

MINUTES OF THE HINGHAM SCHOOL COMMITTEE

BUDGET WORK SESSION IV

January 26, 2017

1. Call to Order.

The meeting was called to order by Chair Liza O'Reilly at 7:05 p.m.

Members Present: Aylene Calnan, Carlos Da Silva, Carol M. Falvey, Liza O'Reilly, Kay Praschma, Ed Schreier

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

Visitors Present: Alec Porter, Donna Smallwood, Debbie Stellar, Aisha Oppong

2. Approval of Minutes.

2.1 On a motion by Aylene Calnan and seconded by Kay Praschma,

It was

Voted: To approve the minutes of the School Committee Budget Work Session held on January 5, 2017

2.2 On a motion by Aylene Calnan and seconded by Kay Praschma,

It was

Voted: To approve the Minutes of the School Committee Budget Work Session held on January 12, 2017

2.3 On a motion by Aylene Calnan and seconded by Carol M. Falvey,

It was

Voted: To approve the Minutes of the School Committee Executive Session held on January 12, 2017

Ms. O'Reilly handed out Communication Logs. School Committee members were asked to cross-reference the log with individual communications received to ensure that all correspondence is documented.

3. Administrative Updates of the proposed Operating Budget for FY '18. Dr. Galo reviewed selected materials from the packet. There was a summary of Chapter 70 funding, as well as the revenues section of the "cherry" sheet. Hingham is slated to receive a \$140,000 increase in Chapter 70 funds as outlined in the Governor's preliminary budget.

Dr. Galo noted that following all previous Budget Work Sessions, the administration has made reductions totaling \$151,377 to its initial proposed budget. These reductions equate to a new request of a 5.28% increase in regular education and a 4.04% increase in special education.

4. School Committee Priorities for FY '18 Operating Budget. Each member of the School Committee offered their initial comments on the proposed budget. There was discussion on the need to keep the request of the elementary technology support position, given the move to online assessment and the upcoming implementation of the Digital Literacy and Computer Science Curriculum Frameworks. There was discussion of a new Director of Human Resources position in the district. Discussion also elicited support for the additional school nurse position, a facilities and asset management master

plan, funds for NEASC accreditation, addition of the High School Health Teacher due to revised graduation requirements, maintenance position, and the post-secondary tutor position being paid at a guidance counselor rate.

The Committee discussed the request for an independent evaluation of the leadership and governance of the Student Services Department. More information is needed before the Committee would support this addition and Dr. Galo and Dr. LaBillois will meet with the individuals who have made the request to determine the areas to be examined under such a proposal. They will seek clarification of the outcome of the evaluation as there is a perception that the request is directed at individual personnel members and not the program as a whole.

Ms. O'Reilly noted that this was to elicit initial reactions and that additional discussion will occur at the January 30, 2017 School Committee meeting.

5. **Proposed Fee Increases.** Dr. Galo noted that the Policy Subcommittee will address potential increases to both the Kids in Action and Pre-K tuitions. There was also discussion of an increase to the Full-Day Kindergarten Tuition rates. The School Committee has requested that Dr. Galo bring a proposed tuition breakdown to the January 30, 2017 meeting of the School Committee for a vote which would include an "early bird" registration discount for those who register before a specified date.
6. **HHS Principals Search Process.** Dr. Galo reviewed the timeline, activities, and composition of the screening team to find the next principal of Hingham High School.
7. **Hingham's "Financial Position and Long Term Planning."** Ms. O'Reilly shared a copy of the presentation that was presented by the Town Administrator to the Board of Selectmen. The presentation was made relative to a long-range vision for major capital projects proposed in the Town. Ms. O'Reilly noted that the School Committee should work to develop a vision of where the Committee sees the district heading so that any feedback or inclusion in the Town's plan is made in conjunction with this vision.

Ms. O'Reilly noted that Cynthia Galko has taken the notes from the last two September Planning Meetings and has begun to group district needs into one of several general categories. These categories include: facilities, programs, administration, personnel, state issues/mandates, and "other."

The School Committee then discussed additions and revisions to the list. Each member was asked to prioritize the needs and submit their priorities, as well as any other feedback to Ms. O'Reilly.

8. **Items not known 48 hours in advance.** Dr. Galo noted an email from HHS Principal Paula Girouard McCann and Athletic Director Margaret Conaty regarding a request from the Hingham Sports Partnership for fundraising. Dr. Galo noted that the Policy Subcommittee will be asked to examine related policy.
9. **Adjournment.** On a motion by Carol M. Falvey and seconded by Aylene Calnan,

It was

Voted: To adjourn to Executive Session, not to return to Regular Session, at 9:25 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted by:
Cynthia Galko