

**Hampton School Board Budget Worksession
November 7, 2017
SAU Conference Room**

Minutes

Present: Chair Les Shepard, Vice Chair Andrea Shepard, Virginia Bridle, Peppa Ring, Frank DeLuca

Also present: Kathleen Murphy – Superintendent, Nathan Lunney – Business Administrator, Jessica Parsons – Director of Pupil Services, John Judson – Media Coordinator (filming)

Chair L. Shepard called the work session to order at 4:50 pm. The work session was recorded and will air on local cable television. All present rose to recite the Pledge of Allegiance.

The Board began deliberations with a brief overview by Mr. Lunney and then moved on to review each function in turn. The Board chose to begin with functions related to the work of Mrs. Parsons.

Under 1200 Special Education, there was discussion of the significant increase in identified students and the fiscal impact of the current out-of-district placements. Increases in tuition costs were reviewed as well as the addition of a case manager position. Mrs. Parsons described her plan to add hours and days to one or more case manager who would serve as an “LEA” providing leadership to IEP meetings and the compliance process.

Motion by F. DeLuca, seconded by P. Ring, to accept the 1200 Special Education function as presented. The motion passed 5-0.

The Board moved on to the 2146 series Related Services section of the budget. These accounts include the speech, physical, and occupational therapies.

Motion by F. DeLuca, seconded by A. Shepard, to accept the 2146 Related Services functions as presented. The motion passed 5-0.

The Board moved to the 2700 series Transportation section of the budget. Regular bussing is up 3% according to the multi-year contract. Mr. Lunney explained that this budget is for the final year in our agreement and the District will need to explore bussing next year. Specialized transportation is rising as a reflection of the out-of-district placements discussed previously.

Motion by F. DeLuca, seconded by A. Shepard, to accept the 2700 Transportation function as presented. The motion passed 5-0.

Motion by P. Ring, seconded by F. DeLuca, to break for dinner. The motion passed 5-0. The meeting was recessed at 6:20pm.

The Board returned from break at 6:48pm.

Next the Board reviewed the 2290 series Support Services section of the budget. This section included the Bonus (previously Merit) Payment account and the School Resources Officer budget. The proposed budget held the bonus line flat and added \$33,000 to the SRO line for the addition of a second officer in the schools. Superintendent Murphy reported on a recent meeting with the Chief and Deputy Chief of the Hampton PD about this request. The costs to add a second SRO would likely be more than \$90,000 and alternatives are being explored. The Chief and Deputy Chief are scheduled to meet with the Board in non-public session at their December meeting. There was discussion about the bonus/merit payment idea and the history of it in this budget.

Motion by A. Shepard, seconded by L. Shepard, to reduce the SRO line by \$33,000 and eliminate the Bonus Payment line (-\$40,000). The motion failed 2-2-1 (G. Bridle/P. Ring) with F. DeLuca abstaining.

Motion by L. Shepard, seconded by G. Bridle, to reduce the SRO account by \$33,000 and accept the 2290 Support Services function as amended. The motion passed 5-0.

Motion by F. DeLuca, seconded by A. Shepard, to reduce the Bonus Payment account by \$20,000. The Board had further discussion about the Bonus Payment account. The motion was withdrawn.

The Board moved to the 2310 series Board of Education section of the budget.

Motion by A. Shepard, seconded by P. Ring, to accept the 2310 Board of Education function as presented. The motion passed 5-0.

The Board continued on to the 2320 series District Administration section of the budget. Mr. Lunney explained that the salary account for the Superintendent included a budget amount equal to her current salary with no proposed increase. Any increase in budget for next year would need to be proposed by the Board. There was consensus to include a 2.5% budgeted increase for the Superintendent consistent with the proposed increases for other non-union staff. Mr. Lunney suggested that the Labor Relations Services account be reduced by \$1,000. There was consensus to make that reduction.

Motion by A. Shepard, seconded by P. Ring, to accept the 2320 District Administration function as amended. The motion passed 5-0.

Next the Board reviewed the 2400 series School Administration section of the budget. The proposed budget included the addition of a half-time Assistant Principal position at Centre School. Superintendent Murphy reminded the Board of previous conversations about the need for the position at that school. The half-time proposal was in response to those discussions.

Motion by G. Bridle, seconded by A. Shepard, to enter Non-Public Session under RSA 91-A:3, II (a) to discuss a personnel matter. By a roll call, the Board voted 5-0 and entered non-public at 7:38pm.

No action was taken; no decisions were made. On a motion by P. Ring, seconded by A. Shepard, the Board returned to public session by a vote of 5-0 at 7:54pm.

The Board reviewed salary adjustments to the Assistant Principals at Marston School and Hampton Academy. It was noted that top-step teachers in the District will make \$80,002 in 2018-19 before longevity or other stipends and that the Assistant Principals work year-round for less. There was consensus of the Board to remove the proposed half-time position and to make adjustments to the two positions discussed.

Motion by A. Shepard, seconded by F. DeLuca, to accept the 2400 District Administration section as amended. The motion passed 5-0.

The Board agreed to wrap up for the evening and finish the budget review on Monday, November 13, 2017 at 4:30pm. A final session is tentatively scheduled preceding the regular monthly meeting the following night. The Board briefly address other scheduling matters.

Motion by F. DeLuca, seconded by A. Shepard, to adjourn was voted unanimously.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:12 pm.