

Deliberative Session
Monadnock Regional School District
Monadnock Regional MS/HS Auditorium
February 11,2012

Board Members Present: Bruce Barlow, Lisa Steadman, Winston Wright, Phyllis Peterson, Patricia Bauries, Richard Thackston, James Carnie and Jen Labadie.

Budget Committee Members Present: Neil Moriarty, Wendy Martel, Tom Parker, Wayne Lechluder, Allison Solomonides, Beth Poulin-Smith, Bonnie Black, Ruth Hayn, Robert Smith, Anna Thackston and Ryan Avery,

Administration Present: David Hodgdon, Superintendent, Karen Craig, Assistant Superintendent and Jane Fortson, Business Manager.

Also Present: Moderator Hutwelker, Assistant Moderator Keith Thibeault and Attorney O'Shaunessey

Moderator Hutwelker welcomed everyone to the Deliberative Session. He asked the Boy Scouts to lead the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance. Introductions were made for the School Board, Budget Committee and the administration.

Moderator Hutwelker introduced the principals present: J. Butterfield, J. Smith, B. Tatro and M. Suarez.

Moderator Hutwelker explained the rules of the meeting. He congratulated the School Board and the Budget Committee for all the work they do.

Moderator Hutwelker explained he will reverse Article Eleven and Article Ten. He explained the voters cannot change the subject matter of an article only the amount can be changed.

Moderator Hutwelker read the entire Ballot.

STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE
MONADNOCK REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
WARRANT FOR 2012-2013
Ballot Version February 11, 2012

To the inhabitants of the Cooperative School District in the Towns of Fitzwilliam, Gilsum, Richmond, Roxbury, Sullivan, Swanzey and Troy qualified to vote in the District Affairs:

You are hereby notified to meet at the **Monadnock Regional Middle/High School on Saturday, the 11th day of February, 2012 at 10:00 o'clock in the forenoon** for the purpose of hearing an explanation of the following subjects and to carry on any discussion or debate with respect thereto, with said subjects to be open to amendment:

NOTICE: School District Officers will be elected at the second session of the Annual Meeting of the Monadnock regional School District on March 13th, 2012 in accordance with the statutory election procedures adopted by a vote of the District on March 11, 1996. The School District Warrant for the election of School District Officials will be posted in accordance with Revised Statutes Annotated (RSA) 40:13 in each of the District's member Towns.

The polls will be open to voters in their towns of residence on March 13th, as follows:

Fitzwilliam – Town Hall, 11 am-7pm
Gilsum – Gilsum Elementary School, 1pm-7pm
Richmond-Veterans Hall, 11am-7pm
Roxbury-Meeting House, 6:30pm-mid-meeting
Sullivan-Town Hall, 11am-7pm
Swanzy-Christian Life Fellowship Church, 8am-7pm
Troy-Troy Elementary School, 10am-7pm

Moderator Hutwelker read ARTICLE ONE: Shall the Monadnock Regional School District raise and appropriate in the operating budget not including appropriations by special warrant articles, which will be voted on separately, totaling \$32,500,000 (\$970,000 is required for federal grants and nutrition grants that are funded by separate State and Federal revenues)? Should this article be defeated, the default budget will be \$33,851,466 which is the same as last year with certain adjustments required by previous action of the Monadnock Regional School District by law; or the governing body may hold one special meeting, in accordance with Revised Statutes Annotated (RSA) 40:13, X and XVI, to take up the issue of a revised operating budget only. The School Board supports this article. The Budget Committee supports this article. (Majority vote required) **MOTION:** N. Moriarty **MOVED** Article One as presented to be placed on the ballot. **SECOND:** P. Sherring. **VOTE:** Voice vote yes. **Motion passes.** **MOTION:** E. Kaplan. **MOVED** to restrict reconsideration of Article One. **SECOND:** P. Sherring. **VOTE:** Voice vote yes. **Motion passes.**

Moderator Hutwelker read ARTICLE TWO: To see if the Monadnock Regional School District will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$1,348,078.00 for renovations at the Monadnock Regional High School-Middle School as recommended by the New England Association of Schools and Colleges (NEASC)? This a Special Warrant Article in accordance with RSA 32:3 VI. This will be a non-lapsing warrant article per RSA 32:7 and will not lapse until the maintenance projects are complete or June 30, 2015 whichever is earlier. The School Board supports this article. The Budget Committee supports this article. (Majority vote required) **MOTION:** P. Sherring. **MOVED** Article Two as presented to be placed on the ballot. **SECOND:** R. Smith. **VOTE:** Voice vote yes. **Motion passes.** **MOTION:** E. Kaplan **MOVED** to restrict reconsideration of Article Two. **SECOND:** R. Smith. **VOTE:** Voice vote yes. **Motion passes.**

Moderator Hutwelker read ARTICLE THREE: To see if the Monadnock Regional School District will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$172,600.00 for repair of health and safety related maintenance items and for the roof repair at the Cutler Elementary Schools. This a Special Warrant Article in accordance with RSA 32:3 VI. This will be a non-lapsing warrant article per RSA 32:7 and will not lapse until the maintenance projects are complete or June 30, 2015 whichever is earlier. The School Board supports this article. The Budget Committee supports this article. (Majority vote required) **MOTION:** P. Sherring **MOVED** Article Three as presented to be placed on the ballot. **SECOND:** R. Smith. **DISCUSSION:** **MOTION:** R. Thackston **MOVED** to amend Article Three as follows: **ARTICLE THREE:** To see if the Monadnock Regional School District will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$172,600.00 for repair of health and safety related maintenance items and for the roof repair at the District’s Elementary Schools. This a Special Warrant Article in accordance with RSA 32:3 VI. This will be a non-lapsing warrant article per RSA 32:7 and will not lapse until the maintenance projects are complete or June 30, 2015 whichever is earlier. The School Board supports this article. The Budget Committee supports this article. (Majority vote required) **SECOND:** R. Smith. **DISCUSSION:** It was explained that a majority of the repairs will be at Cutler but there are other items that

need to be done at other schools. L. Faulkner asked if the Board had received estimates. R. Thackston explained estimates were received. He reviewed the list of items that need to be repaired. K. Saveen asked what type of roof would be put on the Cutler School. Moderator Hutwelker explained this is not the time for discussion. The Board has many meeting to this point where the roof was discussed. K. Saveen commented there are many meetings that people have to be at. **VOTE:** Voice vote yes. **Motion passes.**

Moderator Hutwelker read ARTICLE FOUR: Shall the Monadnock Regional School District vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$50,000 to be added to the 2003 Special Education Expendable Trust Fund created under Article #5 of the 2003-04 Warrant? The School Board supports this article. The Budget Committee does not support this article. (Majority vote required). **MOTION:** R. Avery. **MOVED** Article Four as presented to be placed on the ballot. **SECOND:** man in audience. **DISCUSSION:** M. Blackledge asked why the Budget Committee is not supporting this article. W. Lechlinder explained the main reason is there are a lot of articles with money related and we wanted to take off one. It could backfire. J. Fortson reported there is a balance of \$262,000.00 in the account. P. Peterson explained it looks like a large amount but if one child moves into the District we are required to give the child the services they need. She would support this article. J. Labadie commented the odds of having a student come into the District with needs is high. It is very important to have the funds. N. Moriarty explained he was the creator of this article with the target amount of \$250,000.00. We are asking a lot this year and the Budget Committee felt we should take this off. E. Kaplan explained it will go on the ballot unless the amount is changed. **VOTE:** Voice vote yes. **Motion passes.** **MOTION:** E. Kaplan **MOVED** to restrict reconsideration of Article Three and Article Four. **SECOND:** R. Smith. **VOTE:** Voice vote yes. **Motion passes.**

Moderator Hutwelker read ARTICLE FIVE: Shall the voters of the Monadnock Regional School District raise and appropriate the amount of \$71,000.00 for the purpose of funding a School Resource Officer at the High School/Middle School? The School Board supports this article. The Budget Committee does not support this article. (Majority vote required) **MOTION:** R. Smith. **MOVED** Article Five as presented to be placed on the ballot. **SECOND:** E. Kaplan. **DISCUSSION:** J. Butterfield commented that there is nothing more important than the safety of the students. The SRO does not guarantee that nothing will happen but the SRO can help manage the situation. He supports this article. **VOTE:** Voice vote yes. **Motion passes.**

Moderator Hutwelker read ARTICLE SIX: To see if the Monadnock Regional School District will vote to approve the cost items included in the three-year Collective Bargaining Agreement reached between the Monadnock Regional School Board and the Monadnock Education Support Staff Association (MESSA) for the following increases in wages and benefits at the current staffing levels.

The Agreement includes provisions that change the method of employee/employer cost sharing. The District will fund a total of \$1,950,000 for the District's contribution to the MESSA employee's health care costs for the first year of this contract. The MESSA Association will be responsible for selecting the insurance plans and determining the amount of contribution for each union employee. The amount contributed by the District in years two and three of the contract will increase by the lesser of the Guaranteed Maximum Rate increase or 5%, each year.

The estimated increase in the costs for wages and benefits under the collective bargaining agreement are as follows:

Year	Estimated Increase:		
2012-13	\$123,740	Salaries	(2% Paraprofessionals, 3% IT, all receive step increases)

	\$ 20,355	Wage-driven benefits (Social Security, NHRS, etc.)
	<u>\$ 7,340</u>	Insurance cost sharing increase
	\$151,435	Total
2013-14	\$ 87,440	Salaries (2% Paraprofessionals, 3% IT, all receive step increases)
	\$ 14,385	Wage-driven benefits (Social Security, NHRS, etc.)
	<u>\$ 97,500</u>	5% Insurance cost sharing increase (presented at maximum increase)
	\$199,325	Total
2014-15	\$ 73,950	Salaries (2% IT, 1% all other groups and all receive step increases)
	\$ 12,165	Wage-driven benefits (Social Security, NHRS, etc.)
	<u>\$102,375</u>	5% Insurance cost sharing increase (presented at maximum increase)
	\$188,490	Total

And further to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$151,435** for the 2012-13 fiscal year, such sum representing the additional cost attributable to the increase in wages and benefits over those of the appropriation at current staffing levels paid in the 2011-12 year. The School Board supports this appropriation. The Budget Committee supports this appropriation. (Majority vote required). **MOTION:** P. Sherring **MOVED** Article Six as presented to be placed on the ballot. **SECOND:** E. Kaplan. **DISCUSSION:** M. Blackledge commented the Budget Committee stated the insurance could be less at a better rate but the teachers refused to change. R. Thackston commented that is a valid concern. That is dated information. The principle achievement of the negotiations is your point. We have agreed on a fixed amount of money for the insurance. We can work with the unions to find cost effective plans for everyone regardless of the performance. The step increases are built in and the raises are on performance. **VOTE:** Voice vote yes. **Motion passes.** **MOTION:** E. Kaplan **MOVED** to restrict reconsideration of Article Six. **SECOND:** P. Sherring. **VOTE:** Voice vote yes. **Motion passes.**

Moderator Hutwelker read ARTICLE SEVEN: To see if the Monadnock Regional School District will vote to approve the cost items included in the four-year Collective Bargaining Agreement reached between the Monadnock Regional School Board and the Monadnock District Education Association (MDEA) for the following increases in wages and benefits at the current staffing levels.

The Agreement includes provisions that change the method of employee/employer cost sharing. The District will fund a total of \$2,300,000 for the District's contribution to the MDEA employee's health care costs for the first year of this contract. The MDEA Association will be responsible for selecting the insurance plans and determining the amount of contribution for each union employee. The amount contributed by the District in years two, three and four of the contract will increase by the lesser of the Guaranteed Maximum Rate increase or 5%, each year. Additionally, the amount provided for longevity will decrease \$30,000 to \$220,000 in year 1 of the contract and remain at that level for the remaining three years of the contract.

The estimated increase in the costs for wages and benefits under the collective bargaining agreement are as follows:

Year	Estimated Increase:	
2012-13	\$117,840	Salaries (steps only)
	\$ 22,330	Wage-driven benefits (Social Security, NHRS, etc.)
	(\$ 30,000)	Reduction in the Annual Longevity contribution
	<u>(\$ 51,900)</u>	Insurance cost sharing decrease

	\$ 58,270	Total
2013-14	\$112,765	Salaries (steps only)
	\$ 21,370	Wage-driven benefits (Social Security, NHRS, etc.)
	<u>\$115,000</u>	5% Insurance cost sharing increase (presented at maximum increase)
	\$249,135	Total
2014-15	\$ 153,200	Salaries (steps plus .5% increase)
	\$ 29,030	Wage-driven benefits (Social Security, NHRS, etc.)
	<u>\$120,750</u>	5% Insurance cost sharing increase (presented at maximum increase)
	\$302,980	Total
2015-16	\$266,440	Salaries (steps plus 1.75% increase)
	\$ 50,490	Wage-driven benefits (Social Security, NHRS, etc.)
	<u>\$126,790</u>	5% Insurance cost sharing increase (presented at maximum increase)
	\$443,720	Total

And further to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$58,270** for the 2012-13 fiscal year, such sum representing the additional cost attributable to the increase in wages and benefits over those of the appropriation at current staffing levels paid in the 2011-12 year. The School Board supports this appropriation. The Budget Committee supports this appropriation. (Majority vote required). **MOTION:** A. Solomonides **MOVED** Article Seven as presented to be placed on the ballot. **SECOND:** R. Smith. **VOTE:** Voice vote yes. **Motion passes.** **MOTION:** E. Kaplan **MOVED** to restrict reconsideration of Article Seven. **SECOND:** P. Sherring. **VOTE:** Voice vote yes. **Motion passes.**

Moderator Hutwelker read ARTICLE EIGHT: Shall the Monadnock Regional School District vote to establish an Expendable Trust Fund under the provisions of RSA 198:20-C for the purpose of supporting before and after school programs and to raise and appropriate \$150,000 to be placed in said fund and appoint the school board as agents to expend from this fund. The School Board supports this article. The Budget Committee supports this article. (Majority vote required) **MOTION:** P. Sherring **MOVED** Article Eight as presented to be placed on the ballot. **SECOND:** E. Kaplan. **VOTE:** Voice vote yes. **Motion passes.** **MOTION:** E. Kaplan **MOVED** to restrict reconsideration on Article Eight. **SECOND:** R. Smith. **VOTE:** Voice vote yes. **Motion passes.**

Moderator Hutwelker read ARTICLE NINE: Shall the Monadnock Regional School District receive and approve the reports of the agents, auditors, committees, and officers chosen as printed and distributed in the Annual Report? (Majority vote required). **MOTION:** N. Moriarty **MOVED** Article Nine as presented to be placed on the ballot. **SECOND:** R. Smith. **VOTE:** Voice vote yes. **Motion passes.** **MOTION:** E. Kaplan. **MOVED** to restrict reconsideration of Article Nine. **SECOND:** R. Smith. **VOTE:** Voice vote yes. **Motion passes.**

Moderator Hutwelker read ARTICLE TEN: To see if the voters of the Monadnock Regional School District (MRSD) will authorize the Monadnock Regional School Board to sell the Wilcox School, 633 Old Homestead Highway, Swanzey N.H., with the proceeds of such sale to be placed in the general operating budget of the MRSD. **By Petition.** **MOTION:** P. Sherring. **MOVED** Article Ten as presented to be placed on the ballot. **SECOND:** W. Martel. **DISCUSSION:** W. Lechlinder explained he is the author of this article and we should eliminate this building at a cost savings. R. Thackston commented that he would respectfully disagree with the sale of the building. The District has used that building over time. The Board has ideas on what to do with it.

We have space issues. J. Carnie is concerned but this is nothing but advisory. He does not believe it can be changed. It is advisory. Attorney O'Shaunessey explained this is a recommendation. The School Board does not have to act on this. This is advisory only. R. Smith commented the District sold the Surry School. J. Johnson commented we need to give consideration on the article. E. Kaplan commented the article gives the authority to the School Board which they already have. **VOTE:** Voice vote no. **Article Ten will go on the ballot as presented.** **MOTION:** E. Kaplan. **MOVED** to restrict reconsideration of Article Ten. **SECOND:** B. Barlow. **VOTE:** Voice vote yes. **Motion passes.** R. Smith asked if the Board was obligated to sell the Wilcox Building back to Swanzey. R. Thackston asked where he heard that. R. Smith stated it was from the administration. It was commented this article does not state to sell it to Swanzey. Moderator Hutwelker ruled the discussion out of order.

Moderator Hutwelker read ARTICLE ELEVEN: To listen to opinions of a purely advisory nature with regards to the conduct of school affairs for the ensuing year. (Majority vote required). **MOTION:** N. Moriarty **MOVED** Article Eleven as presented to be placed on the ballot. **SECOND:** R. Smith. **VOTE:** Voice vote yes. **Motion passes.**

By the Monadnock Regional School Board: Given under our hands and seal this 11th day of February, 2012, Monadnock Regional School Board:

Copy of notice – Attest: _____
District Clerk Date

MOTION: N. Moriarty. **MOVED** to adjourn the meeting at 11:15 AM until March 13, 2012. **SECOND:** R. Avery. **VOTE:** Voice vote yes. **Motion passes**

Respectfully submitted,

Laura L. Aivaliotis
MRSD Recording Secretary