

FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

February 12, 1990



The meeting was called to order at approximately 7:30 pm.

Present: M. Brown, J. Desrochers, K. Eagan, M. Hackett,
E. Hamilton, P. Helmreich, B. Kimball, C. MacQuown,
R. Nugent, D. Ward

R. Nugent notes postponement of School budget and Water and Sewer budgets.

SOUTHEASTERN REGIONAL -

C. MacDonald notes Assessment only \$295 increase over last year's figures. But increase of \$12,462 including reimbursements State will cut budget 5%.

Southeastern needs additional time to see cuts by State and city of Brockton.

Assessment of \$140,495.

C. MacDonald notes that there may be a reduction further in the year.

Reduction of three students this year.

Review of cost per pupil.

Review of maintaining services.

Teachers increases of 5.5% salaries per contract.

C. MacDonald notes there may be consolidation of departments/services.

General enrollment is down slightly due to Town's fiscal picture. \$1,100 per pupil last year. \$1,874 per pupil cost for F90.

C. MacDonald notes 51 applicants a year and only accept 15 students.

Review of quota. Quota expired when original bond issue expired. School cannot accomodate all applicants and tries to stay somewhat close to quota.

E. Hamilton notes a severe problem to turn children away. He notes he is very much against policy.

Discussion of finances.

P. Helmreich notes Norton HS has to maintain programs for public school.

C. MacDonald notes difference in programs. Review of selection process. Mostly good attendance and good citizenship/motivation. Budget to be certified on 2-13-90.

E. Hamilton notes problem with Finance Committee making quota.

C. MacDonald notes problem that Town has to pay for services already given.

P. Helmreich notes Finance Committee provides guidelines on how many students and how much money.

P. Helmreich notes holding line on all budgets and must hold line on # of students - no increase, no decrease.

M. Hackett notes realism with children and not with salary increases for adults.

P. Helmreich moves that the sense of the Committee is to level enrollment.

K. Eagan seconds

Review

C. MacDonald notes Southeastern budget process.

Review of level funded budget problems.

In favor: Helmreich, Brown, Kimball, Ward, Eagan, Desrochers.

MacQuown, Hackett
Opposed - Hamilton

D. Ward moves to accept the minutes of the meeting of 1-24-90

B. Kimball seconds
Unanimous

D. Ward moves that the minutes of the meeting of 1-29-90
be accepted.

C. MacQuown seconds
correction - typing error
'fees' first page
Unanimous

B. Nugent notes Noon Communications Commission monthly meeting
on 2-13-90.

B. Nugent notes effect of holding back final State aid payment-
reduction of \$1,940,232.

B. Nugent notes Town Counsel opinion regarding increases in
health insurance.

B. Nugent notes correspondence from Zoning Board regarding
budget level funded and unable to attend meeting.
Consensus - no need for budget hearing

B. Nugent notes receipt of a few letter in regards to the
Finance Committee letter regarding level budget funds.

P. Helmreich notes W. Gouveia was in New Jersey and apologizes
due to work problem that he cannot attend tonight.

B. Kimball clarifies problem with newspapers:

-notes 10-10-89 letter to all department

-quotes papers

-notes problem with rumor 'massive layoffs'

-quotes paper regarding 'massive layoffs'

B. Kimball resents facts in paper which are untrue. The
Finance Committee is doing job of reviewing budgets and
making recommendations.

B. Kimball reviews Finance Committee bylaw guidelines.

B. Kimball reviews Selectmen's budget showed increase of
\$348,000 over prior year not including health care etc.

Review Charter and policy guidelines.

J. Woods states Charter 3-2 states policy guidelines are to
be the basis of budgets.

P. Helmreich notes Executive Secretary in November could
not follow Charter procedures because of Town Manager Selection
process would not be until budget process was already underway
Review Charter.

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The meeting was adjourned at approximately 9:30 pm
until 2-14-90 at approximately 7:30 pm.