

Budget Committee  
December 16, 2015  
7:00PM  
Town Office/Police Station Conference Room  
Approved: January 6<sup>th</sup>, 2016

Budget Committee Members: Judy Brotman, Susan J. MacKenzie, Robin Taylor, Charles Ragan, Wilkes McClave, Phil Barta, Eric Colberg, Greg Lange and Elizabeth Glenshaw. School Superintendent Mike Harris and Principal Jeff Valance. Select Board member Patricia G. Jenks. Community members: David & Barbara Roby, and Sam Levey.

The meeting was called to order at 7:01 PM by Chair Brotman.

1. There were no general public comments at this time.
2. Ms. Glenshaw moved to approve the draft minutes of the November 18, 2015 meeting, as amended. Seconded by Mr. McClave. Three corrections were made to the draft minutes: correcting two typos, adding a statement in paragraph 5 seeking clarification on the need to provide health insurance to a 30-hour/week employee, and noting that no votes were taken on any of the items discussed in that paragraph. The advisory vote was corrected to show that one member voted against the motion. The vote in favor of the corrected minutes was unanimous.
3. Jeff Valance, school principal, introduced the proposed school budget with a power-point presentation. The presentation highlighted the critical areas of the proposed budget, and detailed several options for reducing the overall budget impact. The current budget proposal is up 9.9% over this year's budget. Several options for reducing the budget to a 6.9% increase were detailed. Numerous questions and comments were forthcoming by the budget committee members and members of the public. It was noted that *the* budget presentation clearly showed the many elements driving the school budget, and the complexity of trying to reduce the overall costs.
4. It was the consensus of the budget committee that they would like to take the next two weeks to review the details of the budget, and return on January 6, 2016 with possible suggestions for reductions in the proposal.
5. There being no further business before the committee, Ms. McKenzie moved to adjourn, Mr. Taylor seconded the motion. Voted unanimously to adjourn at 9:15 pm.

Respectfully submitted:

Judith Lee Shelnutt Brotman  
Budget Committee Chair

Next Meeting: January 6, 2016.