

Town of Lincoln

Budget Board Meeting

February 26, 2013

Present:

Carl Brunetti Mike Babbitt Rhonda Lacombe William DiBiasio

Bob Turner Maria Marcello Paul DiDomenico Bill McManus

Absent:

Domenic Ricci Hagop Jawharjian Richard Foster

Call to Order

The meeting began at 7:33 pm with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Approval of Minutes

The minutes of February 21st were distributed for review.

William DiBiasio made a motion, seconded by Mike Babbitt, to approve the minutes.

The minutes were accepted by a vote of 6-0 with Bob Turner and Bill McManus abstaining as they were not present on February 21st.

Correspondence

A letter was received from the Town Solicitor regarding the Water

Commission, which noted that the Town Charter does supersede state legislation.

This would mean that any borrowing of funds by the Water Commission would have to be approved by the Town Council.

The Budget Board will discuss this with the Town Administrator and Finance Director when they attend the next meeting on February 27th.

The Agenda for the Budget Board School Tour on March 2nd was received.

The management letter that goes with the audit is still in draft form and in the reviewing process, and will be distributed once accepted.

It was noted that in the audit, pension contributions are delayed by 6 months, so it may appear that it is not fully funded but that is because of the timing of the recording.

Public Comment

There was no public comment or questions at the time.

Business

2012-2013 Budgets

There were no new developments to discuss in the 2012-2013 Budgets.

2013-2014 Municipal Budget

There were no new developments to discuss in the 2013-2014

Municipal Budget.

2013-2014 Education Budget

School Committee

There were no salary increases requested.

Superintendent

The Superintendent was requested at an increase of 3%.

The Budget Board has asked for a copy of all administration contracts.

They questioned if the contracts are good thru 2013-2014, whether that would mean negotiations would be beginning in the current year which would require an increase in that line item.

There was a requested reduction in Supplies because after completing an inventory, the schools discovered items that they already had surplus of.

Curriculum

The increase in salary for the Director of Curriculum was questioned.

Professional Development and Training were increased by 100% for a total of \$4,725.

There is also additional pay for substitute teachers in the Curriculum Director's budget to cover for the Professional Development.

The Budget Board questioned what Maintenance & Repairs of Fixtures was used for since there was no request for it.

Technology

The Budget Board discussed the new technology plan, and the letter of the notes from the tour of the plan in action.

They questioned why there were no funds requested for Professional Development for Technology, for warrantee extension costs, for other training, or for repair costs when things need to be fixed.

Also questioned was Other Technical Services and what that account was being used for.

The Budget Board discussed that if it is being used to hire technical services, that should be taken out of the salary of Technology Personnel.

The Budget Board will ask what Professional Development has been offered, including what was covered and teacher attendance and participation.

Business Operations

The Budget Board questioned the Business Manager being requested at a 6.76% salary increase.

They also questioned what Other Technical Services, Business is used for, as well as Document Copying.

The Budget Board discussed and will question why the School Department does not use a payroll service.

In salary detail, they also had questioned the amount for substitute teachers as there were supposed to be efforts to encourage better attendance.

Business Operations went from \$450,299 to \$837,680 from 2012 Audited Expenditures to the 2013-2014 requested budget.

The Budget Board questioned whether this was due to Uniform Chart of Account changes, and whether there was a decrease elsewhere to offset the difference if that is the case.

They noted that the RI Department of Education provides a list of funds that have to be moved according to UCOA, and they would like to request a copy of that.

Human Resources

The Budget Board questioned the fact that the Director is requested at a 7.73% salary increase.

The Budget Board questioned what Other Technical Services was used for, and will request a description of all accounts according to the new Uniform Chart of Accounts.

Non-Instructional Operations

The Budget Board questioned what Rental Land & Building Facilities

and Other Supplies (Ground Improvement) are used for.

Fixed Charges

The Budget Board will analyze Fixed Charges separately and in depth.

In the Holding Account, Self-Insured Medical, it was questioned as to why the schools and municipal side don't coordinate together to get a better health care rate.

Private tuitions and in-state tuitions were also questioned.

The Budget Board questioned the existence of so many Holding Accounts, and whether that was a part of the new Uniform Chart of Accounts.

The will request descriptions for each account.

Student Services

The Budget Board questioned the Director requested at a 8.54% increase.

There was also one Specialist position eliminated.

The Budget Board discussed the fact that all school administration seem to be getting significant salary increased, and the possibility of recommending 3% and allowing the schools to give more if they have the funds.

They also questioned whether the large increases were due to salaries being frozen previously.

The Budget Board questioned what Professional Education funds are used for.

Public Comment

There was no public comment or questions at the time.

Adjourn

Mike Babbitt made a motion to adjourn, seconded by William DiBiasio.

The meeting adjourned at 9:10 pm.