

Dover Warrant Committee
Minutes of the October 26, 2011 meeting

Members in attendance: David Melville- Chairman, James Stuart, Rich Forte, John Cone, Kathy Gill-Body, Bob Cocks, Kate Bush, Andrew Waugh

Non-members in attendance: Members of Dover Sherborn Regional School Committee, Valerie Spriggs (School Superintendent), Jim Dawley (Dover Selectmen), members of Sherborn Advisory

Location: Dover Town House

David Melville called the meeting to order at 7:01 PM.

Mr. Melville welcomed members of Sherborn Advisory and Regional School Committee and looked forward to working closely as a group to develop a fair regional school budget that maintained the high quality of education the two towns have all come to expect while being prudent in the expenditure of limited resources. The goal of working in a collaborative effort is to avoid presenting mixed messages to the Regional School Committee and agreeing on a fair target for the regional budget.

Ms. Spriggs reviewed the Regional School budget, referring to the attached 5-page spreadsheet. Ms. Spriggs talked us through:

- Budget Comparisons
- Revenue Comparisons
 - o Explaining "Other Revenues, Total Grants" are funds from the Federal and State government
- Expenditure analysis and comparison
- Under the new union contract, the teacher child rearing leave is now at one year
- Enrollment
 - o The enrollment number, which is as of November 1 is used to determine the percentage sharing between Dover and Sherborn of the Regional School Budget. That number will be available to the Committee November 2.

Ms. Spriggs expects to have a preliminary budget in December.

A question was asked as to how the Regional School Committee was able to bridge the budget gap at the end of last year just prior to Town Meeting. Ms. Spriggs answered that there was an increase in State funding, adjustments to E&D and a higher than expected number of teachers on child rearing leave all contributed to eliminating the budget gap. Details will follow at the next meeting before the Warrant Committee as to the increased amount received from the State and for what reason.

Mr. Melville thanked Ms. Spriggs, Regional School Committee and Advisory and looked forward to working with them throughout the process.

A motion was made by Mrs. Gill-Body to approve the minutes of October 12, 2011, second by Mrs. Bush. Approved 7-0-0.

Prior Notice from the Selectmen's office for \$7,866.20 for two 275 gallon fuel oil tanks for the Caryl Community Center for temporary storage. The tanks are to be located inside the building, in the generator room.

Liaison Reports:

- Capital Budget- Mr. Cone reported that the preliminary capital budget is at \$528,000
- Park & Recreation- Mr. Waugh reported that Park and Recreation is confirmed for the November 9 meeting
- Chickering School- Mr. Cocks reported that Chickering is withdrawing for this year the request for funding of \$250,000 for an emergency generator.
- Library- Mr. Cocks reported that the Library is working on their budget and plan to have it set in November and voted on in December

Being no other reports or business before the Committee, Mr. Waugh made a motion to adjourn, second by Mr. Cocks. Meeting adjourned at 8:20 PM.

Next meeting is scheduled for November 9 at 7 PM in the Dover Town House.

Respectfully submitted,
W. Richard Forte, Jr.