

Merrimack School District Budget Committee
January 7, 2020
Minutes

Present: S. Heinrich, J. Guagliumi, D. Illg, C. Mower, G. Savitch, B. Stisser and L. French.
Excused: A. Hyde-Berger, C. Lang, M. Murphy, S. Jacoby and School Board Liaison A. Schneider

S. Heinrich called the meeting to order at 7:03 P.M and asked B. Stisser to lead those present in the Pledge of Allegiance. S. Heinrich welcomed everyone and asked members to introduce themselves.

S. Heinrich announced the purpose of the meeting was to interview 2 people who had expressed interest in filling the open seat on the Committee. He said both candidates, Shayne Albuquerque and Anthony (Andy) Hunter were present. He thanked both candidates for applying to fill the seat and told them that, if not selected, they should consider running for the seat in April.

S. Heinrich explained that the function of the Budget Committee was to determine that the expenditures in the budget were prudent and meet the goals of the District. He said the Committee's purpose was not to cut the budget simply to save tax dollars nor to frivolously add funds to the budget. He noted that any adjustments made by the Committee to the budget could be changed by the voters at Deliberative Session but that the voters could not add more than 10% of the amount recommended by the Committee. He said the Committee also votes to recommend or not recommend monied warrant articles, including any contracts, but cannot change the language of the articles or terms of any contract. Finally he said that members are assigned to liaison teams which meet with department heads to discuss and review each department's budget proposal.

S. Heinrich said which candidate would be interviewed first would be determined by lot and asked C. Mower draw a name.

C. Mower drew Andrew Hunter's name.

S. Heinrich asked Mr. Hunter to come forward, introduce himself and tell the Committee why he was interested in the seat.

Mr. Hunter told the Committee about his background and why he was interested in being on the Committee. He then answered questions from Committee members.

S. Heinrich asked Mr. Albuquerque to come forward, introduce himself and tell the Committee why he was interested in the seat.

Mr. Albuquerque told the Committee about his background and why he was interested in being on the Committee. He then answered questions from Committee members.

S. Heinrich explained that a roll call vote would be taken during which members could vote for either candidate or abstain and called for discussion.

During discussion, members thanked both candidates for their interest and willingness to serve on the Committee.

S. Heinrich nominated Shayne Albuquerque and Anthony Hunter for appointment to the Committee.

A roll call vote was held:

	Hunter	Albuquerque
Lee French	X	
Jordan Guagliumi	X	
Stan Heinrich	X	
David Illg	X	
Chuck Mower		X
Gillian Savitch	X	
Brian Stisser	X	
totals	6	1

S. Heinrich declared Anthony Hunter appointed to the Committee.

A. Hunter was sworn in and took a seat at the table.

Other

S. Heinrich told the Committee that a schedule of meeting dates and liaison assignments would be sent to them shortly and reminded members, who had not already done so, to pick up their budget books at the Superintendent’s Office. He said that members who have questions about a department budget other than their liaison assignments should contact the liaison team leader for that particular department and not call that department head directly.

Public Participation

There was none.

S. Heinrich reminded the Committee that the next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, January 23rd at 7 PM in the Masticola Elementary School A.P.R.

D. Illg made a MOTION to adjourn. Second: J. Guagliumi. MOTION PASSED unanimously.

S. Heinrich adjourned the meeting at 8:05 PM

Respectfully submitted,

Pat Heinrich