

Finance Committee Meeting Minutes
November 26, 2019
MRSD/SAU 93 Conference Room
Swanzey, NH

Members Present: Neil Moriarty, Karen Wheeler, and Kristie Wilder

Absent: W. Wright and Betty Tatro

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

1. Public Comments: There were no Public Comments.

2. Approval of the November 12, 2019, Meeting Minutes: The minutes will be voted on at the next meeting.

K. Wheeler commented she feels as if the Board wants this committee to vote on the warrants and bring to the full Board. She does not feel comfortable voting without knowing the budget number. J. Morin explained K. Barker reduced the engineering and design article to \$250,000.00.

3. Business Administrator and Report:

a. Monthly Expense Report: J. Morin presented the monthly expense report. She said there is not a lot of change. Cutler has less than 1% of their budget remaining. J. Morin will have to look closer at that and may have to look at possibly transferring funds. Wilcox has a budget number of \$12,000.00. Those funds are to maintain the building.

4. Main Agenda Items:

a. Warrant Articles: J. Morin explained the Board has a policy on when to have the warrant articles ready. The date is very early and she would suggest an amendment to that policy. She explained D. LaPointe was able to work the numbers and reduce the 1.29 million for the removal of the temporary structures at the MSHS and replacing them to 1.13 million. Article One is set by the Budget Committee. Article Two is for the removal and replacement of structures. There is no Building Aid for this project. MTC was 1.4 million with no Building Aid. N. Moriarty asked about Wilcox. J. Morin explained the building is used for a number of things. She also explained we will receive 1.4 more in Adequacy Aid. That amount will be enough to cover Article Two and Article Three. We need the space and need to replace those temporary structures. N. Moriarty commented the enrollment is down and we need the classrooms? Article Three is for engineering and design as a result of the Feasibility Study in the amount of

\$250,000.00. N. Moriarty commented if we do not have an option picked and show savings this article will not pass. J. Morin explained the number is firm. Article Four is in the amount of \$275,000.00 to maintain the elementary schools in the District. J. Morin explained the message from the School Board was we need to maintain the schools. We do not have an identified list or specifics but hope to firm that up soon. Either identify projects or put the funds in the Maintenance Expendable Trust. The administration felt the \$250,000.00 for the engineering and design was priority on the list. Article Five is for the Special Ed. Expendable Trust. K. Wheeler asked if the amount should be more than \$1.00. J. Morin explained we are within budget in Special Ed. There are \$328,971.00 in the Special Ed. Expendable Trust. Article Six is a recommendation by the Trustees to transfer funds and close an account. Article Seven is for a District Vehicle Expendable Trust. J. Morin explained she felt the original intent was for vehicles. K. Wheeler asked if we want to eliminate heavy equipment. N. Moriarty is okay with the \$50,000.00. K. Wheeler would leave heavy equipment in the article. Article Eight is for a School Grounds Expendable Trust. This article can be used to repair parking lots, tennis courts, tracks and more. The School Building Maintenance account cannot be used to do those things. Are Article Seven and Article Eight coming from the fund balance or raised and appropriate? Article Nine is to retain some of the funds from the year-end unassigned funds. N. Moriarty said it is a good idea but he is not sure it will fly. J. Morin explained she put this in order to have a conversation. She also explained all of the towns have set their tax rates.

Article One is the Budget Committee's article.

Article Two: N. Moriarty said this committee should not vote without knowing the budget number. He will also vote no on the 4 new classrooms.

K. Wheeler would like to bring the policy regarding recurring motions to the Board at the next meeting. **MOTION:** K. Wheeler **MOVED** to revisit the policy of recurring motions in regards to the date for the budget and the warrant articles and to bring to the full Board. **SECOND:** K. Wilder. **VOTE:** Unanimous **Motion passes.**

Article Two: MOTION: K. Wilder **MOVED** to accept the wording of Article Two and to forward to the full Board. **SECOND:** K. Wheeler. **VOTE:** Unanimous for those present. **Motion passes.**

Article Three: MOTION: K. Wilder **MOVED** to accept the wording of Article Three and to forward to the full Board. **SECOND:** K. Wheeler. **VOTE:** Unanimous for those present. **Motion passes.**

Article Four: K. Wheeler explained we cannot vote not knowing the items identified.

Article Five: MOTION: N. Moriarty **MOVED** to accept the wording of Article Five and to forward to the full Board. **SECOND:** K. Wilder. **VOTE:** Unanimous for those present. **Motion passes.**

Article Six: MOTION: N. Moriarty **MOVED** to accept the wording of Article Six and to forward to the full Board. **SECOND:** K. Wilder. **VOTE:** Unanimous for those present. **Motion passes.**

Article Seven: N. Moriarty does not believe the committee is ready to vote until they ask D. LaPointe about the wording.

Article Eight: The committee would like to discuss this article more before voting.

Article Nine: MOTION: N. Moriarty **MOVED** to accept the wording of Article Nine and to forward to the full Board. **SECOND:** K. Wilder. **VOTE: Motion passes.**

Article Ten and Article Eleven: MOTION: N. Moriarty **MOVED** to accept the wording on Article Ten and Article Eleven and to forward to the full Board.

SECOND: K. Wilder. **VOTE:** Unanimous for those present. **Motion passes.**

5. **The next Finance Meeting is scheduled for December 10, 2019, at 5:30 PM.**

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

7. **Adjourn: MOTION:** N. Moriarty **MOVED** to adjourn the meeting at 7:10 PM. **SECOND:** K. Wilder **VOTE:** Unanimous for those present. **Motion passes.**

Respectfully submitted,

Laura L. Aivaliotis
Recording Secretary