

**Finance Committee Meeting Minutes  
December 10, 2019 (Not Yet Approved)  
MRSD/SAU 93 Conference Room  
Swanzey, NH**

**Members Present:** Neil Moriarty, W. Wright, Betty Tatro, and Kristie Wilder

**Absent:** K. Wheeler

**Also Present:** L. Witte, Superintendent, J. Morin, Business Administrator, and L. Aivaliotis, Recording Secretary

**1. Public Comments:** There were no Public Comments.

**2. Approval of the October 8, 2019 Minutes, November 12, 2019 Minutes and the November 26, 2019 Minutes:** **MOTION:** N. Moriarty **MOVED** to approve the October 8, 2019, Meeting Minutes as presented. **SECOND:** B. Tatro. **VOTE:** W. Wright-yes, B. Tatro-yes, N. Moriarty-yes, and K. Wilder-abstain. **Motion passes.** **MOTION:** N. Moriarty **MOVED** to approve the November 12, 2019 Minutes as presented. **SECOND:** B. Tatro. **VOTE:** W. Wright-abstain, B. Tatro-yes, N. Moriarty-yes, and K. Wilder-yes. **Motion passes.** **MOTION:** N. Moriarty **MOVED** to approve the November 26, 2019 Minutes as presented. **SECOND:** W. Wright. **VOTE:** W. Wright-yes, B. Tatro-yes, N. Moriarty-yes, and K. Wilder-yes

**3. Business Administrator and Report:**

**a. Monthly Expense Report:** J. Morin presented the Monthly Expense Report to the committee. She explained the percentages left are pretty close to last month. All of the salaries and benefits have been encumbered. We have made changes in staff and smaller classes. Next month she is not sure what the report will look like due to the new financial system to be up and running in January. There was a concern with the remaining balance for Emerson. J. Morin explained the administration usually purchases items at the beginning of the year and she has asked them to put in their requests before the new system. B. Tatro commented if a transfer is needed for Emerson we may have to do it. J. Morin explained the schools have what they need. We would have to look at the transfer and make sure the other schools will not fall short. L. Witte gave J. Morin a pat on the back. She has been very cool in regards to pushing the button on the new financial system in less than a month. J. Morin explained the training that has been going on and how J. Rathbun has done a great job. He has picked it up quickly, is very excited about the system and has been training staff.

**4. Main Agenda Items:**

**a. Warrant Articles:** J. Morin explained Article Four which is for maintenance and repairs to the District Schools is now proposed for \$240,000.00. The projects have been defined. The projects include heating and cooling for Gilsum, Troy roof, windows for Fitzwilliam, AC for Cutler, secure entry for Fitzwilliam and carpet tiles for the HS auditorium. Language has been added to Article 7 and Article 8 to have the funding for these articles to come from the unassigned fund balance. Article One is in the amount of \$32,835,537 plus the \$970,000.00. J. Morin explained there is no default number. The Budget Committee will be meeting on December 18, 2019. N. Moriarty suggested putting the \$970,000.00 in the budget book so it would not get lost or forgotten. J. Morin explained D. LaPointe said it was not necessary to have heavy equipment in Article 7. He wanted the funds to purchase trucks and vans. There is a truck that will need to be replaced. N. Moriarty said it is hard to start the amount too high. D. LaPointe said the District could replace a vehicle each year. J. Morin said \$50,000.00 is more than enough for 1 vehicle. The wheelchair van is used by 4 students. The committee asked about Article 3. N. Moriarty commented K. Barker does not want to attack Gilsum because of K. Wheeler. He is a friend of Karen's and he feels the Gilsum School should be closed. N. Moriarty commented if this article passes sell Wilcox to cover the cost. We need to show the savings with the options. L. Witte commented it is in the overall view. N. Moriarty stated K. Barker did a great job and we got our money's worth. L. Witte will send the study electronically to the Board. It was commented K. Barker is keeping Troy and Swanzey open because they are the bigger towns even though he said he was not a politician. W. Wright commented new people coming to the District are used to having their kids travel to schools. L. Witte commented if an option is not picked you will not need to have this article. J. Morin explained the District will be receiving a one-time sum of money in the amount of 1.395 million. This amount would be enough to cover Article 2 and Article 3. It would take care of the eyesore and the feasibility study. L. Witte explained these are one time funds from the State and no questions asked. The State wants districts to use the funds for things they were not able to afford. N. Moriarty would suggest a letter explaining the funding for all-day kindergarten does not pay for it all.

L. Witte explained the proposed budget is an increase of \$918,610.00 which is 2.88% with an additional 4 items being proposed to be added. The SRO proposal amount is down to \$46,725.00. This is a part-time position of 1144 hours and 176 days. Each day is 6 ½ hours. The MOU will not be completed until the vote has been taken. Swanzey will have to put the SRO on their town warrant as well. The

guidance proposal is for 1.5 positions in the amount of \$120,684.00. This increase is in response to student needs. If the proposal passes each school will have a guidance counselor and Gilsum will have .5 guidance counselor. The curricular and extra-curricular stipends are also one of the 4 additional items being proposed in the amount of \$57,393.00 and \$59,564.00. L. Witte explained these items are on the Board's agenda for Tuesday. L. Witte explained the total one-time funding in the amount of 1.4 million will offset the total warrant. N. Moriarty would suggest putting the Feasibility Study in the proposed budget. L. Witte will bring that idea to the Board. B. Tatro commented it may jeopardize the proposed budget with too many money items being added.

**5. The next Finance Meeting is scheduled for January 14, 2020, at 5:30 PM.**

**6. Public Comments:** There were no Public Comment.

**7. Adjourn: MOTION:** K. Wilder **MOVED** to adjourn the meeting at 6:30 PM.  
**SECOND:** B. Tatro **VOTE:** Unanimous for those present. **Motion passes.**

**Respectfully submitted,**

**Laura L. Aivaliotis**  
**Recording Secretary**