



**TOWN OF NORTH HAMPTON, NEW HAMPSHIRE  
MUNICIPAL BUDGET COMMITTEE MEETING**

**DECEMBER 19, 2022 6:30 PM**

**NORTH HAMPTON TOWN HALL**

***APPROVED MINUTES***

MEMBERS PRESENT: Chairman Rick Stanton, Vice-Chairman/Select Board Rep James Sununu, Sean Dionne, Andrew Raucci, Frank Ferraro, George Chauncey, School Board Rep Lisa Gagalis, Little Boar's Head Rep Brian Goode; Lisa Gallagher (Zoom)

ALSO PRESENT: School Business Administrator Matt Ferreira, Superintendent Meredith Nadeau, Brandon Michaud Teachers' Union

Chairman Rick Stanton welcomed everyone to the December 19, 2022 North Hampton Municipal Budget Committee Meeting and called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

**OLD BUSINESS**

Any unapproved Minutes

**NEW BUSINESS**

**Second Review of Proposed North Hampton School Budget for FY2024**

School Business Administrator Matt Ferreira introduced Superintendent Meredith Nadeau and Brandon Michaud, leadership for the Teachers' Union. He said there is one outstanding Warrant Article, the CBA for Teacher Contract, now ratified by the School Board. He said the Budget was kept lean because highest priority is passing CBA which needs approval by all ballots in SAU21 District; also to keep North Hampton competitive in the seacoast region with a drop in students entering teacher prep programs. Fifteen teachers left SAU21 in last 2 years and North Hampton currently has 3 open teaching positions.

Business Administrator Ferreira reviewed the 4-year CBA contract: Year 1, 5% COLA; Year 2, 3%; Years 3 and 4, 2.5% each. There are a number of stipends/monetary adjustments including longevity payments, increased couple \$100/each year; added 10-year longevity stipends for individuals at top step; increasing CAGS (Certificate of Advanced Graduate Studies) by same yearly percentages; increased retirement stipends by \$40 and sick leave payout by \$5.

Language Adjustments made: clarified preparation period language and aligned at 40 minutes/per school; added language for shortened days for pro-rated prep period; added 3 personal days paying out at tiered sub rate; clarified class reimbursement language and opened to non-traditional grading options. Health Insurance for parttime employees added pro-rated cost share; adding 3 sick days to align with other districts; clarified track advancements and qualified language; extra-curricular stipends increased by same percentages; adjusted Dental Insurance; adjusted some ACA language. Costs: Year 1 \$258,357, Year 2 \$200,487, Year 3 \$175,250, Year 4 \$176,434.

Business Administrator Ferreira said the power point will be posted on SAU and North Hampton websites. Chairman Stanton said about 10 years ago one of the towns did not vote for the contract putting everything in a state of flux, and said it is important for everyone to make their vote known. Mr. Ferraro asked if the decrease of \$21,528 mentioned in the last memo was over the 4 years; Business Administrator Ferreira said it was. Mr. Ferraro said Year 1 costs have gone down \$31,000 since last power point; Business Administrator Ferreira said that is correct and Years 2,3,4 went up, depending on where teachers fall on salary scale.

Mr. Goode asked how much the whole step process had gone up. Business Administrator Ferreira said that is the COLA adjustment of 5% for Year 1, 3% for Year 2, and 2.5% for Years 3 and 4. Vice-Chair Sununu asked about Health Insurance and what would happen if one of the plans was dropped mid-year by Health Trust. Business Administrator Ferreira said the CBA does not specify an actual plan. Vice-Chair Sununu said there is a different cost share for each plan, and the Town has found switching to lower cost high-deductible plans but offering to fill the gap in deductible definitely is an incentive. Business Administrator Ferreira said the Luminis Plan includes an HSA tiered contribution.

Chairman Stanton asked Business Administrator Ferreira if he was looking for a Budget Committee motion and vote on the CBA tonight or on the Budget; have January 12 set up to review Warrants. Business Administrator Ferreira said he would appreciate a vote on the Budget; also have Long-Term Maintenance Warrant Article and Building Maintenance Expendable Trust Warrant as well as CBA.

Business Administrator Ferreira said there is one other topic of discussion for an additional potential Warrant Article for a School Resource Officer (SRO). He said the School agreed with the Town to bring forth a proposed Warrant Article for \$115,000 for an SRO to the School Board to put on School Ballot for the position funded via Warrant for Year 1, then MOU put in place where Town and School share the cost. Would have a new Police Department Employee assigned to the School during the school year then assigned through Chief Mone; Warrant will be brought up at the January School Board Meeting then brought to Budget Committee.

Ms. Gallagher said she was at the Select Board meeting when Chief Mone talked about the parttime SRO position and asked why it was not part of the Town or School Budget instead of a warrant. Business Administrator Ferreira said it needs to be a Warrant for this type of position and they had to wait for full agreement and consensus between School and Town and pricing. Chairman Stanton said it has to be a Warrant Article to add a position to the Police Department, approved by a legislative body; recommendation needs to be made and submitted to the Budget Committee and will subsequently be in the Budget.

Vice-Chair Sununu said that is typically how it is done with SROs in particular, and said people want to have a say in whether the community wants to adopt the Warrant. Mr. Ferraro said he agrees it should

December 19, 2022

be a Warrant Article as a way for voters to decide; he asked if the \$115,000 is in cost salary and overhead and Business Administrator Ferreira said yes. Mr. Ferraro also felt instead of School and Town sharing costs it should just go in the Town Budget as a Police Officer. Chairman Stanton said there was an SRO years ago and many parents did not want a Police Officer in the School. Ms. Gallagher asked what an SRO does; Business Administrator Ferreira said a description of job responsibilities is put together but it is typically for Security first and foremost, and is a good conduit between Police and students for building trust.

Vice-Chair Sununu said there is currently an officer who has been assigned parttime 12 hours/month worked out with Superintendent and Police Chief. Mr. Chauncey felt it should just be fulltime. Vice-Chair Sununu said right now the Police Department does not have the staff to spare.

**Motion:** Vice-Chair Sununu made a motion to approve the Proposed FY2024 School Budget of \$9,773,661; **Seconded** by Mr. Ferraro;

**Roll Call Vote:** Lisa Gagalis-aye, Frank Ferraro-aye, Sean Doinne-aye, George Chauncey-aye, Andrew Raucchi-aye, Rice Stanton-aye, James Sununu-aye, Brian Goode-aye, Lisa Gallagher-aye; Motion approved 9-0.

**Motion:** Mr. Ferraro made a motion to recommend approval of the Long-Term Maintenance Warrant Article for \$75,000; **Seconded** by Lisa Gagalis;

**Roll Call Vote:** Lisa Gagalis-aye, Frank Ferraro-aye, Sean Doinne-aye, George Chauncey-aye, Andrew Raucchi-aye, Rice Stanton-aye, James Sununu-aye, Brian Goode-aye, Lisa Galladher-aye; Motion approved 9-0.

**Motion:** Mr. Ferraro made a motion to recommend approval of the Building Expendable Trust for \$50,000; **Seconded** by Vice-Chair Sununu;

**Roll Call Vote:** Lisa Gallagher-aye, Frank Ferraro-aye, Sean Doinne-aye, George Chauncey-aye, Andrew Raucchi-aye, Rice Stanton-aye, James Sununu-aye, Brian Goode-aye, Lisa Gallagher-aye; Motion approved 9-0.

**Motion:** Vice-Chair Sununu made a motion to recommend the proposed CBA with a Year One cost of \$255,357; **Seconded** by Lisa Gagalis;

Discussion: Mr. Ferraro said he will be voting no, but not because of the dollars. He said he raised an issue last year of how children suffered during lockdowns in terms of education. Mr. Ferreira said it would require language in the contract but it was not included. He said the School Board raised the issue of privacy with having a camera on the teacher. Mr. Chauncey agreed with Mr. Ferraro but said he would not vote against the contract.

*Ms. Gallagher left the Zoom meeting early and roll call vote no longer needed.*

**Vote:** Motion approved 6-2.

**Motion:** Vice-Chair Sununu made a motion to recommend closing of the Technology Expendable Trust Fund; **Seconded** by Mr. Goode; **Vote:** Motion approved 8-0.

**ANY OTHER ITEM THAT MAY LEGALLY COME BEFORE THE COMMITTEE**

Municipal Budget Committee Meeting  
December 19, 2022

**PERIOD OF PUBLIC COMMENT**

**Next Budget Committee Meeting:** January 12, 2023; Warrant Articles from Town and any changes to address; Public Hearing on both Budgets.

**ADJOURNMENT**

**Motion:** Mr. Ferraro made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Mr. Chauncey, all in favor.

Chairman Stanton adjourned the Municipal Budget Committee Meeting at 7:27 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia Denmark, Recording Secretary