

BOE Finance Committee  
February 15<sup>th</sup>, 2018

**Town of Preston  
Board of Education  
Finance Committee Special Meeting  
Thursday, February 15<sup>th</sup>, 2018  
PPMS Library  
7:00 pm**

**1. Call to Order**

Chairman Nugent called the meeting to order at 7:02 pm.

Sean Nugent (SN)  
Ed Gauthier (EG) - absent  
Tom Turner (TT)  
Melissa Lennon (ML)  
Superintendent Seitsinger (SS)  
John Spang (JS)

Guests: Andy Depta, Andrew Bilodeau

**2. Public Comment**

Mr. Depta raised questions regarding the make up of the Finance Committee as described in Board Policy 9132.2. SN indicated that he would look into it.

**3. Approval of Minutes**

- **A motion was made by TT and seconded by SN to accept the February 8<sup>th</sup> minutes as submitted. All in favor; the motion carries.**

**4. FY19 Budget Workshop**

- SN again reminded everyone that no quorum was required for this portion of tonight's meeting as it was a budget working session and no formal actions would be taken.
- The purpose of tonight's discussion was to walk through the full budget as this is the first time we've able to do so and to ensure that any questions the FC members have are addressed or requested for our next meeting. Prior to this, JS and SS reflecting input and discussion from the two previous FC meetings as well as the full board meeting provided updated documents.
- - Salaries:
    - The team asked that the final numbers be reviewed and confirmed.
    - The team asked that the COLA number reflect the unaffiliated cohort.
    - SS indicated that the \$10,000 offset grant used in previous budgets should be used to offset other cost types and not stipends.
    - The gap in the stipend list will be addressed via an MOU.
  - Health/Dental:
    - JS was asked to update the table to reflect the fact that this is part of the State plan, that FY19 is year 3 of the plan, and that this is a shared partnership with the Town.
  - Secondary Education:
    - JS was asked to ensure that 'regular' is replaced by 'secondary' on this table and the pie chart.
  - SPED
    - JS provided the requested breakout showing just the tuition portion of this category.

- Grants:
  - It was confirmed that the numbers shown include the salary portion of these grants where appropriate.
- Administration:
  - The request was made to ensure that the new requests by the full board are included and their impact highlighted in the next version (e.g. new teacher & social worker).
- Utilities:
  - JS was asked to look into the current agreement with CMEEC and whether there is an opportunity now to renegotiate the current agreement.
  - JS was asked to provide clear support data showing how the total supplies line item was determined.
- Transportation:
  - The updated version reflected a further reduction in the repairs line item now that the 5-year capital plan has been approved.
  - JS was asked to add a note indicating that the fuel is a shared service with the Town.
- Plant Operations:
  - The question of outsourcing lawn services was discussed further.
  - Questions related to the scag mower and floor machine were further discussed. For example, what is the typical life cycle of these pieces of equipment? Does the budget requested reflect the State bid list?
- Office/Miscellaneous:
  - The updated numbers reflect the appropriate placement of these items into this single category where previously some were included in other major categories.
- IT:
  - The updated numbers now reflect the full inclusion of technology and software needs into this single category.
- The team then discussed the timing for updating the information and bringing it together into a full picture.
- Accordingly, one additional FC meeting is required to develop the FY19 budget prior to the final presentation and discussion by the full board. The following was agreed to by the FC:
  - 2/26: Updated materials ready for FC to pick up.
  - 2/28: Final review and discussion by the FC.
  - 3/2: Final materials for full board ready to pick up.
  - 3/5: Special full BoE Meeting to finalize FY19 proposed budget
  - 3/6: FY19 Proposed Budget submitted to BoF

## 8. Public Comment

Mr. Depta asked whether a budget for each school would be developed and presented. He also asked what the format to the BoF would be; the same as last year or something new.

Mr. Bilodeau indicated that the BoS had indicated that they were requesting a 3% salary raise. He also suggested that the Town has scag mowers that could serve as backups for the BoE. Mr. Bilodeau also asked whether there was an opportunity to work with the Town to outsource the IT services.

## 9. Adjournment

A motion was made by TT and seconded by SN to adjourn the meeting at 9:05 pm. All in favor; motion carries.

Next meeting scheduled for Thursday, February 28<sup>th</sup> at 7:30 pm at PPMS.

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Respectfully submitted,  
Sean Nugent