

Minutes of the East Greenwich School Committee

Budget Workshop

Tuesday, February 10, 2015

Archie R. Cole Middle School Library

100 Cedar Avenue

East Greenwich, RI 02818

6:04 p.m. Executive Session, Mr. Osborne made a motion to go into executive session for discussion and/or action regarding those items of business exempt from open meetings under Rhode Island General Laws §42-46-5 (a) (2) Collective Bargaining: Custodial Contract, Update regarding pending state and municipal pension litigation. Mrs. Winters seconded the motion, which passed 6-0.

Those in attendance were Ms. Carolyn Mark, Chair; Dr. Deidre Gifford, Vice-Chair (arrived at 6:40 p.m.); Mrs. Mary Ellen Winters; Mr. Clark Smith; Dr. Yan Sun; Mr. Michael Fain, and Mr. David Osborne. Dr. Victor Mercurio, Superintendent; Mrs. Gail Wilcox, Director of Administration; and Mr. Brad Wilson, Director of Student Services were also in attendance.

6:38 p.m. Budget Workshop

I. Call to Order

Ms. Mark called the meeting to order at 6:38 p.m. and announced a

vote was taken in executive session to accept the legal counsel's recommendation in regards to municipal pension litigation. The vote was 6-0 in favor.

II. Budget Workshops

a. Athletics

Mr. Cobain presented the Athletic budget and explained the proposed increases for Cole and EGHS. The hiring of a full-time trainer is proposed. Mr. Cobain explained the benefits of adding this ten-month position, rather than using contracted services.

Repainting of the turf field lines is proposed for fall and spring seasons at a cost of \$8,400. Gate expenses are a "wash" with gate receipts. Appendix B salaries, which include coaching salaries, are being reviewed by a committee as agreed to in the CBA.

b. Technology

Mr. Babson summarized the proposed spending for FY2016, which includes \$80,000 for 1:1 technology at Cole. \$20,000 is budgeted for Chromebook damages/replacements. It was noted about 78-80% of parents participate in the extended insurance program for Chromebooks. Mr. Babson and Mrs. Wilcox explained the "line" shifts in technology, which inflate the budget. Line items for various items such as telephone costs were moved from other budgets into technology. The 45% projected increase is actually about 14%. Dr. Mercurio and Mrs. Meyer explained the necessity for additional computers at Cole.

c. Administration

Mrs. Wilcox summarized the FY2016 administration budget, which is

a 6.9% increase.

A portion of the increase is due to a re-class of a Student Services position from Special Education to the administration budget. The benefit line decreased by \$15,000, which can be attributed to a reduction in retiree incentives (health/dental), unemployment, and Affordable Care Act decreases in per person fees. Out of district transportation is proposed at \$36,560, along with an additional tuition paid to Coventry Career and Tech Center. Dr. Mercurio explained the costs incurred due to charter and private school transportation. Dr. Mercurio noted the cost to record School Committee meetings could be charged to the administration or technology line.

d. FY2016 Budget

Updated versions of the FY2016 budget will be provided to School Committee members in their next packet. Ms. Mark asked Mrs. Wilcox to provide a separate document separating discretionary spending from contractual spending for each budget.

The Committee also asked for FY2015 spending YTD and an update on projected state aid for FY2016.

III. Adjournment

On a motion by Mr. Fain, which was seconded by Dr. Sun, the Committee voted 7-0 to adjourn at 8:37 p.m.

CHRISTINE DIMEGLIO

SECRETARY