

**Weare School Board Meeting
Draft Minutes
January 15, 2009– 7:00 P.M.
Weare Middle School - Library**

Present: Matt Thomas, Paul Levandowski, Marjorie Burke, Helen Dutton, Judy Lamont, Superintendent Doug White, Jim Crane, Pamela Shepard, Diane Lurvey, Principal Mark Willis, Principal Jude Chauvette, and Brenda Vincent, Recording Secretary.

1. **Opening** Matt Thomas opened the meeting at 7:05 P.M. and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

2. **Ratification of Teachers Contract**

Matt Thomas asked for a motion to accept the proposed teachers contact as negotiated.

ACTION: Helen Dutton made the motion to accept the collective bargaining agreement as negotiated with the Weare Educators Association. Seconded by Marjorie Burke. Vote: The motion passed unanimously.

Matt Thomas convened the Board meeting at 7:06 to open the Public Hearing for the 2009/2010 proposed budget.

PUBLIC HEARING

Matt Thomas opened the public hearing at 7:07PM.

Superintendent White presented a PowerPoint Presentation of the 2009/2010 Proposed Budget.

The 2009/2010 budget is presented at \$13,090,775 and the default budget is set at \$12,635,103.

Budget Highlights:

- The proposed 2009-2010 Weare School District budget is increased by \$335,900. This is a 2.75% increase over the current budget.
- The default 2009-2010 budget is decreased by \$119,772. This is a .98% decrease over the current budget or \$455,671 less than proposed.
- This budget does not include increases in teacher salaries, which are proposed in a separate warrant article.

Budget Drivers:

- \$143,642 increase in regular instruction programs
- \$106,915 increase in special instruction programs
- \$262, 861 increase in utilities and maintenance and the up keep of buildings
- \$74,019 increase in the offices of the principals
- \$21,269 reduction in educational media
- \$223,830 reduction in transportation

Tax Impact:

- 2009 Operating Budget Change
 - 2008 Adopted \$ 5.32
 - 2009 Proposed \$ 5.98
 - Increase \$.66/thousand
 -
- 2009 Default Budget Tax Rate
 - 2009 Default \$5.69
 - 2008 Adopted \$5.32
 - \$.37/thousand

Based on current valuation of \$921,443,209

2 Year Teacher Negotiated Agreement (separate warrant article)

Total Cost:

- 2009-2010 \$192,247 (wage inc. 4.75%)
- 2010-2011 \$241,744 (wage inc. 5.02%)

Tax Impact year one: \$0.21

Negotiation Outcomes:

- Provides a responsible, competitive wage structure for teaching staff for the next two years.
- Allows for the increase of student instructional time.
- Incorporates research-based best practices to teacher evaluation and observation procedures.
- Restructured the Health Benefit Employer payment to a % of the least expensive plan offered.
- Formalized a list of co-curricular activities and stipends.

Chair Matt Thomas opened the floor for public comment.

Brenda Lashway

Ms. Lashway asked for clarification in regards to the WMS equipment replacement line item.

Superintendent White explained that the cost was not for new equipment, but to maintain the day to day wear and tear on the equipment.

Brenda Lashway

Ms. Lashway questioned that many departments in the budget have repair and replacement cost. This seems to be a considerable cost. Also, Ms. Lashway would like to know the salaries of administration.

Jim Crane replies that each department has equipment to be maintained such as computers, printers, copy machines, laptops, usb ports, etc

The salaries as reported in the 2007/2008 budget are as follows:

Jude Chauvette \$75,606

Laura Stoneking \$63,345

Meeta Brown \$68,650 (part is funded through a grant)

Mark Willis \$85,000

Jess Potter \$54,476

Frank Campana

Mr. Campana asked if the decrease in busses takes into account an increase in population.

Matt Thomas replied that the restructuring of bus routes and school start times will actually help with shorter bus routes. The population study shows a slight decrease in population for the next five years.

Brian Nase

Mr. Nase is concerned that the cost per pupil is 3,171 below the state average. The Weare teachers are behind in salaries compared to the other schools in the SAU District. The art teacher and world language teacher need to be brought back into the budget.

Charles Metcalf

Mr. Metcalf inquired what percentage of health cost will be paid by the employees in the new contract.

Matt Thomas responded that the cost is:

85/15 - Family Plan

90/10 - 2 Person Plan

95/5 - Single Plan

Brian Nase

Mr. Nase asked what the new negotiated salary would be for a teacher with a Bachelor's, step one would be.

Superintendent White stated that a new teacher with a Bachelors, step one would be \$31,096.

Charles Metcalf

Mr. Metcalf asked what the salary percentage of the current three-year contract was.

Matt Thomas replied that it was 4.16% year one, 4.63% year two, 4.68% year three.

Bethany Chapman

Mrs. Chapman thanked the Board for a successful negotiation of the teacher's contract. Shared concerns that the Weare School District is not in line with other School Districts in the SAU.

Brenda Lashway

Ms. Lashway asked if all teachers were Highly Qualified.

Mrs. Chapman responded that she is qualified to teach up to 9th grade under the HQT ruling of the state.

Matt Thomas closed the public hearing at 8:10PM. Session One will be on February 2, 2009 at 7:00PM at the Weare Middle School.

Matt Thomas re-opened the Board meeting at 8:12PM.

3. **Minutes** – December 16, 2008

ACTION: Marjorie Burke made the motion to accept the minutes of December 16, 2008. Seconded by Judy Lamont. Vote: The motion passed unanimously.

4. **Persons Appearing Before the Board**

5. **School Board/Committee Reports**

Transportation

Superintendent White shared correspondence from a parent regarding a bus stop on Abijah Bridge Road. Matt Thomas and Judy Lamont will look at the stop in question.

6. **Administrator Reports**

Principal Reports as Presented

SAU Report

Superintendent White distributed the manifest and accounts payable for signatures.

Jim Crane distributed a current reconciliation report.

7. **Personnel**

Matt Thomas inquired about the art teacher position at CWES. Superintendent White informed the Board that the position as per the CBA was offered to the previous teacher. She has accepted the offer to return on February 2nd.

8. **Old Business**

9. **Communications**

10. **New Business**

Adoption of 2009-2010 Budget

ACTION: Helen Dutton made the motion to adopt the 2009/2010 budget in the amount of \$13,090,775. Seconded by Judy Lamont. Vote: The motion passed unanimously.

Adoption of 2009 Warrant

ACTION: Helen Dutton made the motion to adopt the 2009 Warrant. Seconded by Marjorie Burke. Vote: The motion passed unanimously.

The 2009 Warrant will read as follows:

Article 1

Shall the District receive the reports of agents, auditors, committees and officers chosen, as printed in the Annual Report?

Article 2

Shall the District set the salaries of the School Board and the compensation for any other officers of the District as printed in the 2009-2010 Budget?

Article 3

Shall the District raise and appropriate as an operating budget, not including appropriations by special or separate warrant articles and other appropriations voted separately, the amounts set forth on the budget posted with the warrant or as amended by vote of the first session, for the purposes set forth therein, totaling \$13,090,775 (Thirteen Million, Ninety Thousand, Seven Hundred Seventy Five Dollars)? Should this article be defeated, the default budget shall be \$12,635,103 (Twelve Million, Six Hundred Thirty Five Thousand, One Hundred Three Dollars), which is the same as last year, with certain adjustments required by previous action of the District or by law, or the governing body may hold one special meeting, in accordance with RSA 40:13, X and XVI, to take up the issue of a revised operating budget only.

Article 4

Shall the District vote to ratify and be bound by the financial costs of a two-year Collective Bargaining Agreement entered into between the School Board and the Weare Teachers Association wherein the estimated additional costs for 2009-2010 are \$192,427 (One Hundred Ninety Two Thousand, Four Hundred Twenty Seven Dollars); the estimated additional costs for 2010-2011 are \$241,744 (Two Hundred Forty One Thousand, Seven Hundred Forty Four Dollars); and to raise and appropriate \$192,427 (One Hundred Ninety Two Thousand, Four Hundred Twenty Seven Dollars) to fund the additional first year costs; or to take any other action in relation thereto?

Article 5

Shall the District if Article #4 is defeated, authorize the governing body to call one special meeting, at its option, to address Article #4 cost items only?

Article 6

Shall the District raise and appropriate 33% of any surplus remaining at the close of the current fiscal year, up to the amount of \$25,000 (Twenty Five Thousand Dollars) to be added to the Special Education Expendable Trust Fund, previously established in March 2008, for the purpose of providing for unanticipated special education costs?

Article 7

Shall the District raise and appropriate 33% of any surplus remaining at the close of the current fiscal year, up to the amount of \$25,000 (Twenty Five Thousand Dollars) to be added to the Building, Grounds and Playing Fields Expendable Trust Fund, previously established in March 2001, for the purpose of providing for any future upgrading, maintenance or development of the grounds or fields?

Article 8

Shall the District raise and appropriate 33% of any surplus remaining at the close of the current fiscal year, up to the amount of \$25,000 (Twenty Five Thousand Dollars) to be added to the School Building Maintenance Expendable Trust Fund, previously established in March 2001, for the purpose of major building repairs and improvements?

School Calendar

Superintendent White informed the Board that currently Weare has had 5 snow days. Discussion followed in regards to the various options other school districts in the state are considering due to the high amount of snow days that need to be made up. Discussion followed in regards to Common Day Workshop on March 10th. The Superintendent has requested that both principals discuss with staff the option to cancel the workshop and have students attend school in order to make up one of the five days.

Superintendent White also informed the Board that discussion with administration from all the schools in the district will be taking place to discuss the 09/10 school calendar. Superintendent White asked the Board what direction they would like to take as the calendar is being developed. John Stark follows the Concord School Calendar as they have students that participate in the vocational program.

Population Study

Superintendent White presented the population study completed by Doug Brown of Schoolhouse Consulting. The 1 and 3 year average shows a decrease in student enrollment through 2014 (1068/1005). The five year average decreases significantly through 2014 (1013).

11. **Nonpublic Session** RSA 91-A: 3

12. **Items for Future Agendas**

13. **Next Meeting:**

February 2, 2009 – 7:00PM – Session I – WMS Cafeteria

14. **Adjournment**

ACTION: Helen Dutton made the motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:05P.M. Marjorie Burke seconded the motion. Vote: Helen Dutton, yes; Marjorie Burke, yes; Matthew Thomas, yes; Paul Levandowski, yes; Judy Lamont, yes. The Board adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Brenda Vincent