February 25th, 2019

Finance Committee Meeting

**Present:** Gordon Gladstone, Patricia-Lee Achorn, William Brack, Charles Goodman, Edward Philips, Ira Miller, Hanna Switlekowski, Anil Ramoju, Daniel Lewenberg and Anja Bernier.

**Absent:** Arnold Cohen

# School Committee Budget - Victoria Greer, Melissa Bryant and School Board

Dr. Victoria Greer and Ms. Nerlande Mintor, presented the School budget.

* Nerlande Mintor is the new Director of Business Operations and Human Resources.
* A five-year analysis was done, which led to their budget.
* A deep dive was taken into revolving funds within transportation, food services, community education, kindergarten and athletics.
* Deficit in the athletic budget by approximately $200,000.
* All revolving fund will be put on a rotating review to plan for any increases.
* All budget based on four strategic objectives: social/emotional, relationships/culture, learning environments and curriculum/professional development)
* Looked at what was being overfunded versus underfunded.
* All spending is based on enrollment.
* 3,673 students currently enrolled in Sharon.
* Based on trend, 40 new students will enroll next year.
* Projected class sizes are 22 for kindergarten, 20 for 1st and 2nd grade, 23 for 3rd to 5th grade and 25 for 6th- 12th grade.
* Substantial increase in economically disadvantaged students.
* The English language learners’ percentages are growing rapidly.
* New full positions needed include: 1 nurse, 1 HVAC technician, 1 Math/Science teacher- middle school, 1 ELA/Social Studies- middle school, middle school LEAP teacher.
* New .25 positions needed include: String teacher- elementary, Science teacher- high school, Math teacher- high school and an additional string teacher.
* Projected school revenue includes $646,935 for kindergarten, $500,870 for transportation and $339,462 for athletic.
* School Committee voted a fee change for athletics with an additional $93,296.
* Basic salary rollovers are $1,433,388.
* Retirement savings of $228,847.
* Community education funding of $300,000.
* Met with Meg with the spaces she uses and both facility fees and utilities are covered. New formula to determine cost.
* Increase in circuit breaker (reimbursement for out of district tuition) of $111,000.
* Increase in SPED tuition to $560,115; it will cover OSD rate increase.
* Rate has gone up to 2.6% of annual tuitions.
* Grant restructure savings of $43,000.
* $105,949 reduction in contracted services; partly from HVAC technician and partly addresses individual contractors that aren’t there.
* $5,000 reduction for copier lease changes.
* $29,672 reduction in materials and supplies for teacher and all town administration.
* Reduction of $88,814 for regulation changes. One less ELL teacher needed.
* Savings of $55,941 from a Facilities Supervisor hiring freeze and $148,267 from a retiring hiring freeze.
* Net change of 2.5 of positions or $1,173,712.
* 84.13% of the budget is spent on salaries.
* 8% of budget for SPED tuition.
* There are 618 staff members within the district.
* Increase in SPED tuition and circuit breaker
* 28-day students, 5 resident students, 9 collaboration students and some students that are still pending.
* Hoping to be at $45,002,464 overall.
* Currently sitting at 2.68% being allocated to the schools.

1. **Assign Writeups for Added Articles**

Warrant articles were assigned as follows.

* Daniel Lewenberg: Accept provisions of MGL c. 40 Section 57 & Amend Chapter 189 of the General Bylaws
* Edward Philips: Permit All Alcohol Package Stores in Business Districts A, B, D and the Light Industrial District
* Anil Ramoju: Amend Zoning Map - Rezone 810 South Main Street to Business District B

# Discuss and Vote Articles

Warrant articles were voted as follows.

**MOTION:** by Edward Philips to approve Act on Reports **SECONDED:** by Anja Bernier **VOTED:** 10-0-0.

**MOTION:** by Edward Philips to approve Sharon Friends School Fund Records and Appointments **VOTED:** 10-0-0.

**MOTION:** by William Brack to approve Property Tax Exemptions **SECONDED:** by Edward Philips **VOTED:** 10-0-0.

# Liaison Updates:

## Sharon Schools - Bill Brack

* 1. **Library – Hanna Switlekowski**
  2. **Planning Board – Arnie Cohen**
  3. **Standing Building Committee – Gordon Gladstone**

Gordon Gladstone provided an update from the Standing Building Committee.

* Letters have been received from concerned parents about high school chemistry lab safety.
* They are working with the architect and OPM to get final project budget for the library. It is yet to be determined.
* School Committee Meeting on February 27th, 2019 and forum on March 6th, 2019.

# Documents Distributed Since the Last Meeting

## FY 2020 Budget Summary

* 1. **Library Warrant Article**
  2. **Article 810 So Main**
  3. **Article Alcohol and Package Store**
  4. **Article Licenses**
  5. **Updated Warrant Article List**

# Minutes to be voted: February 11th

**MOTION:** by William Brack to approve the February 11th, 2019 minutes **SECONDED:** by Hanna Switlekowski **VOTED:** 9-0-1. Anil Ramoju abstained.

# Adjournment

**MOTION:** by Hanna Switlekowski to adjourn **SECONDED:** by William Brack **VOTED:** 10-0-0.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:15 pm.