



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

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## **MEETING MINUTES OF Wednesday, December 19, 2018**

### **CALL TO ORDER**

Call to order at 6:32 PM by Robert Schiferle, Chair

### **MEMBERS PRESENT (13)**

Robert Schiferle, Chair  
Mary Paradise, Vice Chair  
Jeremy Everson, Secretary  
Katie Bachelder  
Richard Guild  
Fred Hast  
Louis Houle  
Gail Nickerson  
Ralph O'Dell  
Helen Schiff  
Randy Severance  
Heidi Asdot, School Board Rep.  
Carol Richardson, Select Board Rep.

### **MEMBERS ABSENT (0)**

None

### **GUESTS PRESENT**

Dr. John Freeman, Superintendent of Schools  
Tobi Chassie, Director of Student Services  
Michael Wolfe, School Board Chairman

### **Documents Distributed:**

- *Pittsfield School District Warrant – 2019 DRAFT*
- *Pittsfield School District Default Budget 2019-2020*
- *Bid Sheet for the Pittsfield 2018-2023 Transportation Contract*

## Item 1: Pittsfield School Warrant Articles

### *Documents Referenced:*

- *Pittsfield School District Warrant 2019 (DRAFT)*
- *Pittsfield School District Default Budget 2019-2020*
  
- Article 1: School Lunch Program – approval of the expenditure that is then covered by the sale of food, as well as state and federal funds. No tax impact.
- Article 2: Grant Funds – to raise and appropriate grant funding for different programs in the schools. No tax impact.
- Article 3: Operating Budget / Default Budget –
- Article 4: Collective Bargained Contract - Includes certain changes:
  - Teachers' health insurance splits going from 88/12% to 85/15% over three years.
  - Teachers salary guide increase of 2.5%
  - Other minor changes:
    - Certain dates specified in the contract
    - Definition of "teacher"
    - Rules regarding assignment change requests
    - Health Insurance Plan named
    - Changes in release procedure after July 15
  - Estimated tax impact:
    - \$0.55/thousand in 2019-2020
    - \$0.58/thousand in 2020-2021
    - \$0.61/thousand in 2021-2022
- Article 5: Special meeting authorization in the event that article 4 is defeated.
- Article 6: Dumpsters need to be replaced and a Capital Reserve Fund is being requested to consider this cost in the future. Estimated tax impact \$0.02/thousand.
- Article 7: Estimated cost of resurfacing and fencing of the tennis courts at Drake Field. Estimated tax impact \$0.14/thousand (a new estimate may reduce the cost of fencing).

## Item 2: Remaining Questions from December 5 Meeting

- *Document Referenced: Bid Sheet for the Pittsfield 2018-2023 Transportation Contract*

- Discussion:
  - A copy of the School Bus contract was distributed to the committee.
  - There are no copies of other districts' school bus contract for comparison.
  - There was a longer discussion on the number of students that use the bus system (the school does not keep track of that data).
  - A request was made to Dr. Freeman to give the committee an itemized list along with cost lines of programs/staffing that would most be looked for to add back into the budget.
  - Employee contract information is available on the PLERB website.

### Item 3: Approval of Meeting Minutes

December 11, 2018 Meeting Minutes

- Motion to Approve: F. Hast
- Motion 2<sup>nd</sup>: M. Paradise
- 10 (yes) – 0 (no) – 3 (abstentions)

Motion Passed

### Item 4: Other Discussion

- L. Houle mentioned that there is a fund with approximately \$96,000 for economic development that has not been used in several years. The money is still available and he recommends that the members of the committee support the economic development committee in using the money to stimulate tax relief in our town. There will be a warrant article to put said funds into the general operating budget for the town.
- L. Houle informed the committee of a potential revenue relief project being worked on involving the installation of solar arrays on the roof of the municipal buildings in town and perhaps the schools.

### Item 5: Budget Committee Calendar

- January 2 – Public Hearing Prep
- January 9 – Public Hearing
- January 10 – Public Hearing Snow Date or Voting Session
- January 16 – Committee Voting Session
- January 17 – Committee Voting Session Continued (if necessary)
- January 23 – Final Meeting to sign budgets

#### Next Meeting

Next meeting will be on Wednesday, January 2, 2018, starting at 6:30 PM.

Meeting adjourned at 8:05 PM.

Submitted by: Jeremy Everson, Secretary

Approved:



Robert Schiferle, Chair

1/3/2019

Date