

Town of Candia

Budget Committee

Approved Meeting Minutes

November 17, 2025

Town Hall Meeting Room

Meeting called to order at 6:30 pm by Chair Lynn Chivers, the Pledge of Allegiance was then recited.

Board Members Present: Lynn Chivers, William Saffie, Ryan Young, Susan Gill, Susan Young, Steve Tremblay, Stephanie Helmig, Admin. Assist. Janet Lewis

Absent: Josh Reap, Katrina Niles

Old Business: Minutes are not available.

New Business: Review of School budget: looking at the new one, dated 11/17/25. Bill has a question for the school meeting ahead. Can we have all the high school items put together, including the buses, under one heading to see the overall cost of sending students to Pinkerton. Lynn said it is hard to separate the busses out because we pay for the buses to do both the high school and the elementary.

Looking at the teacher's wages-Bill wants to know how many teachers are there for that figure? Steve asked if it is contractual? Stephanie said yes. Bill continued- Looking at the 25/26 budget vs. the default budget-why does it go up \$8,230.? Lynn said that it is contractual including the Special Ed being included here.

Ryan asked about the line 5431 Repairs Equipment line, there is a decrease budget of \$300. Musical repairs, is that a contractual obligation? Lynn said no. they did it last year so they took it out and it is not in the default. We take the budgeted amount; we add contractual obligations and then subtract a one-time payment. Last year we had to repair one of the musical instruments. Stephanie said if anything is over and above the default line, it will be put in the request line. Line 5645-math in focus consumables. Last year's was \$3,210. and the default is \$12,800. Need to ask if this qualifies as a contractual obligation? Steve -line 5610 supplies-the three year average is \$12,000. But now they are requesting \$15,720. Increase of \$2,025. Ryan pointed out that when referring to the default budget as contractual obligations, it might be easier or a better way to think of the default budget as your needs and the requested budget over it is your wants. Bill- how are financial decisions made? Stephanie said the SAU gathers the information, they do it for all three districts, then they come to the school board with their recommendations. The school board then votes on it. Steve said to clarify, when looking at the budget, you cannot change default, but you can change requests. Ryan said looking at the default and the years ahead, do you think it will go down? Stephanie said nothing ever goes down. There is paying the teacher increases and costs in general. Ryan said in eleven years the school budget will more than double. Stephanie said hopefully it goes along with inflation. Ryan pointed out that people on fixed incomes are not going to be able to afford this in ten years. Bill came up with figures for what it cost per child to go to the elementary school and for the high school. Stephanie said that the state has a formula for this and it is not the same as his figures.

Susan Y. questioned what year the parents started paying for the high school bus transportation?

Stephanie said it has been 4 or 5 years. Another question- How many classrooms teachers are there, and what are the others? Ryan asked about -going back to the Math in Focus book line, is that a new program? Stephanie said it's a pre-bought item. Ryan said it is a big increase and wonders why that came about? And need to ask if it's a one-time buy? Does the State require it? Steve asked about looking at debt, is there a way to expedite the debt getting paid? Lynn said that they did that last year instead of returning the money. Steve asked how things are worded in the warrant article? Lynn said there is a standard wording, we cannot do that ourselves. Voting no means it will be a default budget. Ryan- what about the 10% rule? Lynn said we come up with a number and at the deliberative session it can be changed. It cannot be very lower and it cannot be more than 10% higher than what we recommend. Looking at tuition estimates- it is \$1,800./student. Pinkerton does not charge us for bussing. For paraprofessional \$251,000., out of district is \$731,000. Out district-special ed. is \$32,000. Steve asked if teacher salaries include payment to NH Retirement? Stephanie said no, that is on a different line (5321).

Next meeting is on Nov 24 at the school at 6:30.

Steve made a motion to adjourn. Bill seconded. All in favor. Motion passed. Meeting adjourned at 7:45pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Janet Lewis
Admin. Assist.

