

**Finance Subcommittee (of the School Committee)**  
**2/22/23**  
**Minutes**

Jeanne Downs, chair  
Chris Ryan  
Parry Graham, Acting Superintendent  
Tom LaFleur, Director of Finance and Operations

Jeanne called the meeting to order at 4:50 pm. The meeting is being conducted remotely. The following items were discussed:

**Public Comment**

- Brud Wright, member of the Recreation Commission, noted that the youth basketball rental being proposed is in conflict with the Recreation Department. He asked to get on an upcoming agenda.
- Dave Pearlman, member of the Recreation Commission but speaking as a private citizen (34 Pequot Road), commented on the emails regarding the proposed youth basketball rental. He noted the need to understand the proposal better as well as understand the Recreation and Schools agreement regarding rentals.
- Scott Walters, 100 Draper Road, commented that there needs to be a balance between club basketball and recreation department basketball programs.
- Donny Guerinoni, 13 Adelaide, is the person proposing the basketball rental and commented that he is trying to figure out what is best for kids. He is the president of Wayland Youth Basketball. He wants to give families access and noted that the Recreation Department didn't have enough time available to meet the demand he has from families.
- Mike Brown, Concord Road, supports Mr. Guerinoni's proposal and thinks it is important to keep kids in town to play basketball.
- Chris Nichols, 61 Glezen Lane, feels this issue can be solved quickly. He supports Mr. Guerinoni and feels the program will be financially beneficial for the town.

**Discussion of FY 24 Budget (Capital and Operating) and Response to Finance Committee Reduction**

Jeanne noted the Finance Committee's voted operating budget includes a \$600K reduction in the School operating budget. Parry noted that the reduction will be consequential. Parry further explained that the FY24 recommended budget includes SpEd out of district transportation costs that aren't expected to get circuit breaker reimbursement. Tom noted that on a DESE call a few months ago, finance directors were encouraged to be conservative in budgeting for SpEd transportation because of this.

A discussion ensued about reducing SpEd transportation by \$300K and ideally asking for funding of the SpEd Reserve Fund with \$300K to offset the reduction. The additional \$300K reduction would impact personnel as non-personnel expenses are flat. Parry and Tom will discuss the details of the \$300K personnel reduction and present it to the School Committee on March 1<sup>st</sup>.

Jeanne noted that if SpEd transportation is reduced by \$300K, the SpEd Reserve Fund is not funded, and the circuit breaker funds for transportation do not come in, the district will need to find \$300K in the budget to cover the SpEd transportation. Parry noted that there has already been \$600K cut from the original budget recommended by the Superintendent so the total reduction will now be \$1.2MM. He noted the risk to next year's budget. A discussion ensued about how to present the reductions to the School Committee.

Chris noted that the math curriculum was voted as part of the FY24 capital budget by the Finance Committee. The math curriculum rolled out in the fall and implementation will continue for 2-3 years.

#### **Discussion of Community Budget Presentation**

Dates for the community budget presentation were discussed.

#### **Minutes**

The minutes were passed over.

#### **Matters Not Anticipated**

Tom noted that it had been brought to his attention that there is a policy conflict between the Recreation Department and Schools regarding renting to not for profit entities. He suggested that the Schools work with the Recreation Department so that both are on the same page. Chris will reach out to the Recreation Commission chair.

#### **Adjournment**

Upon a motion made by Jeanne Downs and seconded by Chris Ryan, the subcommittee voted unanimously (2-0) to adjourn at 5:47 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jeanne Downs