

**Town of Auburn
Budget Committee
December 3, 2015**

Members Present: Peter Miles, Mary Beth Lufkin, David Wesche, Bert Ouellette, Paula Marzloff, Jim Headd, Selectmen Representative and Alan Villeneuve, School Board Representative.

Members Absent:

Others Present: Lori Collins, AVS Principal.

Mr. Miles called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Mr. Villeneuve introduced Lori Collins, AVS Principal to everyone present.

Minutes

Mrs. Marzloff moved to approve the minutes of November 12, 2015, seconded by Mr. Wesche. A vote was taken; all were in favor, the motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Wesche moved to approve the minutes of November 19, 2015, seconded by Mrs. Marzloff. A vote was taken; all were in favor, the motion carried unanimously.

Regular Education Programs

High School Tuition

Requesting \$2,846,452.24, a decrease of \$13,379.16 from 2014-2015.

Mr. Villeneuve started the meeting with 1105 Regular Education High School Tuition and asked the Board members if they preferred to ask questions or did the Board want him to explain a little about this line. Mr. Miles asked how many students there were. Mr. Villeneuve did not know but could get that information to them. Mr. Villeneuve began by saying that public high school is gone and that everyone is at the academy. Mr. Villeneuve stated that they were down a few students which was about 10 students but is subject to change. The tuition is \$11,700 per student.

Mr. Miles asked the Board Members if there were any questions and if not then he would entertain a motion to accept the line item.

Mrs. Marzloff moved to approve the High School Tuition at \$2,846,452.24, Mr. Carpenter seconded the motion. A vote was taken; all were in favor, the motion carried unanimously.

School Board Services

Requesting \$37,396.46, an increase of \$214.36 from 2014-2015.

Mr. Miles asked Mr. Villeneuve what the changes were. Mr. Villeneuve started with Criminal Record Checks and stated that the school has had some staff turnover and that they've had to hire some more people and that's where the money comes from and that the audit is up.

Mr. Wesche moved to approve the School Board Services at \$37,396.46, Mrs. Lufkin seconded the motion. A vote was taken; all were in favor, the motion carried unanimously.

Executive Administration Services

Requesting \$274,367.00, an increase of \$33,611.00 from 2014-2015.

Mrs. Lufkin stated that this was where her question was. Mr. Villeneuve began by saying that when they do warrant articles from the school board asking the town if they would put together a study committee to discuss our SAU Services to evaluate our SAU Services. Mr. Miles asked what accounted for the increase. Mr. Villeneuve stated that it was new computer system. Mrs. Lufkin asked if \$33,000 was only a quarter of what the new system was going to cost. Mr. Villeneuve stated that it was 27% which is a quarter of what the system will cost and which also included some salary increases and few other miscellaneous charges. A brief discussion ensued with regard to this line item. Mrs. Lufkin asked if the Board had any leverage to say that were not paying for the new computer system. Mr. Villeneuve said that they had zero leverage and that Hookset pays 58% of the cost and Auburn pays 27% and Candia pays 15%. Mr. Villeneuve explained that the new computer system has to do with the accounting system because the one that they are using won't be supportive in two (2) years so we would not be able to get updates and it has a lot to do with Obama Care. Mrs. Lufkin said that if they vote it down that it will still happen. Mr. Villeneuve said that there was nothing they could do because it was still going to happen.

Mrs. Lufkin moved to approve the Executive Administration Services at \$274,367.00, Mr. Ouellette seconded the motion. A vote was taken; all were in favor, the motion carried unanimously.

Office of the Principal Services

Requesting \$415,856.48, an increase of \$29,784.23 from 2014-2015. .

Mr. Miles asked the Board Members to review the line items at this time. Mr. Villeneuve commented that some of the maintenance contracts relates to equipment. Mrs. Lufkin asked Mr. Villeneuve what the overall budget looked like. Mr. Villeneuve stated that the

overall budget was down. Mrs. Lufkin pointed out that even though the Board was seeing increases that the overall budget is down. Mr. Villeneuve indicated that it was down approximately \$100,000.

Mr. Miles asked the Board what they would like to do with this line item.

Mr. Wesche moved to approve the Office of the Principal Services at \$415,856.48, Mrs. Marzloff seconded the motion. A vote was taken; all were in favor, the motion carried unanimously.

Mrs. Lufkin commented that it was great to hear that they were down \$100,000 and asked Mr. Villeneuve if there was something that they did not put in there that they would like to. Mr. Villeneuve stated that there were a few things that were asked for that the school board did not go after but they have a lot of initiatives that they think will be coming up. Also, they have done a lot of initiatives and have done a lot of changes and believe they have 11 new teacher assignments for this year and put in Spanish to go along with French. Mr. Villeneuve also stated that the gym teacher was also trying to do a few different things in gym. A school renovation project is coming up and there are two (2) lines that the school board has not officially adopted yet and one is an instructional coach that they may create which would be approximately \$80,000. Mr. Villeneuve asked Ms. Collins if there was anything else that she would like to add. Mr. Villeneuve pointed out that they have also gone to an hourly calendar which has added 20 minutes to the school day and hoped to get out at a date certain at the end. Mr. Villeneuve also talked about the students going to school on a lot of holidays.

Ms. Collins talked about the bank teacher who is at 50% which is just exploding the music program and that her proposal is to bring him to 80% so that he can be around more and is looking forward to having the music program expand. Ms. Collins further added that they have added robotics to the 5th grade curriculum which is moving along. They are adding a video news program and have looked into starting programming with the kindergarteners. Ms. Collins also stated that there were 95 kids that stay after mind craft which takes a lot of math. Ms. Collins informed the Board Members that she has also sent a number of teachers go to a technology conference who all came back very excited. Ms. Collins talked about the one to one program where each of the 6th graders has their own chrome book which is a low cost web based machine to do some of their work on for the students to learn what tools are important for them.

Student Transportation Services

Requesting \$662,985.40, an increase of \$45,331.60 from 2014-2015.

Mr. Miles noted that we were getting hit with the Special Education. Mr. Villeneuve stated that overall the special education was down but that various needs go in various directions.

Mr. Carpenter pointed out that this was a service that was not being utilized. Mr. Villeneuve said that Mr. Carpenter was correct and that the buses were half full at best. Mr. Villeneuve pointed out that there was a large number of drop offs and pickups. Mrs. Lufkin asked if the parents could opt out of transportation. Mr. Villeneuve said that state law says that they have to provide the service. Mrs. Lufkin asked if it included the buses to Pinkerton as well. Mr. Villeneuve said yes as well as field trips are all part of that.

Mrs. Lufkin moved to approve Student Transportation Services at \$662,985.40, Mrs. Marzloff seconded the motion. A vote was taken; all were in favor, the motion carried unanimously.

Support Services

Wage Pool

Requesting \$22,767.61, an increase of \$332.29 from 2014-2015.

Mr. Miles believed everyone was aware what this line item was about.

Mrs. Lufkin moved to approve the Support Services with regard to the Wage Pool at \$22,767.61, Mr. Carpenter seconded the motion. A vote was taken; all were in favor, the motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Villeneuve reminded everyone about Saturday morning at 8:00 a.m.

Adjourn

Mr. Headd moved to adjourn the meeting, Mrs. Marzloff seconded the motion. A vote was taken; all were in favor, the motion carried unanimously and the meeting stood adjourned at 7:39 p.m.