

Budget Committee Meeting Minutes for January 10, 2024.

Committee members present included: Brenden Hubbard-Chair, Kevin Bazan-Vice Chair, Theresa Sepe -Selectboard Rep, Michelle Dwight, and Jake Blake – School Board Rep.

Brenden Hubbard called the meeting to order at 532pm.

Kevin Bazan made a motion to accept the minutes from 1/2/23. Michelle Dwight 2nd the motion. Motion carries 4-0.

School Board Warrant Articles to recommend/ not recommend:

ARTICLE TWO: Shall the Winchester School District raise and appropriate as an operating budget for the 2024-2025 school year, 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 \$12,764,453.51. Should this article be defeated, the default budget shall be \$13,203,870.00 which is the same as last year, with certain adjustments required by previous action of the Winchester 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?

- The School Board does recommend this appropriate 4-0
- The Budget Committee **does** recommend this appropriate 5-0

Michelle Dwight made a motion to recommend article 2. Theresa Sepe 2nd the Motion. Motion carries 5-0

ARTICLE THREE: Shall the Winchester School District vote to approve the cost items included in the three-year collective bargaining agreement reached between the Winchester School Board and the Winchester's Support Staff Association (WSSA), which calls for the following increases in salaries and benefits at the current staffing.

The estimated increase in the costs for salaries and benefits under the collective bargaining agreement are as follows:

Year #1 2024-2025

Wages:	\$32,022.99
Benefits:	\$ 2,449.76
Total:	\$34,472.75

Year #2 2025-2026

Wages:	\$16,870.96
Benefits:	1,290.63
Total:	\$18,161.59

Year #3 2026-2027

Wages:	\$16,870.96
Benefits:	\$ 1,290.63
Total:	\$18,161.59

And further to raise and appropriate the sum of \$34,472.75 for the upcoming fiscal year 2024-2025, such sum representing the additional costs attributable to the costs for salaries and benefits required by the new agreement over those that would be paid at current staffing levels in accordance with the most recent collective bargaining agreement?

- The School Board does recommend this appropriate 4-0
- The Budget Committee **does** recommend this appropriation 5-0

Kevin Bazan made a motion to recommend article 3. Michelle Dwight 2nd the motion. Motion carries 5-0.

ARTICLE FOUR: Shall the Winchester School District, if article #3 is defeated, authorize the governing body to call one special meeting, at its option, to address article #3 only? (Majority vote)

- The School Board does recommend this appropriate 4-0
- N/A to the Budget Committee

ARTICLE FIVE: Shall the Winchester School District vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$125,000.00 to be placed in the Building Improvements Capital Reserve Fund previously established. (Majority vote required)

- The School Board does recommend this appropriation 4-0
- The Budget Committee **does** recommend this appropriation 5-0

Kevin Bazan made motion to recommend article 5. Brenden Hubbard 2nd the motion. Motion carries 5-0.

ARTICLE SIX: Shall the Winchester School District vote to raise and appropriate up to \$25,000.00 to be placed in the Special Education Expendable Trust Fund, with such amount to be funded from the June 30, 2024, Unreserved Fund Balance available for transfer on July 1, 2024?

- The School Board does recommend this appropriation 4-0
- The Budget Committee **does** recommend this appropriation 5-0

Kevin Bazan made a motion to recommend article 6. Theresa Sepe 2nd the motion. Motion carries 5-0.

Petition Warrant Articles to recommend/ not recommend:

Article 21: To see if the Town will raise and appropriate the sum of \$60,000 (Sixty thousand dollars) for the purpose of subsidizing recreation in the Town of Winchester to be paid to the E.L.M. Memorial Community Center on a contractual basis.

Inserted by Petition

Recommended by the Board of Selectmen 4-0

Selectman Stephens made motion to recommend article 21. Selectman Sepe 2nd the motion. Motion carries 4-0.

Recommended by the Budget Committee 5-0

Kevin Bazan made a motion to recommend article 21. Jake Blake 2nd the motion. Motion carries 5-0.

Article 22: Shall the Town of Winchester raise and appropriate the sum of \$840.00 (Eight hundred and forty dollars) to support the annual Winchester Pickle Festival?

Inserted by Petition

Recommended by the Board of Selectmen 4-0

Selectman Stephens made a motion to recommend article 22. Selectman Quevedo 2nd the motion. Motion carries 4-0.

Recommended by the Budget Committee 4-0-1

Michelle Dwight made a motion to recommend article 22. Brenden Hubbard 2nd the motion. Motion carries 4-0-1.

Article 23: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$5,000 (Five thousand dollars) to be given to the Winchester Historical Society for the purpose of operating and maintaining the Sheridan House so that the museum may continue to preserve the history of Winchester for benefit of the public.

Inserted by Petition

Recommended by the Board of Selectmen 4-0

Selectman Sepe made a motion to recommend article 23. Selectman Quevedo 2nd the motion. Motion carries 4-0.

Recommended by the Budget Committee 5-0

Jake Blake made a motion to recommend article 23. Theresa Sepe 2nd the motion. Motion carries 5-0.

Article 24: To determine if the Town of Winchester will appropriate the sum of \$50,000 (fifty thousand dollars) for the purpose of supporting year-long youth activities with ACCESS. The monies support ACCESS to scholarship children throughout the year who might not otherwise be able to attend the program and also supports obtaining resources for programming such as appropriate staffing, curriculum, enrichment materials, and other programming needs. ACCESS provides mentorship and a safe productive learning environment for the youth of Winchester and Ashuelot to take advantage of opportunities to learn, help their community, and have fun activity experiences with their peers.

Inserted by Petition

Recommended by the Board of Selectman 3-0-1

Selectman Picard made a motion to recommend article 24. Selectman Stephens 2nd the motion. Motion carries 3-0-1.

Recommended by the Budget Committee 5-0

Jake Blake made a motion to recommend article 24. Kevin Bazan 2nd the motion. Motion carries 5-0.

Paul Taylor, Trustee of the Thayer Library spoke with the Budget Committee regarding their vote to pass a budget of \$1 at their Jan. 2nd, 2024, meeting. After hearing from Paul Taylor (Trustee), Amanda Lund (Trustee) and their bookkeeper the Budget Committee decided not to reconsider Thayer Library's budget. Kevin Bazan advised the Thayer library that he is in support of the library, but he is not in favor of reconsidering their previous motion. Michelle Dwight advised the library that she would not be

reconsidering the previous motion due to the lack of detail. Brenden Hubbard agreed and suggested that the utilities be broken down; separate the apartment, services and the rent should be comparable to the market. Brenden asked the Trustees to bring a motion to Deliberative Session.

Kevin Bazan made a motion to reconsider the school budget total 12/12/24 meeting minutes if it wasn't listed as \$12,764,453.51. Michelle Dwight 2nd the motion. Motion carries 4-0-1. Kevin Bazan made a motion to approve the school budget in the 12/12/24 meeting minutes as \$12,764,453,51. Michelle Dwight 2nd the motion. Motion carries 4-0-1.

The Budget Committee's next Meeting: Jan. 11th, 2024 @ 6pm –Public Hearing- Petition Articles

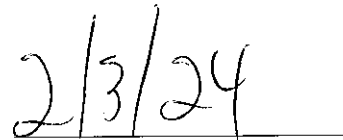
Theresa Sepe made a motion to Adjourn. Jake Blake 2nd the motion. Motion carries 5-0.

Meeting adjourned at 730pm.

Meeting Minutes taken by: Monica Truesdell, T.A. Assistant

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Brenden Hubbard', written over a horizontal line.

Brenden Hubbard-Budget Committee Chair

A handwritten date '2/3/24' in black ink, written over a horizontal line.

Date