

Middletown Public Schools

Middletown, Rhode Island

Wednesday, January 6, 2016

BUDGET WORKSHOP

Michael S. Pinto Conference Room

5:30 p.m.

Members Present:

Theresa Spengler, Chair

Kellie DiPalma Simeone, Vice-Chair

Douglas Arnold

Liana F. Fenton

Member Absent:

William O'Connell

Also Present:

Rosemarie K. Kraeger, Superintendent of Schools

Linda Savastano, Assistant Superintendent

Raquel Pellerin, Business Manager

Peter Anderson, Director of Facilities

The Budget Workshop was called to order at 5:35 p.m. Administrative staff members present were Gail Abromitis and Stephen Ponte. Town Finance Director Lynne Dible was in attendance.

The Committee reviewed the Draft Revenue Manual. The final version will be available on January 13th.

A 2% increase was used for the 5 year forecast submitted to the State by the Town. This is an increase of a little over ½ million, \$504,000. Staffing will stay at status quo. Staff will move up steps, which totals approximately \$199,000. We do not know the increase for Blue Cross or Delta Dental at this time.

Highlights of the Revenue Projections -

- Federal Direct Education Aid – We are looking for a slight increase in Medicaid reimbursement for 2017. The Impact Aid application has not been completed. There is a slight increase in school lunch.**
- State Grants – We are projecting level funding for COZ.**
- AARA Federal Grants – We no longer have these grants.**
- Federal Grants – This is level funded.**
- Local Revenue Sources – We currently have no students paying tuition. Miscellaneous revenue is inconsistent year to year.**

•Private Contributions/Donations are restricted funds, which is always an unknown.

(Minutes of January 6, 2016 Budget Workshop, Page Two)

•Capital Improvement Program – For FY 2017/18, roofing and HVAC are major items. The Wireless Classroom Initiative had to be shifted from revenue to deferred revenue.

•Enterprise Funds – These are self-sustaining, self-supporting programs. We are being aggressive with school lunch. Prices have been increased and new items should bring in more sales.

A draft of the Pre-Budget Consultation was presented. By law, school districts have to give the Town Council statements for the next fiscal year of anticipated total expenditures, projected enrollments, estimated enrollment and payments to charter schools, and any necessary or mandated changes in school programs or operations.

We are currently projecting a very slight increase in enrollment based on the NESDEC Report. There is a projected increase of \$49,000 in payments to charter schools. We are awaiting word from RIDE regarding an increase in the tuition rate. The Town Council will really focus on total anticipated expenditures. Expenditures cannot exceed revenues.

The dates for upcoming Budget Workshops and School Committee Meetings are as follows:

January 13, 2016 Budget Workshop at 5:30 p.m.

January 19, 2016 Pre-Budget Consultation at Town Hall at 6:00 p.m.

**January 21, 2016 Regular School Committee Meeting at 5:30 p.m.
followed immediately by Budget Workshop**

January 27, 2016 Budget Workshop at 5:30 p.m.

February 3, 2016 Budget Workshop at 5:30 p.m.

**February 25, 2016 Regular School Committee Meeting at 5:30 p.m.
followed immediately by Budget Workshop**

March 9, 2016 TENTATIVE Budget Workshop at 5:30 p.m.

March 22, 2016 Regular School Committee Meeting at 5:30 p.m.

**MOTION: 1) Kellie DiPalma Simeone, 2) Liana Fenton. To adjourn
from the Budget Workshop at 7:17 p.m.**

Respectfully Submitted,

Rosemarie K. Kraeger, Clerk