

Sanborn Regional School District

Budget Committee

Minutes for Wednesday, April 21, 2021

Present:

James McCarthy, Newton

Annie Collyer, Newton

Christine Kuzmitski, Newton

Cheryl Gannon, Kingston

Vanessa Matias, Kingston

Rick Edelman, Kingston

Mary Cyr, Member-at-Large

Moira Bashaw, School Board Representative

Phyllis Kennedy, School District Clerk

The Sanborn Regional School District Clerk Phyllis Kennedy called the meeting of the Budget Committee to order at 7 PM in the High School and Middle School Library.

Annie Collyer nominated Jim McCarthy for Chairman. Rick Edelman seconded and Mr. McCarthy was elected unanimously.

Mr. McCarthy then led the committee in the Pledge of Allegiance.

New member Cheryl Gannon, returning members Vanessa Matias and Annie Collyer, and returning member in her new capacity as the School Board representative Moira Bashaw were welcomed by the Chair.

Ms. Matias was unanimously elected Vice-Chair on a nomination from Ms. Collyer, seconded by Mr. McCarthy.

On a motion from Ms. Collyer, seconded by Ms. Cyr, minutes from January 14, 2021 were approved as amended to note that Ms. Cyr attended in person, not remotely.

The tentative **Budget preparation calendar** was debated and amended, mostly to add meeting dates for Q & A in October and November, to add a July 1 unaudited year-end budget with distinction for COVID expenses by line item and grants that

reimbursed them, and with distinction on one-time expenses for the reorganization and expenses for intervention and staffing that was planned but not executed this year. Committee members stated that understanding what happened due to the COVID changes is going to be crucial to preparation of the budget for the 22-23 FY.

Ms. Matias made a motion, seconded by Ms. Gannon, that the committee be given copies of Q & A to refer to during the presentation for better comprehension and note-taking. It passed unanimously.

After discussion, many in the committee wanted to obtain the Q & A prior to the meetings to discuss, even the day or a few days before if possible. It was decided to have the Chair discuss specific timing options with the Superintendent.

Mr. McCarthy noted that the Budget calendar will remain tentative until Mr. Angell, Business Administrator completes the rest of the process of School Board review, legal review and DRA review before adoption and implementation. The Committee suggested Mr. McCarthy collaborate with Ms. Dutton, School Board Chair, on scheduling joint meetings on Wednesdays and Thursdays.

The process of prior years of having the Committee members review past and current budgets and give their questions to Mr. McCarthy on or before 5 PM on September 22 to collate and pass on to the Administration by 5 PM on September 23 will continue. The Committee stated that it is preferable for Mr. McCarthy to combine related questions at his discretion.

The next meeting will be held the second week of October, on either Wednesday or Thursday, jointly with the School Board, to be determined when the Budget Calendar is finalized.

Ms. Cyr made a motion, seconded by Mr. Edelman, to adjourn and Mr. McCarthy adjourned the meeting at 8:02 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Annie Collyer,
Recording Secretary Pro Tem