October 24, 2015
8:00 a.m.
SHS Library

MINUTES

Present:
Mr. Michael Carney, Jr, Chair
Mrs. Pamela Berry, Vice Chairman
Mr. Peter Morgan, Secretary
Mr. Bernard Campbell, Member
Mrs. Patricia Corbett, Member

Also Present:
Dr. Michael Delahanty, Ed. D., Superintendent
Mrs. Maura Palmer, Assistant Superintendent
Mrs. Deborah Payne, Assistant Superintendent for Business Operations
Mrs. Diana Darnstaedt, Director of Finance
Mr. John Messenheimer, Director of Maintenance
Mr. David Hasbany, Director of Information Technology

Mr. Carney called the meeting to order at 8:02 AM.

Executive Budget Presentation

Dr. Delahanty presented his Executive Budget for 2016-2017. He noted that the general fund budget without Salem High School renovation bond costs of $1,784,699 would represent a $226,642 budget decrease over the 2015-2016 budget.

He explained the rationale behind the budget requests and their relationship to the board’s established goals.

Significant budget cost increases were discussed. Significant increases totaling $2,068,026 were noted in pupil services, construction services and principal and interest on bond debt used to finance school renovation projects. Significant cost decreases totaling $660,249 were noted in salaries, retirements and OOD tuition.

Dr. Delahanty reviewed comparative demographic and financial data between Salem and other similar districts in southeast New Hampshire. The data shows that Salem compares favorably with other districts.

Dr. Delahanty explained that the difference between the projected and actual tax impact of the 2015-2016 budget was attributable to decreases in general fund and state adequacy aid revenues which resulted in a $0.49 tax rate increase rather than the projected $0.38 increase.

After discussion of his proposed Executive Budget, Dr. Delahanty and the administrative staff responded to questions from the board.

Mr. Hasbany reviewed planned IT project expenses for additional classroom presentation projectors and computer replacements and responded to board questions.
Mr. Messenheimer explained planned capital improvements planned for the 2016-2017 year including boiler replacement at Woodbury school, paving maintenance and a proposal for the district to take over its own trash and recycling operations. While the board commended the forward thinking on trash operations, it was not ready to assume responsibility for this operation at this time for several reasons.

Dr. Delahanty pointed out that there were changes in staffing cost assignments between general fund and title budgets for some personnel including the K-8 Director of Mathematics and the District Reading specialist.

The Superintendent responded to general questions from the board.

Mr. Carney declared a recess at 9:38 AM.

The board resumed the budget discussion session at 9:53 AM.

There were additional questions on various budget series cost details. The Superintendent and staff responded to questions and committed to providing additional information for the October 27 meeting discussions.

**Adjournment**

Motion was made by Mrs. Berry and seconded by Mr. Campbell to adjourn.

Motion carried 5-0

The board adjourned at 10:19 AM.

[Signature]

Peter A. Morgan
Secretary, Salem School Board

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