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Approved: 5/11/21

TOWN OF WINCHENDON



WINCHENDON TOWN CLERK
RCUD MAY 17 2021 AM 11:35

Finance Committee

Telephone (978)-297-5419

Joint Meeting with School Committee

Finance Committee Minutes

March 25, 2021

Held Remotely via Zoom

Finance Committee: Chairman Thomas J. Kane Jr., Maureen Ward, Keith Kent, Charles Corts, David Alexander.

School Committee: Larry Murphy, Felicia Nurmsen, Karen Kast-McBride

Staff: Joan Landers, Superintendent, Thad King, Interim Superintendent, Carolyn Hendricks, Admin. Assistant

List of Documents Presented at Meeting:

- Proposed FY2022 School Department Budget

6:30PM: Chairman Thomas Kane called the Finance Committee meeting to order followed by the Pledge of Allegiance. The School Committee did not have a quorum so they could not call their meeting to order at this time.

Presentation of the Proposed FY2022 School Department Budget: Mr. King began screen sharing to walk the Committee through the budget. He highlighted budget priorities and assumptions and shared how they came to establish this budget. They have received indications that their federal and state grants may decrease. Some contractual obligations are still in the negotiation process. Mr. King began to detail the anticipated revenues for FY22, noting that net local and state funding has increased 3.3% and totals about \$14 million. He then explained the projected salaries (\$11,008,370.14), projected expenses (\$3,324,271.00) and noted that the expenses and revenues do coincide with a balanced budget. He moved on to grants, noting that the COVID Relief and ESSER grants will not reoccur and will be expended in FY'22. Total grants awarded in FY'22 are \$2,153,405.00. Mr. Kane asked for some idea of what the COVID relief funds have been expended on; to which Mr. King answered there have been many renovations to the High School and Memorial School to address air flow issues, allowing the schools to reopen. He also noted the high cost of supplies relative to safety and protection, such as masks, gloves and sanitizers. The Toy Town Elementary School also does not have adequate fresh air intake, so in order to provide a safe environment, the air flow will have to be addressed at length. The aging infrastructure of this building has

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mandated extensive work and renovations. Mr. King said there will be no layoffs and noted upcoming anticipated retirements and staffing changes. He noted a title change from "Finance Manager" to "Assistant Superintendent" and explained this does not affect the budget. He presented the expenses from trusts, and noted the extremely valuable asset provided by the Robinson Broadhurst Foundation and the Murdock Trust. Total funding provided by trusts is \$375,000. Mr. King then moved on to explain FY'22 enrollment estimates, saying that all across the country, school districts experienced lower-than-usual enrollments due to the pandemic. It does have an effect on the school financially.

Ms. Landers thanked the Finance Committee for their guidance during her tenure, and the staff for their hard work, especially during the pandemic. Ms. Kast thanked the Committees for their collaboration between the Town and School and staff for all their hard work. Mr. Murphy echoed their sentiments.

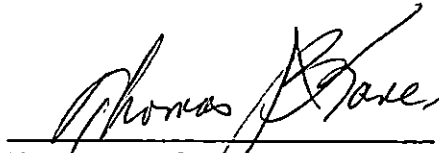
Member Comments: None was heard.

Public Input: None was heard.

Dr. Ward motioned to adjourn, seconded by Mr. Cortis. With a unanimous vote of all aye, the meeting adjourned at 7:44 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

Taylor Tower, Finance Committee Recording Secretary


Tom Kane, Chairman