

**Merrimack School District Budget Committee**  
**Minutes**  
**June 6, 2023**

Present: S. Albuquerque, D. Coakley, L. French, G. Groff, M. Mackey, J. McCormack, C. Mower, M. Murphy, R. Paepke, N. Schoenfeld, E. Wilson and Schol Board Liaison N. Halter.

Excused: M. Bronchuk

C. Mower called the meeting to order at 7:01 PM and led those present in the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Welcome & Introductions**

C. Mower welcomed everyone and asked each member to briefly introduce themselves.

**Public Participation**

There was none.

C. Mower said he hoped that members of the public would attend future meetings and offer comments and questions to the Committee.

**Re-organization**

**Chair**

C. Mower told the Committee he had decided to step down as Chair and nominated N. Schoenfeld for Chair of the Committee.

There were no other nominations.

C. Mower called for a vote and declared N. Schoenfeld unanimously elected Chair.

N. Schoenfeld took her seat as Chair of the Committee.

**Vice Chair**

N. Schoenfeld called for nominations for Vice Chair of the Committee.

D. Coakley nominated S. Albuquerque, who declined the nomination.

E. Wilson nominated M. Murphy for Vice Chair. Second: S. Albuquerque.

There were no other nominations.

N. Schoenfeld called for a vote and declared M. Murphy unanimously elected Vice Chair.

### **Next Meetings**

N. Schoenfeld told the Committee that the meeting packets contained:

- \* Information about an NHMA Budget & Finance training that will be held in September. She said members would be contacted when registration opened to see who wanted to attend and the District would cover the training cost.
- \* A member list which each member should check to ensure the information was correct.
- \* A liaison request form which members should fill in and return as soon as possible.

N. Schoenfeld said she thought the next meeting would be October 17<sup>th</sup>. She also noted that the packet included a list of Committee policies and procedures and it was her intention that the Committee would review and discuss policies and procedures at the next meeting.

### **Public Participation**

There was none.

N. Schoenfeld said that the Committee might want to consider offering other ways for the public to participate in the same manner that other District and Town Committees use.

### **Member Comments**

C. Mower offered meeting space at the Historical Society (Merrimack Schoolhouse #3, former PTA kindergarten) if the Committee wanted to meet there.

Members individually thanked C. Mower for his service and leadership as Chair of the Committee.

N. Halter told the Committee that the School Board is having a Goal Setting meeting on June 22<sup>nd</sup> and asked anyone who had any ideas and suggestions to email her. She said she would forward a copy of last year's goals to the Committee members.

M. Mackey asked if there was a way to reduce the amount of time Administrators spend discussing budgets at evening meetings.

R. Paepke asked if there was a way to reduce the amount of paper and/or size and format of the budget books.

N. Schoenfeld said she would solicit comments from the Administration regarding the amount of time spent at meetings with the Budget Committee well as possible alternate budget formats that members might use.

S. Albuquerque made a MOTION to adjourn. Second: E. Wilson.

N. Schoenfeld declared the meeting adjourned at 7:42 PM