Chairman Kathy Yolish called the Special Meeting of the Board of Education to order at 5:39 p.m.

Roll Call:  
John Fitzgerald  
Amanda Kilmartin (excused)  
Kate Kutash  
Diana Meyer  
Patti Moonan  
James Orazietti, Vice Chair  
Carl Rizzo  
Amy Romano, Secretary  
Kathleen Yolish, Chair

Quorum: 8 present; 1 absent

Board of Education Administration present: Dr. Christopher Clouet, Superintendent of Schools; Kenneth Saranich, Assistant Superintendent; Carole Pannozzo, Human Resources Director; Finance Director, Rick Belden

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

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Approval of Agenda  
Kate Kutash moved to approve the agenda; motion seconded by John Fitzgerald and approved unanimously by those present.

Overview of Initial Draft of Superintendent’s Recommended Budget  
Superintendent Clouet explained this first meeting of a series of budget workshops will focus on our internal process. It will be an overview of the steps toward building a budget, which will eventually become a recommended budget for the board’s consideration and later will be submitted to City Hall as the board’s recommended budget. He clarified that this is not his recommended budget. His preference is to have the superintendent’s recommended budget come out of a dialog with the board over several meetings. Individual meetings have been held with staff, principals and program directors to help us to get a sense of what they see as gaps and what they perceive as their needs. Rick Belden provided a draft handout of a Level Services Budget FY 2020-2021 (attached) and a sample elementary school / department budget request. Rick Belden indicated that the BOE budget book for the 2020-21 budget will include a detailed school / department packet of information similar to the handout. This packet of information is modeled on the process utilized by the City in preparing their budget. Rick Belden reviewed the draft Level Services budget line items and provided background information for them. A lengthy discussion ensued regarding certain line items (e.g. salaries, instructional vs non-instructional supplies and items eligible for Excess Cost Grant reimbursement) and questions were addressed. Kathy Yolish requested board members to submit any questions to Superintendent Clouet prior to the next budget workshop on January 27.
Adjournment
Kathy Yolish adjourned the meeting at 7:04 p.m.

Diane Luther
Secretary to Board of Education
January 22, 2020