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Warrant Committee
Education Subcommittee Meeting
Wednesday May 7, 2014 6 pm

Present: Bob Sarno, Pat Brusch, Jum Gammill, Elizabeth Grob, Raffi Manjikian

The meeting was called to order at 6:10 pm.

The purpose of the meeting was to have an initial discussion of the School Department's request for a reserve fund transfer of \$200,000. See the letter from Dr. Tom Kingston to Warrant Committee Chair Michael Libenson, dated April 30, 2014.

Chair Sarno began by reviewing the three criteria used to assess a reserve fund transfer request: (1) the expenditures motivating the request were not in the budget; (2) the expenditures were justifiably unanticipated when the budget was prepared; and (3) there are no additional dollars available for funding the request in the existing funds available to the Department.

Chair Sarno raised a specific question about the availability of LABBB credits as a potential source of additional funds available for 2014, and the relevance of this question to criterion (3). He reviewed the questions and answers from the Department submitted in April related to the use of LABBB credits in 2014. Member Brusch noted that the Warrant Committee education subcommittee did not discuss in depth these answers at its April 16th meeting with the Department leadership and the School Committee finance subcommittee because other topics dominated the discussion at that meeting.

Chair Sarno asked the subcommittee members to provide him with questions about the pending transfer fund request. He will compile them and forward them to the School Department.

Chair Sarno summarized the current School Department budget in two handouts, based on information provided by the School Department in its April 30 report. These handouts highlighted the account lines in deficit and the change in the projected deficit(surplus) for various accounts between the Q2 and Q3 projections.

The subcommittee is looking to better understand the drivers of the projected deficit before forwarding its recommendation to the full Warrant Committee.

The March 3rd minutes were approved unanimously. The April 16th minutes were approved 4-0, with one abstention

The meeting was adjourned at 6:56 pm.