

Merrimack School District Budget Committee
March 5, 2019
Minutes

Present: K. Bobbitt, J. Guagliumi, S. Heinrich, A. Hyde-Berger, L. French, C. Mower, B. Stisser and School Board member N. Schoenfeld

Excused: C. Lang, M. Murphy, D. Illg, G. Savitch and S. Jacoby

S. Heinrich called the meeting to order at 8:26 P.M.

Article Recommendations

S. Heinrich explained that the Operating Budget warrant article had been amended during the Deliberative Session, which meant that the Committee had an opportunity to revisit its recommendation.

K. Bobbitt made a MOTION to recommend the amended Operating Budget Warrant Article.
Second: J. Guagliumi.

Discussion included the following:

- The Budget Committee process is independent of the School Board.
- It is foolhardy to demolish the “Red Building” without a definite plan.
- The School Board wanted to propose an operating budget that was below the default.
- The Budget Committee only has bottom line budget authority.
- The School Board determines how, where and if operating budget funds are spent.

A roll call vote was held: MOTION FAILED 4 – 4 – 0. (In favor: K. Bobbitt, J. Guagliumi, B. Stisser and N. Schoenfeld. Opposed: C. Mower, S. Heinrich, A. Hyde-Berger and L. French.)

The Operating Budget Warrant Article will appear on the ballot as “Not Recommended by the Budget Committee Vote: 4 – 4 – 0.

Approval of Prior Minutes

C. Mower made a MOTION to approve the minutes of Meeting on February 14, 2019. Second: L. French. S. Heinrich requested that minutes reflect that Ginger, the Budget Committee mascot, was present with C. Lang. MOTION PASSED: 7 – 0 – 1. (J. Guagliumi abstained.)

K. Bobbitt made a MOTION to approve the minutes of the Public Hearing on February 14, 2019. Second: B. Stisser. No corrections were proposed. MOTION PASSED: 7 – 0 – 1. (J. Guagliumi abstained.)

S. Heinrich thanked the members for their hard work and adjourned the meeting at 8:45 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Pat Heinrich