

**SHELTON BOARD OF EDUCATION  
SPECIAL MEETING – BUDGET WORKSHOP #3  
Board of Education Administrative Offices  
382 Long Hill Avenue  
Board Room, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor  
January 26, 2017**

Chairman Mark Holden called the Special Meeting of the Board of Education to order at 5:34 p.m.

Roll Call:

Mark Holden, Chairman

Thomas Minotti, Vice Chairman

Arlene Liscinsky, Secretary (arrived 5:40 p.m.)

David Gioiello

Faith Hack

Kate Kutash

Win Oppel (via Skype 5:46 p.m.)

Darlisa Ritter

Kathleen Yolish

Full Quorum at 5:46 p.m.

Board of Education Administration present: Christopher Clouet, Superintendent of Schools; Lorraine Rossner, Assistant Superintendent; Carole Pannozzo, Human Resources Director; Dominic Barone, Finance Director

(1 tape on file in City/Town Clerk's office)

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

**Approval of Agenda**

**Thomas Minotti moved to approve the agenda; motion seconded by Darlisa Ritter and passed unanimously.**

**Budget**

Dr. Clouet introduced three budget scenarios for discussion. Dominic Barone provided commentary.

Scenario #1 - \$2,817,039 increase (3.998%) that would maintain status quo and adjusts for increased costs in bus fuel and transportation.

Scenario #2 - \$2,168,313 increase (3.08%) that would constrain us but allow us to move forward with most of our core programs and personnel. It includes the \$210,000 school bus fuel currently on city side of budget and increases to contractual wages and transportation. This option will require reductions in some supplemental services. Voluntary Retirement Incentive Program estimated savings are included in this scenario.

Scenario #3 – 0% increase – There would be about \$3 million gap and would result in significant reduction in services and staff, increased class sizes, impact on sports travel and elimination of field trips. Adjusts for increased costs in bus fuel, tuition and transportation.

Lengthy discussion ensued. Some topics included confirmation that plans to open a School of Innovation at SIS would not require hiring new teachers or administrators; some training would be required. There was discussion about Workers Compensation and the types of injuries incurred and the fact that cost to the BOE has gone down considerably. Alternative ways to handle Special Education Transportation for outplacements are being explored that might be more efficient and less expensive. Electricity savings might be realized with fuel cell. The tuition bill of \$351,000 for the students Shelton sends to Fairchild Wheeler Magnet School is not included in any scenario.

It was mentioned that there are unknowns that may have an impact on our budget including potential cuts in state funding for education and the number of staff retirements.

The majority of board members preferred Scenario #1, and some would rather see a combination of #1 and #2. There was strong support for requesting what we need to move the district forward.

The next meeting on February 1 at 5:00 p.m. will be a formal recommendation from Superintendent Clouet. A provisional budget meeting is scheduled for February 2 at 5:00 p.m.

Chairman Holden adjourned the meeting at 7:04 PM.

*Diane Luther*

***Diane Luther***

***Secretary to Board of Education***

***February 2, 2017***