

**MINUTES OF THE HINGHAM SCHOOL COMMITTEE
JANUARY 11, 2018 7:00 PM
SCHOOL DEPARTMENT CONFERENCE ROOM**

1. Call to order.

The meeting was called to order by School Committee Chair Liza O'Reilly at 7:07 p.m

Members Present: Michelle Ayer, Aylene Calnan, Carlos Da Silva, Cynthia Galko, Liza O'Reilly and Kay Prashma.

Central Office Present: Dorothy Galo, James LaBillois, John Ferris, Elizabeth Kurlan

Visitors Present: Tony Keady, Rick Swanson, Donna Smallwood, Mary Eastwood, Melissa Smith, Carrie Sorokoff, George Danis, Deb Stellar, Katie Roberts, Derek Smith, Kerry Ni, Aisha Oppong, Ted Hirsch, Katie Gaughen.

2. The Committee received updated information about FY19 operating budget changes. Dr. Galo noted that there have been no changes of substance, but Director of Business and Support Services, John Ferris, distributed updated budget sheets, reflecting the requests of the Committee at the first budget workshop.

3. The Committee continued review of budget proposals for FY '19 operating budget including Function 2100B, 2300B, 2350B, 2400B, 2700B, 2800B, 3300B, 9100B - Special Education; Function 3300E, 9100E - Vocational Education; and Function - Other Allowance. School Committee member Edward Schreier noted that during the previous evening's SEPAC meeting he mistakenly noted that Special Education Tuition Stabilization Fund had a current balance of \$325,000, when in actuality the current balance is \$350,000.

Dr. Galo began the review by delivering an informative presentation. Dr. Galo began by reviewing the district's Special Education enrollments by school (as of December, 2017) and then provided a review of student enrollment in special education by area of primary disability (as of January 2018). A review of the FY'19 Student Services staffing requests was then provided, as was a review of the Special Education pre-preliminary budget as of December 29, 2017. A review of out-of-district tuitions was then presented, as was a review of Special Education as a percent of the total school operating budget (as well as historical trends in this area dating back to FY'01). Finally, Dr. Galo presented a review of the total FY'19 Special Education Budget, representing a net request of \$12,607,660 or a 6.63% increase over the current FY'18 budget.

The Committee entertained a comment from the audience and it was suggested that the district focus on a needs-based budget focused on special education services. School Committee Chair Liza O'Reilly responded that the budget is developed by addressing student requirements. A question was also presented to ensure funding was available to support the work of the Special Education Continuous Improvement Task Force and whether anything that was requested by the principals in the area of special education was not approved to be part of the preliminary budget request. Dr. Galo responded that all requests made by principals have been included on the requests spreadsheet. Dr. Galo then presented a review of the functions by line item and answered questions, where asked.

4. The Committee continued discussion of the Long Range Planning Subcommittee's proposed Capital Budget for FY'19. Director of Business and Support Services, John Ferris, reviewed the process that was employed with the Long-Range Planning Subcommittee to review capital requests. Director Ferris then

discussed the long-term forecast and planning. Discussion ensued relative to specific requests and some edits were made (relative to technology) in the master document.

On a motion made by Edward Schreier and seconded by Carlos DaSilva,

It was

Voted: To take the revised Capital Budget FY'19 request to the Capital Overlay Committee, with a total request of \$ 1,368,528.00

- 5.** The Committee continued discussion on potential Warrant Article items for the April Town meeting. The Committee discussed the inclusion of a warrant article for April Town Meeting relative to the needed work on the HHS gymnasium windows. A draft of the Warrant Article was circulated for review and some edits were made. It was discussed that the article would be written with broad language to cover potential repairs and options for financing. The Advisory Committee will prepare a final recommendation to Town Meeting and, depending on upcoming discussions with the Capital Outlay Committee, may be withdrawn if the work is to be funded through the Capital budget line item.
- 6.** The Committee received for review a proposed Memorandum of Understanding Between the Hingham Public School Department and the Hingham High School Rowing Association. School Committee Vice-Chair Aylene Calnan reviewed, for first reading, the draft Memorandum of Understanding between the district and the Hingham High School Rowing Association. She noted that the draft was reviewed by Town Counsel and School Committee Secretary Cynthia Galko has reviewed the MOU and suggested non-substantive changes to the draft. The Committee discussed the draft and recommended some revisions. Given this is a first draft, additional feedback from the Committee was requested and it was noted that the Committee will vote on this MOU at an upcoming meeting, sometime in February.
- 7.** **48 Hour Items** Dr. Galo noted that a letter to the Billerica School Committee, from the Commonwealth's Ethics Commission, was included in the packet for review. The Committee was cited for sharing information with the public, using public means, relative to an upcoming ballot question in the community. Carlos DaSilva asked about connecting with state representatives regarding the Circuit Breaker funding and some discussion ensued.
- 8.** **Subcommittee Reports** None
- 9.** **Adjournment**
On a motion by Aylene Calnan and seconded by Cynthia Galko,

It was

Voted: To adjourn at 10:15 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted by:
Cynthia Galko

Documents Included in Meeting Packet

[Agenda 1-11-18.pdf](#) 

[Item 3 Circuit Breaker Underfunding.pdf](#) 

[Item 4 Proposed Capital Budget.pdf](#) 

[Item 5 Billerica.pdf](#) 

[Item 5 HHS Glass Block Window Repairs.pdf](#) 

[Item 6 Final MOU - HPS HHSRA.pdf](#) 
