

Town of Candia  
Budget Committee Meeting  
Public Hearing on the School Budget  
December 13, 2023  
7:00 PM  
Town Hall Meeting Room  
and via Zoom

Lynn Chivers called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Attendees: Lynn Chivers, Chair  
Katrina Niles  
William Saffie  
Bob Stout  
Stephanie Helmig  
Susan Gill  
Brenda Coughlin  
Josh Reap  
Susan Young (Selectmen's Rep)  
S. Young arrived at 7:14 pm.

Others: Administration, SAU: Bill Rearick - Superintendent, Cory Izbicki – Business Administration, Mark Chalbeck, School Board

**Old Business:**

- **Minutes from December 05, 2023, meeting.**  
Katrina Niles made a motion to accept the minutes of December 5, 2023.  
Bill Saffie seconded the motion.  
Josh Reap abstained.  
The motion passed. 7-1-0
- **Public Input Hearing on Proposed School Budget**  
Public hearing was opened at 7:03 pm.

Stephanie Helmig spoke as a resident. She would like the town to add back in the reading specialist. Cory Izbicki said if the budget is default, the funds can be allocated any way they wish. It is a bottom-line budget.

Brenda Coughlin asked the school representatives about the Resource Officer that the committee was told is covered in the School Budget at \$31,000. The school budget will pay the town for the services because it is a town employee.

She then spoke as a resident. If this resource officer is for safety, how do they justify 20 hours and not full time.

Bill Rearick stated the officer will not be on the premises full time. The position is for the resource officer to build relationships with parents and the students. He/she will also educate the students on internet safety, bike, and ATV safety, and hold parent nights, etc.

Lynn asked if they had the warrant articles. They had not been sent to the Budget Committee.

A paper copy was given to the committee.

**Article #3** – Shall the Candia School District vote to approve cost items included in an agreement to modify the 2022-2025 collective bargaining agreement reached between the Candia School Board and the Candia Education Support Professionals Association which calls for an increase in salaries and benefits of \$38,524 at the current staffing level over the amount that would be paid under the existing contract in the 2024-2025 fiscal year; such sum representing the additional costs attributable to the increase in salaries and benefits to the current contract that will be paid at current staffing levels? (Tax impact 0.06).

No Further questions from the Budget Committee

**Article #4** Shall the Candia School District vote to approve cost items included in an agreement to modify the 2023-2026 collective bargaining agreement reached between the Candia School Board and the Candia Education Association which calls for an increase in salaries and benefits of \$46,043 at the current staffing level over the amount that would be paid under the existing contract in the 2024-2025 fiscal year; and further to raise and appropriate the sum of \$51,168 for the 2025-2026 fiscal year, for a total of \$97,211, such sum representing the additional costs attributable to the increase in salaries and benefits to the current contract that will be paid at current staffing levels? (Tax impact 0.07)

Susan Young asked why they are doing it. Bill stated that they had a lot of teachers leave last year, because they were going to districts that pay more money. They wanted to make sure more teachers and support staff didn't leave based on salaries. They felt changing the contract was warranted because Candia had an extenuation circumstance.

The public hearing was closed at 7:29 pm.

- **Vote on recommended School Budget**

Lynn stated last time they voted in the default budget.

Susan Gill made a motion to approve the default budget at \$10,404,612.00.

Bob Stout seconded the motion.

Roll call.

Stephanie Helmig – No

Josh Reap – Yes

Susan Gill – Yes

Susan Young – Yes

Lynn Chivers – Yes

Brenda Coughlin – abstained

Katrina Niles – Yes

Bob Stout – Yes

Bill Saffie – Yes

Motion passed. 7-1-1

**Article #3 – support staff**

Stephanie Helmig made a motion to approve Article #3 as written.

Katrina Niles seconded the motion.

Roll call

Stephanie Helmig – Yes  
Josh Reap – Yes  
Susan Gill – Yes  
Susan Young – No  
Lynn Chivers – Yes  
Brenda Coughlin – abstained  
Katrina Niles – Yes  
Bob Stout – Yes  
Bill Saffie – Yes

Motion passed. 7-1-1

**Article #4 – Teachers**

Stephanie made a motion to accept article #4 as written.  
Katrina Niles seconded the motion.

Roll call.

Stephanie Helmig – Yes  
Josh Reap – Yes  
Susan Gill – Yes  
Susan Young – No  
Lynn Chivers – Yes  
Brenda Coughlin – Abstained  
Katrina Niles – Yes  
Bob Stout – Yes  
Bill Saffie – Yes

Motion passed. 7-1-1

Lynn Chivers explained the 10% rule to Brenda.  
Lynn Chivers will ask Andria Hanson for the encumbrances and the comparisons for what was budgeted and what was spent before the encumbrances for the last three years.

The school warrant articles are attached below.

Josh Reap made a motion to suspend the public hearing at 8:30 pm and will reconvene on January 10, 2024, at 7:00 pm.  
Katrina Niles seconded the motion.  
Motion passed.

Respectfully submitted,

Joan Monaco  
Administrative Assistant

**Article 01 Election of Officers**

To choose the following school district officers:

- a) Two School Board Members 3-year term

**Article 02 Operating Budget**

Shall the Candia School District raise and appropriate as an operating budget, not including appropriations by special warrant articles and other appropriations voted separately, the amounts set forth on the budget posted with the warrant or as amended by vote of the first session, for purposes set forth therein, totaling \$10,404,612? Should this article be defeated, the default budget shall be \$10,404,612, which is the same as last year, with certain adjustments required by previous action of the Candia School District or by law; or the the governing body may hold one special meeting, in accordance with RSA 40:13, X and XVI, to take up the issue of a revised operating budget only.

Estimated Tax Rate Impact: (\$3.78)

**Article 03 CESA Collective Bargaining Agreement**

Shall the Candia School District vote to approve the cost items included in an agreement to modify the 2022-2025 collective bargaining agreement reached between the Candia School Board and the Candia Education Support Professionals Association which calls for an increase in salaries and benefits of \$38,524 at current staffing levels over the amount that would be paid under the existing contract in the 2024-2025 fiscal year; and to raise and appropriate \$38,524 such sum representing the additional costs attributable to the increase in salaries and benefits to the current contract that will be paid at current staffing levels?

Estimated Tax Rate Impact: \$0.05

**Article 04 Special Meeting**

Shall the Candia School District, if Article 3 is defeated, authorize the governing body to call one special meeting, at its option, to address Article 3 cost items only?

**Article 05 CEA Collective Bargaining Agreement**

Shall the Candia School District vote to approve the cost items included in an agreement to modify the 2023-2026 collective bargaining agreement reached between the Candia School Board and the Candia Education Association, which calls for the following increases in salaries and benefits at the current staffing levels over the amount that would be paid under the existing contract:

2024-2025 \$46,043

2025-2026 \$51,168

and further to raise and appropriate \$46,043 for the 2024-2025 fiscal year, such sum representing the additional costs attributable to the increase in salaries and benefits to the current contract that will be paid at current staffing levels?

Estimated Tax Rate Impact: \$0.06

**Article 06 Special Meeting**

Shall the Candia School District, if Article 5 is defeated, authorize the governing body to call one special meeting, at its option, to address Article 5 cost items only?