



**TOWN OF PITTSFIELD  
BUDGET COMMITTEE  
TOWN HALL, 85 MAIN STREET  
PITTSFIELD, NH 03263**

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## **MEETING MINUTES OF Wednesday, December 15, 2021**

### **CALL TO ORDER**

Call to order at 6:30 PM by Katie Bocash, Chair

### **MEMBERS PRESENT (9)**

Katie Bocash, Chair  
Robert Schiferle, Vice Chair  
Jeremy Everson, Secretary  
Carol Richardson, Select Board Rep.  
Justin Clough, School Board Rep.  
John Christakos  
Dan Greene  
Fred Hast  
Randy Severance

### **MEMBERS ABSENT (3)**

Ammy Ramsey  
Larry Konopka  
Helen Schiff

### **GUESTS PRESENT**

Bryan Lane, Superintendent of Schools  
Adam Gauthier, School Board Chairperson  
Sandra Adams, School Board Member

### **DOCUMENTS DISTRIBUTED:**

- *Response to Budget Committee Questions (12-15-2021)*
- *State Minimum Standards (10-13-21)*
- *School Facility Projects*
- *ESSER Funds Allowable Activities*
- *Proposed Budget – Version 2 (12-15-2021)*

## Agenda Item 1: School Budget Overview, Q&A with Bryan Lane

### Documents Referenced:

- *Response to Budget Committee Questions (12-15-2021)*
- *State Minimum Standards (10-13-21)*
- *School Facility Projects*
- *ESSER Funds Allowable Activities*
- *Proposed Budget – Version 2 (12-15-2021)*

Discussion: B. Lane began discussion by answering the questions that the Budget Committee sent him after the meeting on December 8, 2021. These questions are answered in print as well, see ***Response to Budget Committee Questions***. Additional information and material given to clarify these answers is found in ***State Minimum Standards, School Facility Projects*** and ***ESSER Funds Allowable Activities*** documents.

- The ***State Minimum Standards*** document clarifies the programs and positions that that State of NH stipulates every school must provide. The FACS Teacher is part of this as well as the Librarian.
- The ***School Facility Projects*** document was drawn up by Derek Hamilton to clarify the projects that have been completed in the schools over the past five years, the projects going on now and the projects planned for the next few years.
- The ***ESSER Funds Allowable Activities*** document covers the purpose and process the schools go through to obtain these grant funds and how they can be spent.
- There is no list of Capital Improvement Projects for the schools. B. Lane recommends compiling a list of all items in the schools whose replacement costs would exceed \$5000 and maintain the age and inventory of these items, in order to plan those expenditures before they become emergency, unbudgeted costs.
- The major reason for the decrease in the proposed budget is because of teachers and staff that left the district and were replaced by teachers and staff at lower pay levels.
- B. Lane will get additional information for the committee regarding:
  - ESSER Funds will cover programs that have previously been a part of the regular budget. What are those programs?
  - Where do the revenues to pay the Social Workers (lines 188-204) come from? Foss Foundation? Other donations?
- B. Lane believes this proposed budget to be a very responsible budget.

## Agenda Item 2: Committee Discussion on School Board Presentation

### Discussion:

- There was general agreement that the presentation of the proposed budget from the schools was transparent and helpful. This is something the budget committee has asked for in the past years.

- The desire of the school board is to maintain the transparency and helpful approach to the budgeting process.

### Agenda Item 3: Approval of Meeting Minutes

#### December 8, 2021 Meeting Minutes

- Motion to Approve: R. Severance
- Motion 2<sup>nd</sup>: F. Hast
- Correction to page 3, 'Item 4' should be 'Agenda Item 2'.
- 7 (yes) – 0 (no) – 2 (abstentions)

Motion Passed as Amended.

#### Next Meeting

There is no meeting next week, December 22, 2021. Merry Christmas!

Next meeting will be on Wednesday, December 29, 2021, starting at 6:30 PM.

Meeting adjourned at 7:54 PM.

Submitted by: Jeremy Everson, Secretary

Approved:

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Katie Bocash, Chair

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Date