



## Town of Wilmington

Finance Committee

121 Glen Road Wilmington, 01887

### Meeting Minutes February 28, 2019

Finance Committee Chairman, John F. Doherty III, called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm at Wilmington High School. Members present were Theresa M. Manganelli, Vice Chairman; Neal Couture, Secretary; Marianne Gallezzo, Bernard P. Nally, Michelle Kincaid, Leigh Martinson, and Hirak Shah.

#### FY20 WILMINGTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS BUDGET OVERVIEW

PRESENT IN INTEREST: Dr. Glen A. Brand, Superintendent of Schools; Paul Ruggerio, Assistant Superintendent of Administration and Finance, Dr. Brian Reed, Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum and Staff Development, Julie Brousard, School Committee Chair; Jennifer Bryson, School Committee Vice-Chair, Mary Jane Byrnes, School Committee Secretary/Treasurer; Steve Bjork, School Committee Member; David Ragsdale, School Committee Member, and Jo Newhouse, School Committee Member

Dr. Brand presented his FY2020 Budget. Enrollment projections, program needs and identified services were considered. There will be a focus on the social and emotional wellbeing of the students. There will be a continued effort to educate all of the students of Wilmington. Wilmington Public Schools is intent on continuing the efforts to stabilize the school system after many years of challenges. This budget is deliberately not advancing new initiatives or programs. They are preparing to launch a new strategic plan that could lead to resource needs that are sought for FY21 and beyond.

Overall enrollment continues to modestly decline. Adjustments have been made in response. The district has made enrollment-related reductions. They will continue to commit to grade-level team model at Wilmington Middle School. They will continue to support the expansion of course variety at the High School. Budget priorities include appropriate funding for schools and programs. Our technological infrastructure and access for teaching will be maintained. There will be tight fiscal controls to make sure that prudent use of limited resources are ensured. Dr. Brand then listed the legal mandates that are required in the budget. They will continue to meet contractual obligations. They anticipate 66 out-of-district placements. There will be level funding for non-salary accounts. Continued support for the Reader's Workshop program. They will add a science program at the K-5 level. One does not exist right now. Envisions Mathematics program will have its subscription renewed. There will be continued funding of the I-Ready program. The 1;1 Chromebook Initiative expansion will include rising 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> grade students. A projected increase of approximately \$400,000.00 to support out-of-district tuition obligations.

The number of personnel has changed from 476.25 FTEs in FY2019 to 478.35 FTEs in FY 2020. Salary changes had a 3.57% increase in FY2020. Non-Salary changes had a 5.56% increase. The total recommended Budget had a 4.00% increase from the current fiscal year.

The total capital requests for FY2020 was \$605,000. \$20,000 was requested for Chromebook Carts. The Middle school wireless upgrade will cost \$100,000.00. The Middle School Labs will need \$75,000.00. The Projector Replacement project will require \$180,000.00. \$100,000.00 for the North & West laptop replacement. \$100,000.00 for the new data center for the district. The new PA system upgrade will cost \$30,000.00.

Mr. Doherty asked about the status of the Union contracts. Mr. Ruggerio replied that the Teachers' contract is in year one, the Administrative Assistants contract expires in 2022 and the Educational Assistants contract expires at the end of this fiscal year. The Nurses contract expires in FY2021 and the Cafeteria Workers goes through FY2020. Mr. Doherty asked if the balance of the After School Program's revolving account have been reduced. There was a brief

discussion regarding when enrollment happens and the efforts that have been made to reduce this account.

Ms. Manganelli had asked for results from the math program that had been funded in the past. She thanked the Superintendent for putting this information together. There was a discussion that reviewed how long an investment in an educational program takes before you can get accurate results. The results so far have been positive.

Mr. Nally asked if the School had any comparatives from neighboring communities on the MCAS results. Dr. Brand reference the MCAS report that is available online. Wilmington was compared to similar communities. Not necessarily geographically close communities. He will share the link with the committee. Ms. Gellezzo asked if they created a swim team. Dr. Brand replied that they have a two year commitment to a team and they are using the Reading YMCA pool.

Mr. Shah asked if this budget is based on no changes to the Chapter 70 funding. Mr. Ruggerio replied that we are a minimum aid community and it is rarely changed.

#### OLD BUSINESS

Mr. Doherty updated the committee on the ongoing process of the Fire Department request for additional staffing. He will be meeting with Jeff to discuss this on Friday March 1, 2019. There was a discussion regarding what information will be needed going forward in order to come to a resolution on this issue.

#### APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The Finance Committee reviewed the minutes from the February 7, 2019 meeting.

A motion was made by Ms. Manganelli, seconded by Ms. Gallezzo, it was unanimously:

VOTED: To approve the minutes from February 7, 2018

The Finance Committee reviewed the minutes from the February 14, 2019 meeting.

A motion was made by Ms. Galezzo, seconded by Mr. Nally it was unanimously:

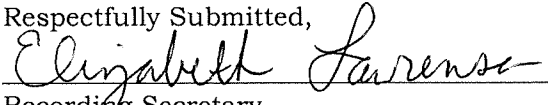
VOTED: To approve the minutes from February 14, 2018

At the conclusion of the discussion, and there being no further business to come before the Committee, a motion was made by Ms. Manganelli, and seconded by Ms. Gallezzo, it was unanimously:

VOTED: That the Finance Committee adjourn.

Meeting adjourned at 7:45pm

Respectfully Submitted,

  
Recording Secretary