

**STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE
SCHOOL DISTRICT ANNUAL MEETING
MARCH 3, 2011
MINUTES**

Moderator Bill Waste called this meeting to order at 7:01 P.M. in the Lyme School Community Gymnasium. There were approximately 90 attendees.

Representing the School Board were Mark Schiffman, Chair, Kate Semple-Barta, Bruce Hammond, Emily Dentzer, Paul Sansone and Heidi Lange.

Also in attendance were Gordon Schnare, Superintendent of SAU #76, Teresa Thurston Administrative Assistant for SAU #76, Jeffrey Valence, Principal of Lyme School, and Dan McGinn representing Thetford Academy. Dr. Schnare, Ms. Thurston and Mr. McGinn were given *Voice without Vote* for the purposes of communicating administrative issues at this meeting.

ARTICLE 1. To hear the reports of Agents, Auditors, Committees, or other officers heretofore chosen, and pass any vote relating thereto.

Mr. McGinn, Head of School from Thetford Academy provided an update of issues and events at the Academy, expressing his appreciation for the support and interest the Academy receives from the Lyme community.

In an effort to fully explain the budget issues and operating procedures, Mark Schiffman provided an in-depth Power-Point presentation which is a part of these minutes.

Points addressed during the presentation included but are not limited to:

- The Fiscal Year structure for the 2012 year
- This meeting is an opportunity for taxpayers to learn about how the School Board arrives at budget figures
- The cost per pupil to educate children in the Upper Valley area. Lyme's costs are the second lowest at approximately \$14,800 per student
- We currently have the second highest high school enrollment that we've seen in the past 27 years. The Board expects that number to rise next year.
- The annual enrollment at the elementary school is at 207 and rising
- High School tuition saw a 5.8% increase. The largest number of Lyme students attend Hanover High School and the next highest number attend Thetford Academy
- Reviewed special funds and balances

There was a period of time for questions regarding Article 2.

ARTICLE 2. **Dan Parish made the motion** that the Lyme School District vote to raise and appropriate the amount of Five Million, Forty-seven Thousand, Two Hundred Forty-

nine Dollars (5,047,249.00) as an operating budget for the Lyme School District for the 2011 – 2012 school year, as submitted by the Budget Committee. This article does not include the amounts requested in Article 3 and Article 4, but does include the amounts included in Article 5. Recommended by the School Board. Recommended by the Budget Committee.

SECONDED

There was a short discussion addressing salaries and COLA increases. David Roby complimented the School Board on their excellent presentation. There being no further discussion, the Moderator called for a vote.

Article 2 passed in the AFFIRMATIVE BY VOICE VOTE

ARTICLE 3. Dan Parish made the motion that the Lyme School District vote to establish a capital reserve fund under the provisions of RSA 35:1-c to be known as the Enrollment Response Capital Reserve Fund for the purpose of covering the District's costs brought about by changes in enrollment, including but not limited to additional tuition costs or operating expenses, such as additional staff, equipment, or needed rentals for portable classrooms, and raise and appropriate the sum of up to Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$50,000.00) to be placed in this fund, with this sum to come from the June 30, 2011 Fund Balance available for transfer on July 1, and further to appoint the School Board as agents to expend this fund. (Majority vote required) Recommended by the School Board. Recommended by the Budget Committee.

SECONDED

Following a brief discussion the Moderator called for a vote.

ARTICLE 3 was voted in the AFFIRMATIVE BY VOICE VOTE

ARTICLE 4. Dan Parish made the motion that the district vote to raise and appropriate up to Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$50,000.00) to be placed in the High School Tuition Fund, established at the Lyme School District Meeting on March 9, 1995, for funding high school tuition expenses, with this sum to come from the June 30, 2011 Fund Balance available for transfer on July 1, 2011. (Majority vote required) Recommended by the School Board. Recommended by the Budget Committee.

SECONDED

Dick Jones asked what the procedure was for any leftover funds unapplied else where. Mark Schiffman explained anything unused would be returned to the operating account.

Following discussion the Moderator called for a vote.

ARTICLE 4 was VOTED IN THE AFFIRMATIVE BY VOICE VOTE

ARTICLE 5. Dan Parish made the motion that the district determine and fix the salaries of school district officers as follows: School District Treasurer \$800.00, School District Clerk \$75.00, School District Moderator \$75.00. The amounts in this article are included in Article 2. Recommended by the School Board. Recommended by the Budget Committee.

SECONDED

ARTICLE 5 was VOTED IN THE AFFIRMATIVE BY VOICE VOTE

ARTICLE 6. To transact any other business that may legally come before this meeting.

Moderator Waste turned the discussion over to the School Board. Mark Schiffman recognized past School Board members and Budget Committee members. He also offered appreciation to Dr. Gordon Schnare, Superintendent of SAU #76, who will be retiring at the end of this school year. Dr. Schnare was given a round of applause and standing ovation.

Michael Woodard offered appreciation to the School Board for the excellent presentation and all the work they've done to stay on top of considerable issues surrounding the running of a good school.

Moderator Waste adjourned this meeting at 8:15 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Patricia G. Jenks
School District Clerk