

2020 FEB 20 AM 8:48

Warrant Committee Education Subcommittee
Joint Meeting with the School Committee Finance Subcommittee
December 17, 2019 8:00 AM
School Administration Building Conference Room

Meeting Minutes

Members in Attendance

Warrant Committee Education Subcommittee: Chris Doyle, Anne Helgen, Paul Rickter, Jack Weis

School Committee: Susan Burgess-Cox, Amy Checkoway, Mike Crowley, Superintendent John Phelan, Finance Director Tony DiCologero

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 8:10 AM

Approval of Minutes

Minutes from the November 5, 2019 meeting were approved.

Review of FY 20 Q 1 Financial Results

Tony DiCologero walked the group through the schedules showing the first quarter FY 20 actual financial results. Overall, the School Department is currently projecting to finish the year with a slight surplus (approximately \$80,000). Tony highlighted a couple of the components of the variance. He noted that, with School Committee approval, the School Department added 2 FTE teaching positions above what was projected in the FY 20 budget. He also noted that a number of aides were hired in FY 20 to address the increase in, and composition of, this year's enrollment. He noted that the School Department typically doesn't budget for an increase in aides, preferring to wait to see how the enrollment numbers and needs play out.

FY 21 Budget Process

John and Tony are working with the Financial Task Force II to frame the general target for the FY 21 General Fund budget. They are confirming that, in order to help the Town get through FY 21 without needing an override, the School Department will be asked to bring in a General Fund budget at about \$1.7 million below the number that the Financial Task Force was originally projecting.

John noted that they are planning to contract with a former administrator on an hourly basis to help the School Department navigate the process of being a non-member at Minuteman for the first time in FY 21. This person will also begin to explore whether there are vocational education opportunities at other schools besides Minuteman.

The School Department will be meeting with the Finance Subcommittee and the School Department during the month of January to discuss the details of the proposed FY 21 budget. The Warrant Committee will plug back in in February. The School Committee won't be voting on the budget itself until sometime in April.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 9:25 AM.