

**MINUTES OF THE HINGHAM SCHOOL COMMITTEE AND  
THE EDUCATION SUBCOMMITTEE OF THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE  
JOINT BUDGET WORKSESSION**

January 27, 2019 1:00PM

School Department Conference Room, 220 Central Street, Hingham, MA 02043

**1. Call to order**

The meeting was called to order by Chair Michelle Ayer at 1:07pm p.m.

Members Present: Michelle Ayer, Carlos Da Silva, Kerry Ni, Liza O'Reilly, Kay Praschma and Ed Schreier

Central Office Present: Dorothy Galo, James LaBillois, John Ferris and Suzanne Vinnos

Advisory Committee Members Present: Dave Anderson, Bob Curley, Donna Smallwood, Nancy MacDonald, Evan Sheehan, Ed Gaydos, and George Danis

Visitors Present: None

**2. Plan for the Day's Activities and Review of Handouts.** Chair Michelle Ayer explained the objective of the meeting. A handout of John Ferris's presentation was provided to all members.

**3. Working Session**

- a. Presentation of Proposed FY'20 School Budget: John Ferris gave an overview of the preliminary budget proposal from the school administration. The operating budget is now at an increase of 5.39% over FY'19. This decrease from the original 5.64% is due to three teacher retirements and a change in electricity and heating costs. In this overview, JF went over the new items needed as well as budget offsets.
- b. Review of Additional Financial Data: Charts were shown to give a better understanding of the overall budget. Discussions ensued.
- c. Review and discuss warrant articles to be presented at the 2019 Town Meeting. The three warrant articles submitted by the School Committee were distributed to all members of the School Committee and Advisory Committee who were present. These include an article to amend the feasibility study vote for Foster, Foster extraordinary maintenance capital, and an article to secure funding for the Hingham High school clerestory window project. Discussions ensued. Donna Smallwood mentioned that revenue is flat for the town. Other town foreseen projects include the library project, Foster, dredging Hingham harbor, and redoing the fiber optic system at Town Hall. A new forecast is expected in February.

**4. Questions and Answers.** None

**5. Review of Timeline and Proposed Next Steps.** Donna Smallwood confirmed that the Advisory Committee hearing on the school budget will take place on February 26, 2019. The Advisory Committee will vote sometime in early March.

Members of the Advisory Committee departed at 3.05. From central office, John Ferris remained for the rest of the meeting.

The School Committee members discussed their priorities of the items listed in the budget. There was a general consensus not to take anything out. It was also mentioned that the School Committee may want to budget \$4900 for professional development costs for the new superintendent as well as a stipend for a secretary who would write the minutes at School Committee meetings. It was agreed to meet on January 30, 2019 at 6:30 in order to vote on the superintendent's contract. The exact location of the meeting is to be arranged by Michelle Ayer.

**6. Adjournment**

On a motion by Kerry Ni and seconded by Kay Praschma,

It was Voted:

To adjourn at 4:00PM

Documents included in meeting packet:

Agenda

Hingham Public Schools FY20 Budget PowerPoint Presentation

Warrant Articles