

School Deliberative Session 2017

Meeting opened at 9:03 on February 11, 2017

Pledge of Allegiance lead by Chase Johnson, Liam James, and Ryan James

Moderator read the rules of the session.

Moderator H. Clark Thyng made introductions of those present:

- School Board Members: Nicole LaFlamme (Chair of the School Board), Karen Yeatman (Member), Kim Royer (member), Rebecca (Becky) Cronk (Vice chair)
- SAU administrators: Dr. Charles P. Littlefield (Superintendent), Mrs. Marge Polak (Assistant Superintendent), Mrs. Karen Lessard (Business Administrator)
- School administrators: Mr Robert St. Cyr (Principal), Mrs. Michelle Lavalle (Assistant Principal), Mrs. Kathryn Duncan (Director of Student Services)
- School District attorneys: Diane Garrow and Anthony Muir
- Recognized to speak even though not residents of Candia with no objections: Principal St. Cyr, Dr. Littlefield, Mrs. Polak, Mrs. Lessard, Mrs. Duncan, Mrs. Garrow, and Mr. Muir

Warrant Article #2

Shall the Candia School District vote to approve the costs items included in the collective bargaining agreement reached between the Candia School Board and the Candia Education Association, which calls for the following increase in salaries and benefits at the current staffing levels over the amount paid in the prior fiscal year:

<u>Year</u>	<u>Estimated Increase</u>
2017-2018	\$ 51,596
2018-2019	\$ 65,842
2019-2020	\$ 66,167

and further to raise and appropriate \$51,596 for the 2017 – 2018 fiscal year, such sum representing the additional costs attributable to the increase in salaries and benefits required by the new agreement over those that would be paid at current staffing levels. (Recommended by the School Board 5-0) (Recommended by the Budget Committee 8-1)

Nicole LaFlamme made a motion to move the article to the ballot as read and was seconded by Becky Cronk.

Discussion opened and closed with no one speaking. Moderator Thyng closed the discussion and called for a vote. The vote was in the affirmative to move the warrant article to the ballot as written.

Nicole LaFlamme made a motion to restrict reconsideration of the warrant article number 2 and was seconded by Becky Cronk. Moderator Thyng called for a vote. Vote made and approved.

Warrant Article #3

Shall the Candia School District vote to approve the cost items included in the collective bargaining agreement reached between the Candia School Board and the Candia Educational Support Professionals, which calls for the following increase in salaries and benefits at current staffing levels over the amount paid in the prior fiscal year:

<u>Year</u>	<u>Estimated Increase</u>
2017-2018	\$ 16,575
2018-2019	\$ 17,209

and further to raise and appropriate \$ 16,575 for the 2017-2018 fiscal year, such sum representing the additional costs attributable to the increase in salaries and benefits required by the new agreement over those that would be paid at current staffing levels? (Recommended by the School Board 5-0) (Recommended by the Budget Committee 9-0)

Nicole LaFlamme made a motion to move the article to the ballot as read and was seconded by Becky Cronk.

Discussion opened and closed with no one speaking. Moderator closed the discussion and called for a vote. The vote was in the affirmative to move the warrant article to the ballot as written.

Nicole LaFlamme made a motion to restrict reconsideration of the warrant article number 3 and was seconded by Becky Cronk. Moderator Thyng called for a vote. Vote made and approved.

Warrant Article #4

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 the purposes set forth therein, totaling \$8,522,673? Should this article be defeated, the default budget shall be \$8,431,103, which is the same as last year, with certain adjustments required by previous action of the Candia School District or by law; or 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. (Recommended by the School Board 5-0) (Recommended by the Budget Committee 6-3)

Nicole LaFlamme made a motion to move the article to the ballot as read and was seconded by Becky Cronk.

Discussion opened:

- Richard Snow (Depot Road) inquired what was used for the anticipated revenues for the next fiscal year? Karen Lessard answered it would be about a \$1 increase on the tax rate. Mr. Snow asked if we were expecting to get the same tax rate and money from state aid? Mrs. Lessard said yes we are expecting to get the same amount as last year.

Moderator Clark Thyng called for a vote at the end of the discussion. The vote was in the affirmative to move the warrant article to the ballot as written.

Nicole LaFlamme made a motion to restrict reconsideration of the warrant article number 4 and was seconded by Becky Cronk. Moderator Thyng called for a vote. Vote made and approved.

Warrant Article #5

Shall the Candia School District vote to repeal policy “JBAB – Transgender & Gender Non Conforming Students” in its entirety? (Submitted by petition)

Motion made to move the article to the ballot as read by Dana Buckley (Horizon Lane) and seconded by Susan Young.

Moderator Thyng advised the audience that the warrant article would be advisory to the School Board and not binding.

Discussion opened:

- Tom St. Martin (Currier Rd) inquired as to why this is needed.
- Dana Buckley, the author of the warrant article, replied that many folks in town wanted to be heard and this policy changed.

Moderator Clark Thyng called for a vote at the end of the discussion. The vote was too close to be decided by sight so a count was called. There were 27 who voted in the affirmative and 30 in the negative. The negatives won the vote. Moderator Thyng then explained that the voting body did not have the power to not send this to the ballot, it needs to be amended.

Jodi Hedstrom (North Rd) asked if this will stay on the ballot unless we make a motion to amend it. The moderator said yes.

Rhonda Thyng (North Rd) asked does something of this nature have to go to the ballot. The moderator said yes. SB2 says that something of this nature, this subject, must go on the ballot.

Becky Cronk clarified we need to have the wording of the motion for us to vote on the motion. The moderator stated yes.

Jodi Hedstrom would like to withdraw the motion to amend the warrant article. The moderator stated that we still need something to go to the ballot.

Tom St. Martin would like to offer an amendment to the warrant to request a public hearing to review the policy. We shall advise the Candia School Board to hold a public hearing to review policy JBAB – Transgender & Gender Non-Conforming Students? Dick Snow seconded the motion.

Meeting was paused at 9:33 to confer with the attorneys. The meeting was reconvened at 9:36. Per the attorneys, since the amendment stays with the same subject matter it is legal.

Moderator Thyng called for a discussion on the article as amended.

- Frank Reynolds (High Street) is looking for clarification that even if this is passed in March the school board does not need to follow it. Moderator Thyng confirmed his statement.
- Stephanie Helmig asked for the article to be reread. Moderator Thyng reread the amended warrant article with the word meeting as opposed to hearing.
- Dr. Littlefield looked for clarification as to which word Mr St. Martin used; hearing or meeting. Mr. St. Martin stated he said hearing.
- Frank Reynolds asking for clarification of the difference between a hearing and a meeting. Mrs. Garrow responded that a hearing gives public the right to have input and a meeting does not necessarily give the public the right to input.

Moderator Thyng called for a vote. The vote was in the affirmative to move the amended warrant article to the ballot.

Motion to adjourn made by Deb Leblond and seconded by Becky Cronk.

Meeting dissolved at 9:41

Respectfully Submitted,

Jennifer Maurice