

Milford Budget Advisory Committee
Approved Minutes
January 9, 2019

Present: Karen Mitchell, Chris Pank, Bob Courage, Paul Bartolomucci and Peg Seward

Absent: Wade Campbell, Chris Skinner, Chris Labonte and George Skuse

Guests: John Wynne, Dave Wilson, Sarah Smith, Mark Bender, Nate Carmen, Chris Constantino, Kevin Federico, Bruce Dickerson and Judy Gross

Business: Meeting called to order at 6:35 by Chris Pank

School BAC

-Approved \$42 million budget last night (5-1). This budget was pretty flat compared to last year.

Warrants approved:

- contingency fund – 200k
- Article 7 – vote 4/2
- contracts – votes were taken

New Superintendent – re-organizing

- doesn't think there will be lay-offs – as of yet – poss. next year - waiting for possible attrition and looking for more qualified persons

Kindergarten – still no word on \$2900/student from the State

- Added a teacher for next year due to higher enrollment
- 2020, 138 students projected
- 2019, 114 students this year
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<u># of students in Milford Schools</u>	<u>FY</u>
2485	2016/2017
2392	2018/2019
2340	2019/2020
2270	2020/2021

Mason, NH has a tuition agreement with us for Middle and High School
Main Drivers of School Budget

- Pensions, salaries & maintenance
 - Some para's were let go due to needs for more accredited and qualified to teach
 - Reinstating the assistant superintendent
 - funded by grant \$ - ends up being a net decrease
 - Back log in maintenance – around \$15 million – trying to work on it from the operating budget rather than another bond
 - Superintendent contract – initial was 1 year and being reviewed
- Business Admin. – three-year contract

Update to School BAC on the Town Warrants

- Kevin Federico gave an explanation of MACC Base equipment
- BOS – voted Monday 3-2 on this
- BOS decided to take 200k from Fund Balance
 - Tax rate will be \$6.53, which is 15 cents per thousand (2.4% increase on the tax rate)

Library – Judy Gross

- New Director Betsy has done a lot with current Library needs:
 - new meeting room
 - windows added and LED lighting added
 - removed insulation from ceilings that were collapsing
 - dog waste station
 - security cameras and upgrade
 - passport services – 863 (\$35 per pass) – great source of revenue
 - added hours – open at 9am instead of 9:30
 - 7 notary's on staff
 - hired a space planner to maximize space – added 35 sq. feet by extending the ceiling over the large stairway
 - next Tuesday – four finalist architects are coming to present plans
 - replaced fixed shelves with rolling shelves – able to move and make a new meeting area
 - removing fines on children's materials

- revamped Children's program to accommodate full day Kinderg.
- planning warrant in 2020 for library

Wastewater Sludge Warrant – reduced to around 500k

- discussed possible warrant amendments
 - increase the public safety equipment capital reserve
 - increase the operating budget to cover an additional cruiser

Pumpkin Festival

- Only spent 19k of the 23k from the warrant
- asked to keep it as 23k for the 2019 warrant until they have a couple of years to gauge the numbers better

Conservation Commission

- Land fund – can it be used towards Osgood Pond work (Gary Daniels)
 - yes – bring it before the Conservation Commission to decide.
- asking the BAC our recommendation on moving the balance of the Land Fund to a goal of 150k

The next meeting will be January 16, 2019 in the BOS room

The meeting was adjourned at 8:23 pm.

Respectfully submitted by, Karen Mitchell, Secretary