

Re: Request for FY26 Default Budgets (BOS & School Board)

SJ

Shawn Jasper

To: You; kmwalsh@comcast.net; bob.wherry@rocketmail.com; +5 others

Wed 5/8/2024 8:10 PM

The default amount shall be determined by the governing body, or by the budget committee if the political subdivision has adopted the provisions of RSA 40:14-b, and shall equal the amount of the same appropriation for the preceding fiscal year, reduced and increased, as the case may be, by debt service, contracts, and other obligations previously incurred or mandated by law, and reduced by one-time expenditures contained in the previous year's appropriation. The warrant article shall state the default amount for the appropriation and shall state that if the appropriation proposed in the article is not approved, the default amount shall be deemed to have been approved.

As you can see from the law copied above, none of what is being written below has anything to do with how a default budget is calculated. As to salaries and benefits, they are simply required to use the amount approved, plus any changes due to previously approved. Changes in Special Education also have nothing to do with the default budget. If those costs increase they School Board needs to reduce other expenses to meet those costs. In fact this type of situation is the purpose of a default budget. There is also no mention of Revolving or Special Revenue Funds. I think we now know why the default budget has been so close to the operating budget. Notice that there is no comma between "previously incurred or mandated by law", that means that the second part should be read as "previously mandated by law" There is no reason the default budget can not be set now.

Shawn

From: William Cole

Sent: Wednesday, May 8, 2024 2:04 PM

To: Jasper, Shawn ; kmwalsh@comcast.net ; bob.wherry@rocketmail.com ; Randall Brownrigg ; donnaboucher@rocketmail.com ; kimrice44@gmail.com ; Rich Weissgarber ; Weissgarber Rich

Subject: Fw: Request for FY26 Default Budgets (BOS & School Board)

From: Maureen Dionne <madionne@sau81.org>

Sent: Wednesday, May 8, 2024 12:55 PM

To: William Cole <bcfairway@msn.com>

Cc: Daniel Moulis <dmoulis@sau81.org>; Jennifer Burk <jburk@sau81.org>; jlawrence8ie@gmail.com <jlawrence8ie@gmail.com>; Grace Kennedy <gkennedy@sau81.org>

Subject: Re: Request for FY26 Default Budgets (BOS & School Board)

Hi Bill,

I am in receipt of your email and am responding to let the Budget Committee know that the school district is not able to provide the SAU81 default budget for FY26 by July 20, 2024, as requested, due to the reasons outlined below.

In particular, there are three broad categories that cannot be calculated until the budget is developed beginning in September.

Salaries & Benefits

It is only once the bulk of the hiring for the next school year is complete that the development of the budget is started. Existing staff from the prior year are included with their new salary and benefit levels, however, all of the new hires need to be added as well. Most of those employees do not begin until the end of August, which is why the process begins after the start of the school year. It is important to note that this usually leaves a number of unfilled positions at the start of the budget development process; this number of unfilled positions varies from year to year. Our contractual obligation for staffing does exist with the employees that we'll have as of September 1, 2024, though.

Please note, the salary & benefits costs in the default do not include any newly proposed positions, nor changes to positions that would increase a position from part-time to full-time, as an example – the positions are calculated at the levels in place at the start of the school year, as that would be the ongoing staffing obligation as part of the default calculation.

Special Education Costs

There are both tuition and transportation costs associated with the students included in the special education portion of the budget. It is not until the beginning of the school year that these costs can be calculated by the Director of Special Services, based on the number of students in attendance at the start of the school year. Because the special education costs must be included in the default budget, it is impossible to calculate those costs prior to the start of the new school year.

Revolving & Special Revenue Funds

The defaulted budget calculation includes the updated amounts for the grants, revolving funds, and food services because each is offset by the budgeted revenue. These items, similar to others above, are calculated in September when the district has a clearer picture of which grants they will have, along with the other account types.

Based on the reasons outlined above, and the timeline for budget development (subject to change based on the expectations of the Board), I would expect the default budget to be available when the rest of the proposed FY26 budget is initially presented, in the middle of October.

Thank you,
Maureen Dionne
Hudson, NH School Board Chair

From: William Cole <bcfairway@msn.com>

Sent: Saturday, May 4, 2024 10:21 AM

To: Guessferd Bob <bobhearsyou@gmail.com>; Maureen Dionne <madionne@sau81.org>

Cc: Malizia, Steve <smalizia@hudsonnh.gov>; Labrie, Lisa <llabrie@hudsonnh.gov>; HEIDI JAKOBY <hjakoby@comcast.net>; Morin, Dave <dmorin@hudsonnh.gov>; Daniel Moulis <dmoulis@sau81.org>; Jennifer Burk <jburk@sau81.org>; jlawrence8ie@gmail.com <jlawrence8ie@gmail.com>

Subject: Request for FY26 Default Budgets (BOS & School Board)

Chairman Guessferd / Chairman Dionne,

At its 1 May 2024 meeting the Hudson Municiple Budget Committee approved the following Motion by Vice-Chairman Lawrence:

"To request the Town of Hudson (Board of Selectmen) and the SAU 81 (Hudson School Board) submit their respective Default Budgets for FY26 to the Budget Committee NLT (Not Later Than) 20 July 2024"

Please consider this e-mail as an official request for information from the Budget Committee, as referenced above.

If unable to comply with the requested delivery date (NLT 20 Ju '24), please contact me, soonest.

Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at your convenience.

Respectfully request you acknowledge receipt of this e-mail / request.

Best regards,

Bill

William Cole

Chairman

Hudson Municiple Budget Committee