Town of Candia Municipal Budget Committee Public Hearing on School Budget Approved Meeting Minutes

Meeting Date: December 12, 2019

Location:	Town Office Building
Attendees:	Lynn Chivers
	Sue Young
	Todd Keating
	Dick Snow
	Jodi Hedstrom
	Susan Gill
	Stephanie Helmig
	Kaycee Vitale
Absent:	Katrina Niles
	Bob Stout

Chairman Chivers opened the meeting at 7:00 PM

Pledge of Allegiance

Public Hearing on School Budget

- Chairman Chivers opened to public comment.
 - Jodi Hedstrom addressed the School Board stating that there was a large increase in the town budget and many warrant articles proposed. She was worried that when the voters looked at the School Budget being such a large number that it would automatically be voted down and the school board would be left with the default budget. The rationale, is if it is cut now and close to the default there was a better chance of passing.
 - Chairman Chivers said there was about 1 million dollars in proposed warrant articles
 - o Matthew Woodrow asked on the town side were the warrant articles for paving ect?
 - Chairman Chivers answered that yes, it was \$200,000 Currier Road and \$150,000 Healey Road.
 - Selectman Young said that we still have not included CYAA and any petitioned warrant articles.
 - Matthew Woodrow asked if it was the consent of the board that if we kept the School Board number close it is likely to pass?
 - Chairman Chivers answered said there were several issues that we discussed. That was one issue. The other thing that was looked at was the historical surplus and this is less than the historical surplus.
 - Stephanie Helmig said that we cut a lot as well.
 - Chairman Chivers said that I thought you were taking that out of a fund?
 - Stephanie Helmig replied that we have approximately 2.75 million dollars in HVAC work and deferred maintenance. What is usually in the budget is stuff that is not on the electrical and mechanical side. This budget has nothing in for normal building improvements.
 - Matthew Woodrow said we will have to alternatively fund those projects.
 - Matthew Woodrow said historically we have given back between \$200,000-\$300,000 every year.
 - Matthew Woodrow asked what were some of the other reasons for the \$133,000 cut.

- Chairman Chivers said that we still have the continual concern that the cost keeps going up with the declining population. We understand that you cannot cut off part of the building. The other concern is that next year we start at the budget we approve this year. So, if we say we will leave a couple hundred thousand dollars in their because we know you will give it back at the end of the year, that is our starting point for next year.
 - Matthew Woodrow said that he believes this will be fine as long as everyone understands that the close to \$300,000 that we give back will most likely not be that next year.
 - Jodi Hedstrom said we would rather not have that money back. At the end of the year do what you need to do with the money.
 - Selectman Young commented on town people discussions around declining population, number of teachers, and being administration heavy. Refer to audio for complete details.
- Chairman Chivers asked if the total on the operating budget is larger than what we voted on because of food service and grants?
 - Stephanie Helmig said yes
- Chairman Chivers closes public comments.

Budget Committee Vote on Recommended School Budget

- o Susan Gill makes a motion to keep the School Budget the same
- Selectman Young seconds the motion
- 7 in favor (Chairman Chivers, Stephanie Helmig, Selectman Young, Todd Keating, Jodi Hedstrom, Susan Gill, Dick Snow)
- o 0 Opposed
- 2 Absent (Bob Stout, Katrina Niles)
- o Motion Passed

Budget Committee Vote on Proposed Warrant Articles

- o Article 2 Collective Bargaining Agreement
 - Chairman Chivers asked why is the number higher in the first year?
 - Marge Pollack answered that it is 2% every year
 - Matthew Woodrow said that there is a 1-year retirement incentive which is reflective in that first year. It is 1 year over the three-year term. This is an incentive so it is an additional amount.
 - Chairman Chivers asked if it was in addition to the \$20,000 that they already get?
 - Marge Pollack answered that she believes that is correct. Further discussion ensued. Refer to audio for details.
 - Matthew Woodrow said that due diligence was done during the process. The number shown was negotiated down from what was proposed by the teacher's union.
 - Chairman Chivers asked if the increase represents one teacher in the budget for 2020-2021?
 - Matthew Woodrow said that he needs clarity on how many teachers that incentive applies to. He would have to get more information on that.
 - Marge Pollack said that she though it was part of the agreement and it was calculated that first year. The first year of the new contract would have that additional incentive. So the additional \$20,000 in years 2-3 would be put toward a number of retirements.

- Chairman Chivers asked how much per teacher?
 - Marge Pollack said that she would have all of the information for the 1/21 meeting.
- Dick Snow moves to recommend Article 02
- Stephanie Helmig Seconds the motion
- 5 in favor (Todd Keating, Jodi Hedstrom, Susan Gill, Dick Snow, Stephanie Helmig)
- 2 opposed (Chairman Chivers, Selectman Young)
- Budget Committee to recommend by a vote of 5-2

Jodi Hedstrom makes a motion to continue meeting until January 21st Selectman Young Seconds All in favor Meeting to Continue; 7:37 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted by: Kaycee Vitale, Administrative Assistant