

North Andover School Committee

January 20, 2009

Regular Session

Attendees: Dr. Hutchinson, Mr. Fortado, Chris Nobile, Stan Limpert,
Barbara Whidden, Dr. Marini, Dr. Ormsby, Chris Allen

Meeting was called to order and the Pledge of Allegiance was made at 7:00 pm.

Motion was made by Mr. Nobile and seconded by Mr. Limpert to open the floor to public hearing on the FY10 proposed budget. Vote was unanimous, 5-0.

Ms Cindy Jalbert had several procedural questions on presenting and voting on the proposed budget, including when the town manager's budget would be presented (Feb 9th) and whether additional changes are made would necessitate another scheduled public hearing on the budget (yes, probably around March 3 or so for preliminary cuts, March 5th for SC to discuss and the end of March for public discussion).

She commented on the progress made in the last few years with the curriculum and professional development and stressed the importance of not losing ground.

Ms. Laurie Burzloff also spoke on the importance of keeping the curriculum money in the budget and how well the Thomson School was doing.

Mr. Nobile made a motion to close the public hearing, which was seconded by Mr. Limpert. The vote was unanimous, Allen, Limpert, Nobile, Ormsby and Whidden,

Unfinished business:

FY10 budget discussion and meeting schedules were reviewed:

Vote the budget at the Jan 22nd meeting.

Feb 5th- executive session on bargaining unit and goals and priorities for budget

Feb 9th-town mgr is required to have a budget

March 3-joint SC/Fincom meeting is scheduled, may need to be rescheduled.

March 19th meeting-start to prioritize cuts if necessary

Joint BOS /SC meeting on Monday JAN 26th.

Ms. Allen requested an executive session on the 22nd for nurses' negotiations, the committee will try to meet 6:30 pm Thursday night.

Dr. Ormsby asked about the best way to get a realistic budget number to work with? From the Town Manager, and could they get it by Feb 5th?

Dr. Marini will ask.

Ms. Whidden asked when the next health insurance meeting would be and whether that could affect the budget.

Mr. Nobile and Ms Allen replied that nothing had been scheduled changes would probably impact the next round of contract negotiations since the current negotiations were only for one year and would need to be revisited next spring.

Ms Allen commented that the reserve funds may be used toward the budget...needs to be discussed.

Something to put on the joint BOS/Sc meeting Agenda.

Mr. Limpert asked is this money something that can be used to supplement the projected budget deficit?

Ms. Allen replied that it's worth discussing, it's there for use by the town when and where needed.

Mr. Limpert had a few questions on the formatting of the FY10 Budget that Mr. Fortado answered.

Superintendent's Report:

Dr Marini informed the committee that a power station blew and knocked the electricity and heat out at the Sargent school which caused a water main to break.

Six classrooms were affected, 2 pretty badly. Once preschool class is closed, 2 moved and the other rooms should be functional by Wednesday. Everything is being dried, cleaned, replaced etc, and the overall design will be reviewed to be sure it does not happen again.

The Superintendent also reported that the State budget numbers would be coming out this Wednesday and there could be cuts to this year's budget. The Schools have put aside 10% of their budgets to offset any additional cuts that may happen.

Money is being saved but SPED transportation is over budget.

A final note on the peanut butter products in the news...Erika Murphy has sent mail that NAPS does not use those products>

Other business:

First reading of the NAHS Washington DC trip for the high school.

Any need to have Carla here to discuss? No

Mr. Nobile made a motion to adjourn into executive session for the evening without returning to public meeting. Mr.Limpert seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous, Whidden, Allen, Nobile, Ormsby, Limpert

Public Session adjourned at 7:50 pm.