized. RB gave an overview of the information that is in the Executive Summary.
6. NM read Warrant Article A. JD commented that we should not be taking a straw pole on this as we will be deliberating this.
7. NM read Warrant Article B. Discussion followed. LB made a motion to take a straw vote to recommend Warrant Article B. CS seconded the motion. The vote was 6 to 4 in favor of recommending Warrant Article B.
8. NM read Warrant Article C. JD made a motion to recommend Warrant Article C. JG seconded the motion. Discussion followed. The motion to recommend passed (6-4).
9. NM read Warrant Article D. JG made a motion to recommend Warrant Article D. SN seconded the motion. Discussion followed. The motion to recommend passed (9-1).
10. NM read Warrant Article E. JD made a motion to recommend Warrant Article E. CS seconded the motion. Discussion followed. LB reports she will request the motion be withdrawn. The motion failed (0-9-1).

11. NM read Warrant Article F. JD made a motion to recommend Warrant Article F. CS seconded the motion. Discussion followed. The motion failed (2-8-0).
12. The meeting went into recess at 7:57 PM.
13. The meeting reconvened at 8:10 PM
14. NM entertained a motion to take up the operating budget of the Hudson School District in the amount of 45,153,030.00. The motion was made by TL and seconded by CS, The motion passed (10-0-0).
15. Principal Nadeau from the Hudson Memorial School presented the budget. In her presentation she explained the items that contributed to an increase as well as a decrease in the budget. Questions and answers followed.
16. A motion was made by TL to request that we be provided justification as to why the per pupil cost has risen from 35.00 to 40.00 per pupil in light of the fact that in the past reducing costs has been given as a justification of increased technology costs. JD seconded the motion. Discussion followed. A unanimous vote in favor followed (10-0-0).
17. CS discussed the budget line item for academic assistance. She explained that the original warrant article re this was for 25,000.00. In the proposed budget it is higher than that due to benefits, etc. CS made a motion re line item 11010241100 function 1100, to reduce the item to a total cost of 25,000.00 (including benefits, etc.). JD seconded the motion. Discussion followed. The motion was unanimously approved (10-0-0).
18. Questions and answers continued.
19. JD made a motion to reduce line item 11712242410 function 2410 by striking the amount of 681,126.00 and insert 659,725.00 (a reduction of 20,404.00). JG seconded the motion for discussion. Discussion followed. JD withdrew his motion.
20. Questions and answers followed.
21. JG discussed the possibility of the School Committee considering the benefits of a Technology Capital Reserve Fund. Discussion followed.
22. JD made a motion to bring to the table the Hudson School District operating budget of 45,148,502.00.  
TL seconded the motion. The motion carried (10-0-0).
23. NM proposed the Budget Committee approve sending an email to the BOS Chairman Ken Massey and the Library Trustees re the Warrant Articles. The Budget Committee had requested that the Warrant Articles be submitted with Warrant Article Worksheets. As we have not received the Warrant Article Worksheets, we cannot accept the information as complete. We are requesting the Warrant Article Worksheet be sent to us. The consensus of the Budget Committee was that they were in favor of sending the email.
24. JD requested that NM send an email to the BOS and IT director re the inability to access internet in the current meeting room.
25. The meeting schedule was reviewed by NM.
26. RC reports that the BOS directed the department heads complete the Warrant Article Worksheet for warrant articles and that they would be forthcoming.
27. CS made a motion to adjourn. JD seconded the motion. A unanimous vote in favor followed (10-0-0).
28. The meeting was adjourned at 9:05 PM.