

Town of Candia Municipal Budget Committee Approved Meeting Minutes

Meeting Date: December 14, 2022
Location: Town Office Meeting Room

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

Chairman Chivers opened the meeting at 7:00 PM

Pledge of Allegiance

Approval of the Minutes from December 6, 2022

- Brenda Coughlin motioned to approve amended minutes
- Russ Dann seconds the motion
- Motion passed unopposed

School Budget Public Hearing

Old Business

Stephanie Helmig The boilers are eight years old. The new equipment was for HVAC to disburse the heat. There is a sewer line break alongside the gym. Excavation under way for repair.

Lynn Chivers asked the status of the teacher contracts for warrant article

Stephanie Helmig said the negotiations should be completed by January 10th.

Brenda Coughlin asked if within the school budget increase were there any new programs/services for the children?

Cory Izbicki stated there were no new programmatic changes however increases in special ed cost, Pinkerton cost of tuition 8.2% increase plus new bus contract.

Brenda Coughlin asked who is responsible for contract negotiation at the school?

Cory Izbicki school board representatives from the school board, SAU, teachers' union and labor attorney.

Brenda Coughlin asked does Candia receive a profit share since we are required to participate by investing in 5 new buses, new building, etc.? Are we just paying for our portion to First Student?

Cory Izbicki shared this is the startup year cost which we are seeing 30-40% increase in year one which is typical. All three districts are paying for this startup cost. We are still in negotiation, but we are looking at a three-year contract and longer, this is a quote.

Brenda Coughlin asked about the school resource line. Given the current situation in the country with decrease in police academy, police leaving the service and currently with Candia's two open positions, there is quite the possibility this is funded but not filled.

Stephanie Helmig stated they hoped for interest from a part-time retired officer.

Todd Keating and Lynn Chivers explained the default process. How this is figured is what we budgeted last year (approved), add in all contractual obligations, minus the one-time expenses (such as a loader purchased).

Lynn Chivers said an area that can be misleading is the encumbrances. Sometimes what is encumbered isn't used for the coming year's budget, it is used for other items.

Cory Izbicki says encumbered are brought back in for the audit. Discussion ensued over the encumbrances. Listen to the audio.

Lynn Chivers asked if there was a motion to recommend school budget of 10,320,832.00

Susan Gill made motion.

Stephanie Helmig second motion.

Vote: Yes – Dick, Stephanie, Susan, Lynn, Rob (5). No – Brenda, Todd (2).

Robb Jones with the additional money the school spent from the encumbered money there was a project list that the school board prioritized to use the money. Is there another list that the school is looking at as needed repairs/replacements that we could know about now?

Stephanie Helmig noted the school needs a new fire system. An engineer was hired to look at the quotes which ranged from \$30,000 - \$130,000.00.

Robb Jones asked why the fire system isn't in the budget now?

Stephanie Helmig said the school is against the code currently. This wasn't discovered until the test in September. There were wires damaged during the summer work, those were fixed but inspection found we were out of code.

Brenda Coughlin noted something like this, a fire system for life safety should be in this budget!

With there being no further business,

Robb Jones makes a motion to continue the meeting.

Todd Keating seconds motion

Motion passes unopposed.

This meeting is continued until January 11, 2023 @ 7pm

Next meeting is January 11th there is the supplemental hearing on the town and school budgets and warrant articles.

Meeting was adjourned at 7:43 pm

Submitted by: Brenda Coughlin, Interim Secretary