

Hanover School Committee Meeting Minutes  
March 12, 2014  
Hanover High School

**Present:** William Marriner, Michael Phillips, Ruth Lynch & Libby Corbo

**Also Present:** Matthew Ferron, Deb St. Ives, Beverly Shea

**Call to Order:** Meeting was called to order by 7:00 pm by Chairman Marriner.

**Public Comments:**

Tim Buckley- would like budget issues to include athletic fees- his family pays over \$1200 fees and it is a real burden on families

- Would like to see an accounting of the user athletic fees – how spent versus what is collected – this is a formal request and would like it presented- Response by Mr. Marriner that he can provide that for this year and will try to provide it for the past three years
- For example: cross-country fee was \$250 and there is at least 40 people- so where are the funds going? Also, he pays \$350 for football user fees
- He feels that are fees are not consistent with neighboring towns

**Approval of Minutes:**

- Motion by Corbo to approve the minutes of March 4, 2014. The motion was seconded by Phillips. The motion carried unanimously.
- Motion by Corbo to amend my prior motion to approve the minutes dated March 5, 2014, not March 4, 2014. The motion was seconded by Phillips. The motion carried unanimously.

**Report of Superintendent:**

**MASS Award**

- Presented an award to Emma Stone
- Mr. Ferron highlighted Emma's accomplishments, including being first in her class

A five-minute recess was taken, the meeting to reconvene at 7:25 pm.

**Events and Updates**

- Mr. Ferron received an email regarding-Chapter 70 funding proposal- consistent with what we were expecting. It includes a \$65,000 increase to Hanover.
- Likely that .30 cents might be the increase in lunch prices-Mr. Ferron is still exploring some options to make it self funded
- Kindergarten Proposed Tuition will be \$3,750.00, which is in line with what the parents have been told the tuition will be
- Question by Mr. Phillips- can the tuition be paid over time? Response by Ms. St. Ives that the parents do have an option to make 4 payments or pay in full
- On March 26, 2014, the Kindergarten tuition will be put on the agenda for a formal vote of approval
- Hanover High School Hockey- Playing for Eastern Championship- currently they are winning 1-0; Hockey Team defeated Wayland 3-0!! Congratulations!
- Building Committee- Sylvester/Center Project- School Committee needs a to send a representative to be on it

- Question by Mr. Marriner- can we appoint a representative on behalf of the school committee? Mr. Ferron will look into that and let them know. It will put on the agenda for March 26, 2014.

#### FY 15 Budget Proposal Discussion

-FY15 Level Service Budget: Grand Total \$25,016,058.62 versus total anticipated Revenue is \$24,927,579.00. So, the funding gap is \$88,479.62. The Town approved a projected warrant article for special Ed relief is \$500,000.00

- FY15 Proposed package 3/5/14 to include counseling proposal is an additional \$309,575.80

#### Level Service Proposed Salaries FY15

- Question by Mr. Phillips- are we comfortable with the grant funding? Mr. Ferron that the grant amounts should be consistent- haven't heard of any changes at the federal or state level
- Statement by Mr. Marriner that there were some salaries that were not reported in the personnel side- Response by Mr. Ferron that for example, some of the stipends were not included, but going forward he would like to see them included on the salary side
- Comment by Ms. Corbo that she would like to see the increase in salary expense from year to year on each line item (budgeted/expended/projected comparisons)
- Comment by Mr. Marriner that if there are significant increases/reorganizations- is there documentation to support the changes? Response by Mr. Ferron that changes were made to better the organization
- Comment by Ms. Corbo- She would like a list of employees who received an increase of more than 8% or 10%? She would not feel comfortable voting on the budget without that information. She would abstain from voting.
- Response by Mr. Ferron -There is 1 position that was underpaid for that role- a recommendation from the Department Head was that that the HR Supervisor position would increase to around \$70,000 from around \$50,000, due to increase in responsibilities/duties and the confidentiality of the position
- Question by Ms. Lynch- was the person under contract? Response by Mr. Ferron that she was and it was in place before he arrived
- Comment by Ms. Corbo that she would like to know where the \$20,000.00 came from? Response by Mr. Ferron that he's not exactly sure, but line items are transferred all the time and he tries to be transparent
- High School Salaries- Question by Ms. Lynch-\$30,000.00 (increase .6) for drama teacher- why is that item there? She thought it was a proposal by Dr. Raab? Mr. Ferron responds-Ultimately, we are not adding any expenses to the district, we are maintaining the current position- someone left and it was reorganized. It was already there, it's just how it's being reported
- Mr. Marriner would like to schedule another meeting for next Tuesday, March 18, 2014 at 7pm to review the budget further
- Questions by Ms. Lynch- Is there an individual in the district who overlooks copy machines? \$35,000 in the district for lease/maintenance of copy machines- does someone oversee this? \$4,000 in shredding? Does someone else have that responsibility?
- Ms. Lynch-Is there a 5-year plan for text book replacements?
- Ms. Lynch-Line item for local/state/federal memberships of \$20,000? What is that? What is the breakdown?

Public Comments:

Joan Port Farwell- Thank you for scrutinizing the budget.

- Level Service- What is the credit for fuel \$35,000? Response by Mr. Ferron that its directly attributable to transportation contract and fuel charges
- The 160 students are figured in for high school students, which estimates about \$48,000- is there that level of interest? Is that figure accurate? Response by Mr. Ferron that the transportation contract will be finalized shortly

Sue Scanlon

- Salaries/Stipends would like those to be shifted to personnel- Consider the savings as well as the increase in salaries
- Align the expenses to show the variances from last year to this year as well
- Also would like to know in areas where we save, is it a true savings or is there a detriment to the students/community?

Tim Buckley

- When will budget be approved? Response by Mr. Marriner that On Tuesday the committee votes on it. Then they will go in front of Town on Wednesday, and then at town meeting the advisory committee puts forth their recommendation.

Motion by Corbo to adjourn at 8:33p.m. The motion was seconded by Phillips. The motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted

Andrea Holmes

3/13/14

Documents Used:

Minutes 3-5-14

FY15 Budget Overview Documents