

# Town of Candia Municipal Budget Committee Approved November 17, Meeting Minutes

**Meeting Date:** November 17, 2022  
**Location:** Smyth Memorial Building

**Attendees:** Lynn Chivers (Chairman)  
Dick Snow (Absent)  
Russ Dann (Selectman)  
Susan Gill  
Katrina Niles  
Rob Jones  
Todd Keating (Vice Chairman)  
Stephanie Helmig (School Board Rep) (Absent)  
Brenda Coughlin (Secretary)

Chairman Chivers opened the meeting at 7:00 PM

Pledge of Allegiance (unable to do, no flag in meeting room at Candia Memorial Library)

## **Approval of the Minutes from October 26, 2022**

- Russ Dann motioned to approve minutes
- Katrina Niles seconds the motion
- Motion passed unopposed. Stephanie Helmig and Dick Snow absent

## **Old Business from Budget Meeting October 26, 2022**

***\*NOTE: Budget Committee is reviewing an unapproved/unvoted budget submitted from the Board of Selectman per Susan Young.***

*Russ Dan explained that several amounts were still pending so the BOS had no bottom-line budget before they submitted it to the Budget Committee. Lynn also added it depends on the Chairman when they vote*

Solid Waste

12. Why is the retirement line 0 when we spent some in that line last year?

**Typographical error - Current budgeted amount is \$3,701.00**

**Dick Snow asked the Selectman at treasurer's financial report there are several funds have balances from revenue but don't show up on the operating budget. If there are funds, why can't we use the money in the operating budget.**

**What are those funds that the treasurer has that is not coming in out of the operating budget. It's the stuff that goes directly to the treasurer it becomes income and expense and ends up on the tax rate. There is money sitting there. What were these funds created for? How do we use those?**

Russ Dan said he spoke with Dick, and he could not find funds, if he was referring to for instance the gym fund, we never used those funds because a gym wasn't built. To use those we would need a warrant article.

**END OF PREVIOUS MEETING FOLLOW UP QUESTIONS**

## **New Business**

Lynn Chivers was asked how much money would be returning from the library to the town. She explained the amount remains uncertain, bills still need to be paid and some encumbered funds are needed to prepay for next year's summer concerts. There would be something returned but Lynn was unaware that the insurance did not cover Heidi's salary. Insurance just covered part time employees' wages, some of the utilities, carpentry repair, etc. Lynn was asked why the Budget Committee doesn't receive a monthly expense report? Lynn said it is a separate entity, it is warrant article funded, the Trustees of the Library don't report to town or Selectmen.

## **School Budget**

Lynn Chivers handed out several updated sheets to be added to each binder for the meeting. One of the sheets reflects Candia adjustment to our portion of the SAU. Three towns share the SAU. We pay 13.87% but are unsure how our share is figured out. School general fund overall is an increase is \$323,202.88 which is a 3.15% increase. Questions to be formulated.

### **Questions for the School Board Budget 2023-2024 (listen to audio for detail)**

- 1. How is Candia's share of the SAU determined?**
- 2. How many teachers do we currently have? You show three retirements, how many of those will be replaced?**
- 3. When is the next opportunity to renegotiate our Pinkerton contract?**
- 4. Do all students, no matter which town, pay the same tuition to Pinkerton?**
- 5. Special Ed High School line 5563 for \$837,270 – does all that money go to Pinkerton and how many students?**
- 6. Will there be a plan to meet the needs of advanced learners?**
- 7. Principle Services line 5330 for \$31,003 – is this position a Police Officer?**
- 8. Why such a big increase in electricity when we just installed so many LED's?**
- 9. Why such a big increase in oil in 2021-2022 and currently?  
Has our new boiler and additional insulation helped to decrease that?**
- 10. Why such a big increase in transportation?**
- 11. What is the Pre-Employment function?  
Is our IT person part-time?  
If so, why are we paying for health insurance?  
Is there a length of service requirement for an employee who gets tuition reimbursement?**
- 12. What is the cost per student at the Moore School?  
What is the TOTAL cost per student at Pinkerton?**
- 13. In tab one in our binder, what is included in the support services category?**
- 14. What are your anticipated warrant articles?**

## Other Business

Lynn Chivers estimated each student costs the town approximately \$24,000.

Todd Keating would like a line graph of the year, number of students and then the cost. This will show the number of students is going down, but the cost is going up. When the School Board is asked for this at a joint meeting the response is typically focused on enrollment in kindergarten and there is momentum however mathematically it hasn't happened for years.

Discussion around how to get taxpayers to understand how their vote will affect their overall taxes, to be informed, the benefits of social media., but the need to redesign how the boards get information to the taxpayers.

Next meeting November 30, 2022 @ 7pm Joint meeting with the School Board SAU held in the media room at Moore School. We will have a preliminary vote after we get answers to our questions.

With there being no further business,  
Rob Jones makes a motion to adjourn the meeting  
Todd Keating seconds the motion  
Motion passes unopposed.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:40 pm  
Submitted by: Brenda Coughlin, Interim Secretary