

OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

**106 Hancock Road
Peterborough, New Hampshire**

CONTOOCOOK VALLEY SCHOOL BOARD

Selectmen's Advisory Committee

Thursday, June 28, 2018

7:00 p.m.

SAU #1

Agenda

- 1. Accept Minutes of April 26, 2018**
- 2. 2017-18 encumbrances, Surplus and Tax Impact**
- 3. Salary Schedule result from Factfinder vote**
- 4. 2019-20 Budget Goal**
- 5. 2019 Teacher Contract**
- 6. Strategic Plan Update**
- 7. Transportation Estimates for Consolidation**
- 8. Other**

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Minutes

Present: John Jordan, John Robertson, Carl Newton, Dale Gabel, Gail Cromwell, Ed Juengst, Rich Cahoon, Linda Quintanilha, Pierce Rigrod, Jerome Wilson, Jim Fredrickson, Kevin Pobst

John Jordan called the meeting to order at 7:03 p.m.

1. Accept Minutes of February 22, 2018

Gail Cromwell moved to accept the minutes of February 22, 2018. John Robertson second. Unanimous.

2. Selection of Chair and Vice-Chair

Gail Cromwell nominated John Jordan as committee Chair. Carl Newton second. Unanimous.

John Jordan nominated John Robertson as Vice-Chair. Gail Cromwell second. Unanimous.

3. Tax Impact of Budget, Warrant Articles and Teachers' Contract

Gail Cromwell shared information based on equalized valuation and not assessed valuation.

Gail Cromwell said that this is not what our tax rates are based on. They are based on assessed values. For Temple, their assessed value is higher than other towns; it varies.

Gail provided information based on assessed value. When this hits in November, it will be painful. She encouraged the district to save as much money as possible in the current budget.

Based on the 3/21/18 expenditure report, \$3,480,090.54 remains in the budget.

Gail noted that \$450,000 is slated to go into the trusts. More than \$450,000 needs to be "saved" to have an impact. The Budget Balance figures in the 3/21 report were reviewed.

In particular, \$287,471.09 remains in the General Supplies line. Does this money really need to be spent this year? Begging and pleading is necessary of the district to ask that money not be spent.

How confident is Gail that the encumbrance is what is planned to be spent between now and the end of the school year? Gail said that only Mindy can answer.

Pierce Rigrod said that almost every year money is returned. That he is aware, we haven't had this discussion about what is remaining this early in the year.

Gail said that she is asking for the maximum return this year.

Rich said that in the past, the largest deltas have been in teacher retirements and health insurance.

Teacher retirements are on a downward trend; there aren't as many. Health insurance does not have the balance as in the past to return.

4. Teachers' Contract

Discussion took place about the "miscalculation" reported in the MLT.

Jim Fredrickson clarified that it was not a miscalculation. There are two issues; the \$1.7M that the voters voted for. The Board voted 11-0 not to recommend it. After the election, it was discovered that the impact was \$2M due to interpretation. To cover \$300K we had to reduce the work force by letting additional people go.

Rich Cahoon said that we produced 80 pages of documentation and communicated it. The paper reported what the impact town by town would be.

Ed Juengst said that he created a full projection of what the impact on Peterborough would be. He wants to get the information out before the May 9th vote but he feels that there is no interest.

Gail Cromwell said that the world of communication has changed. Teacher's made it clear on social media that this should be supported.

Linda Quintanilha said that there were interpretations; never would the expectation be that one would receive some of the percentages they will; upward of 35%. It is not reasonable. The Factfinder said that it was his intention that the district undo past negotiations. It was interpreted incorrectly.

Rich Cahoon said that it was stated right on the ballot that the School Board did not support the Factfinder's Recommendation.

Jim Fredrickson said that Niki McGettigan is the new Chair of the Communication Committee. The committee met with the Publisher of the MLT to work together to get accurate reporting out.

This CVEA Agreement is a one year contract. Future contracts will be difficult.

John Jordan spoke about the process that took place in Hancock to assign wages.

Targeted retirements are under consideration to help reduce future budgets.

5. Strategic Plan and Options

Pierce said that the two options would be hard to convince on. Reconfiguration is within district control. Administration was asked to put together models; not implementation plans. The financials are not accurate when using conceptual models. The odds of either conceptual model passing are less likely.

The plan is to get a model to the voter's on the ballot in March. Giving the voters a reasonable option is the goal.

Gail Cromwell suggested focusing on the middle schools rather than closing elementary schools.

Further discussion took place about the number of sports ConVal offers to students. John Jordan said that football came in under the promise that it wouldn't cost the taxpayers anything. Ice hockey is expensive. We don't have enough players to play on our teams. Hockey includes players from Jaffrey in order to form a team. Jerome Wilson asked if each of the towns have looked at their birth rates. He suggested looking town by town and projecting out. At what point is it too small?

Rich Cahoon said that bringing back grade 5 and 6 would not help. It is not the number of kids in the school, it is the number of kids in a class.

Pierce Rigrod spoke about the revenue saved by closing a school being returned to a town to defray costs for a number of years.

6. 2017-18 Surplus

Discussed under agenda item 3.

7. Other

None.

Gail Cromwell motioned to adjourn at 7:56 p.m. Carl Newton second. Unanimous.

Respectfully submitted,

Brenda Marschok