

**TOWN COUNCIL MINUTES
BUDGET/MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE
Town Hall Council Chambers
May 22, 2019, Wednesday**

Present: Michael Molisse, Chairman
Christopher Heffernan, Councilor
Brian McDonald, Councilor

Absent Jane Hackett, Vice Chairman
Maureen Kiely, Councilor

Also Present: Ted Langill, Chief of Staff
Joseph Callanan, Town Solicitor
Richard Swanson, Town Auditor
Dr. Jennifer Curtis Whipple, Supt. Of Schools
Lisa Belmarsh, Chair, School Committee
Brian Smith, Asst. Supt., Finance & Operations
Tracy Nardone, School Committee
John Sullivan, School Committee

Recording Secretary: Mary Barker

Chair Molisse called the meeting to order at 6:12 PM. He invited the School Superintendent and Asst. Supt. Brian Smith to make their presentation.

Dr. Curtis Whipple reported that input came from each school and all departments, and they discussed what was necessary for compliance or deemed other needs with the goal of the best education for the students. It represents a budget from all. During the power point presentation, Auditor Swanson's questions were fielded.

Review/discussion of School Department Budget

- Organizational Chart- changes will take place with the reorganization. It's streamlined, but takes into consideration the consultant's report. There is some overlap, within SPED and instructional that need clarity. The last column will be streamlined and they will provide the new chart.
- Level service/net school spending – trend will continue going forward and allows addressing compliance needs
- FY20 Needs List
 - o Human Resource Director
 - o School Resource Officer
 - o Procurement Officer
 - o Tech. Integration/Lib. Cert.
 - o District Webmaster

- Tech. Support Specialist
- Special Education Assistant Director
- Special Education Teachers Primary and Johnson
- Special Education Teachers Primary and Middle
- WHS CTE Special Education Paraprofessional
- WHS Post-Grad Inclusive Concurrent Enrollment Initiative (ICE) Program Coach
- Adjustment Councilors LICSW Primary
- Primary Literacy Coaches
- Paraprofessionals/ABA Paras
- Kindergarten- Teacher & Paraprofessional
- Assistant Principal
- MTSS Support Staff for Interventions
- Middle Assistant Principal
- Middle School Reading/ ELA Teachers
- High School Specialists
- High School Robotics Teacher
- Maintenance- Painter and HVAC/Plumber
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- Proposed items in FY20 budget- \$1,125,108

It was noted that this is a three tiered approach- state has in pyramid format. There is a more comprehensive five-year plan. Compliance component changes in accordance with Education plans. It's a moving target. They are aiming for what is best in each classroom and have made significant restoration from cuts put through in 2009-gains will continue as they can be.

- School enrollments – Race and Ethnicity
- 43.2% sped
 - high needs could include a variety of needs- demographics have changed drastically over the last several years.
- Per Pupil Spending
- Salary-
 - Step and lane changes, according to CBA's
 - 2% for all CBA's
 - traffic supervisors and cafeteria workers have not settled yet

Moving traffic supervisors back to school has had a positive impact.

- Transportation
- Supplies Lines – per pupil, and fairly distributed
- Revolving Accounts
 - School lunch
 - Evening high school
 - Professional development
 - Wey Care
 - Books & Damages
 - Etc.
- Spending Authority

- no shortfalls anticipated
- Grant Awards
 - Entitlement based on formula
 - Historical decreases absorbed in operating budget
 - Look for potential discretionary funds through DESE website
Received SEL and awaiting decision on safety grant – look at sustainability or way to replace funding
- CIP- maintenance & facilities
 - Chapman – masonry
 - Chapman roof
 - Johnson boilers and controls
 - Adams auditorium and seating
 - Maintenance garage roof replacement
 - Security entrances- 4 schools
 - Chair lift replacements- 2 schools
 - Furniture replacement- classroom
 - Transportation-vehicles
 - Trade vehicles
 - Tractor and implements
 - Technology/infrastructure-upgrade in schools – need to move to operating budget in FY24
 - Devices pc’s chromebooks, IPAD’S projector / panel - need to move to operating budget FY24
- Curriculum / Career and Tech Education
- Cyclical replacement schedules

Cost Centers – salary changes a result of attrition and LTS

Johnson School- in home evaluations are performed until 2.9 yrs and then can be assessed by WPS. Followed by an evaluation from early intervention or parent request. If qualify for services, it would depend on the type of the service. Advocate for the earlier the better. Students who don’t age out can add program costs to Johnson. Funding is invested and serves well down the road. Is a revolving fund- fees pay salaries,

Middle Schools

- Adams- extracurricular services-stipends intramural athletics and clubs (students aren’t charged at the middle school level)
- Chapman- contract services to pay copiers lease
- WHS-per student cost
 - Supplies- classroom/vocational programs
- Maintenance Services
 - Maintenance agreements
 - Boiler repairs
 - Elevator service
 - HVAC
 - Security systems

- Vehicles
- Outside vendor repairs
- Bids and quotes
- Goods and services- custodial supplies
- Athletics
 - Top ten stipend
- District instruction
 - Staff allocated to the line
 - Curriculum testing services
 - Other- tuition- for students who attend out of district
 - Increase in support around students with addictions
- Instructional Technology
 - Internet services, hardware and maintenance, web filtering
 - Supplies to support
- Professional Development
 - Contractual tuition reimbursement
- Transportation- 5 year contract expires
 - First student
 - Sped
 - Homeless transportation
- District Administration
 - Contract services-copiers, postage, legal services, audit of DESE and EOY report
- Special Education
 - Coding
 - Circuit breaker now funded in the budget
 - Circuit breaker- 72% over foundation in FY19- budgeted same for FY20
 - Other= Special Ed out of district tuition

Deliberate the following measures:

19 051Z-Schools

19 057-Free Cash for School IT

Auditor Swanson brought to the committee’s attention that the CIP items are budgeted for the amount of the measure.

19 058-Free Cash for School Educational Materials

Funding is being requested for math K-11 to replace out of date materials.

Auditor Swanson reported to the committee that there are adequate funds in the account to support the measure.

19 059-Free Cash for School Chair Lifts

Auditor Swanson reported to the committee that there are adequate funds in account to support the measure.

19 060-Free Cash for CTE Educational Materials

Auditor Swanson reported to the committee that there are adequate funds in the account to support the measure.

Chair Molisse thanked the presenters- noting that the report is very thorough.

Councilor Heffernan congratulated the presenters; this was a challenging budget. He also offered congratulations to the recent Evening High School Graduates.

Superintendent Curtis Whipple will provide the Council with an update which indicates the grade configurations next year and until the new school opens (GANTT Chart). It will be sent to Auditor Swanson who will distribute it to the Council. Next year everyone remains in their existing building. The administrative teams were reworked in preparation, and it was planned thoughtfully. Principal Strauss will be interim 8th grade and Principal Meehan 7th grade. A layer has been added, an interim associate principal Rebecca Fisher, who will oversee the 3 assistant principals- after next year the changes take place.

The school website has a link for staff to weigh in on the plan. There are other pieces still to put in place- relocation of storage of transportation vehicles, the WeyCare program, and Central Supplies.

They have a phenomenal team in place and are reviewing licensure to make sure everyone is up to speed. They are doing everything in steps and through teamwork. They are ahead of the game and not being reactive.

The School Committee looked at the school start times, but will be better implemented once the rest of the parts are in place. These are a lot of changes, but good ones; they are keeping an eye on the target. Supt. Curtis Whipple said that they cannot thank the town enough for the support.

Councilor McDonald noted that he was in the state legislature when Education Reform was passed, but voted against it because the mandated funding wasn't there. Weymouth does not have the commercial base that a Braintree or Cambridge has, but does the best with what's available.

Supt. Curtis Whipple said they are giving their best and will realize growth over the long haul; the progress over the last few years is positive.

ADJOURNMENT

At 7:20 PM, there being no further business, a motion was made by Councilor Heffernan to adjourn and was seconded by Councilor McDonald. UNANIMOUSLY VOTED.

Attachment: WPS Budget Management Presentation

Respectfully Submitted by Mary Barker as Recording Secretary

Approved by Michael Molisse as Budget/Management Committee Chairman
Voted unanimously on 3 September 2019