Shelburne Finance Committee Minutes

Wednesday, Feb 2, 2022, 6:30 PM

Shelburne Fire Station

18 Little Mohawk Road, Shelburne

1. Call to order: Call to order at 6:30 pm by Chairman Jim Burnham. Those present include Finance Committee members, Deb Andrew, Terri Mitchell and Todd Dubreuil. School Committee member Julie Dubreuil was also present.

2. Minutes Meeting:

* Draft minutes for December 1, December 14, January 18, January 14th, and this meeting will be circulated before the next Finance committee meeting (to be determined).

3. New Business:

* 6:40 - Discussion on Items to be presented to the Selectman and School Committee Members.
* 7:00 Select member Bob Manners joined the meeting.
* 7:19 Select member Margaret Payne joined the meeting.
* 7:20 Select member Andrew Baker joined the meeting.
* 7:22 Select member Jason Cusimano joined the meeting.
* Presented list of our concerns regarding the MTRSD Draft 2023 Budget to our Shelburne Select Board and School Committee members.
* **List of Concerns**
  + Declining enrollment.
    - Justify the budget, as well as Per Pupil expenditure, in regard to the past years of declining enrolment.
  + Trend in increasing administrative positions with lack of increase in teaching positions.
    - Funding we are told has cut enrichment and exploratory programs. How does MTRSD leadership justify increase in administration when we are told we cannot afford the programs that students and parents want.
  + How Grant Funded positions effect budget when they turn permanent.
  + Maintenance Budget.
    - Is there enough budgeted for maintenance. In the winter 2021 we were told there was a backlog of deferred maintenance of several million dollars. Does the budget reflect the attention needed to correct and alleviate this backlog?
  + Heath students to Colrain Elementary School.
    - What will the implications of this be?
    - Should there be a savings?
  + 2D agreement.
    - Do not understand or endorse that we will be absorbing the cost of HRSD portion of shared administrative positions.
    - Reduction of responsibilities should equal a reduction in salary.
* A Discussion between all parties was carried out on these points of concern. This led to a list that each of the School Committee members created to be used to bring our concerns with the 2023 Budget to the MTRSD administration.

4. Old Business:

* No old business .

5. Public Comment:

* No public comment, as no community members were present outside of the Select Board and School Committee members.

6. Next meeting date:

* To be determined.

7. Motion to Adjourn by Jim Burnham. Todd Dubreuil seconded. All in favor. Adjournment at 8:32 pm.