



Town of Medway

FINANCE COMMITTEE

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Joint Meeting with School Committee and Board of Selectmen
Wednesday, December 9, 2020 – 6:00 PM
Presentation Room, Medway Middle School
45 Holliston Street

Finance Committee

Present in person: Todd Alessandri, Chair; Jeff O'Neill.

Participating Remotely: Brian Cowan; Will Lane; Michael Schrader; Sue Segarra; Jim Sullivan (6:35 pm).

Absent: Frank Rossi, Vice Chair; Ellen Hillery, Clerk.

School Committee

Members in attendance: Ms. Dietrich, Ms. Sullivan, Ms. Nassiff and Dr. Fageron. Mr. Segarra was absent.

Medway Public Schools Staff in attendance: Armand Pires, Superintendent of Schools; Don Aicardi, Director of Finance; Gabrielle Adams, Assistant Superintendent.

Board of Selectmen

Members in attendance: Glenn Trindade, Chair; Dennis Crowley, John Foresto, Rick D'Innocenzo.

Town Staff in attendance: Michael Boynton, Town Manager; Carol Pratt, Finance Director.

Call to Order

At 6:06 PM Ms. Dietrich called the School Committee meeting to order, reading aloud the Governor's Orders regarding the number of persons allowed in rooms, ways the meeting was being broadcast, etc.

At 6:07 PM Mr. Trindade called the Board of Selectmen meeting to order.

At 6:08 PM Chairman Alessandri called the Finance Committee to order.

FY21 Budget Reconfiguration Discussion

Dr. Pires stated that this reconfigured budget will be the starting point for building the FY22 budget. There were many costs associated with the reopening of schools this year due to the health pandemic. Starting next week, the third graders will join K-2 with a full return to school. The district is working to get the 4th & 5th grades back early next year. He reviewed the ways that school can again occur five

days a week but on a staggered basis. He spoke briefly about funding sources, additional resources and other adjustments to the school budget.

Mr. Aicardi discussed the revolving account balances and explained why they are higher than normal. Due to the current health pandemic, the district made some adjustments to end the FY20 year which produced these larger than normal balances for the Circuit Breaker and School Choice Revolving Fund balances. The School Committee had voted to use a reduced amount of both of these accounts at the end of last fiscal year. The carryover from FY20 was to be available in FY21 as needed.

Mr. Aicardi went on to discuss the COVID related expenses the district faced this year. The total expense was in excess of \$900,000. Selectman Crowley indicated that it was his understanding that the schools would spend around 750,000, leaving around 200,000 for the Town side. If the Town cannot spend it, they will let the schools know so appropriate action can be taken. The Selectmen discussed the funding for the CARES Act and decided that should the Town find themselves with any remaining funds, the School should be able to spend the balance.

At this time, the Selectmen, on motion by Selectmen Crowley and seconded by Chairman Trindade voted that the Town will allocate any overage to Medway Public Schools; Roll Call Vote: 3-0-0 (Crowley, aye; D'Innocenzo, aye; Trindade, aye)

Other items discussed included staff testing, increased utility costs and building maintenance. Chairman Alessandri asked about School Choice students, Dr. Pires explained that the School Committee votes twice a year on the capacity of School Choice students.

Questions should be forwarded to Town Manager Boynton.

At 6:44 PM Selectman Crowley exited the meeting. Mr. Boynton exited the meeting at 6:50 PM.

School Committee Action Item

At 6:51 PM, the School Committee took up the action item of consideration of authorizing the Director of Finance and Operations to execute the Budget Transfers to the FY21 budget as outlined in the FY21 Reconfigured Budget Status Report Memo, dated December 3, 2020. It was successfully voted.

Adjourn

At 6:52 PM Chairman Alessandri made a motion to adjourn the Finance Committee meeting; Mr. Sullivan seconded. No discussion. ROLL CALL VOTE: 8-0-0 (Alessandri, aye; Cowan, aye; Lane, aye; O'Neill, aye; Rossi, aye; Schrader, aye; Segarra, aye; Sullivan, aye).

The School Committee and Board of Selectmen then adjourned their respective meetings by roll call vote.

*Respectfully submitted,
Jeanette Galliardt*