

Merrimack School District Budget Committee  
Minutes  
August 11, 2020

Present: D. Coakley, L French, J. Hardy, D. Illg, C. Lang, C. Mower, M. Murphy, L. Peters, G. Savitch, J. Guagliumi, and School Board liaison A. Schneider

C. Mower called the meeting to order at 7:02 PM and asked L. Peters to lead everyone present in the Pledge of Allegiance

**Announcements**

C. Mower apologized for the lack of air conditioning and said that Maintenance was working to rectify the situation.

C. Mower told the Committee that there had again been problems with all members receiving emails sent to the Committee generic email address. He stated that the District Network Administrator has created a relay which should result in emails being properly forwarded to all Committee members. He also said that all emails sent to the Committee generic address are now being archived. C. Mower said that any member of the public who has trouble contacting the Committee could contact him directly and provided his home phone number and personal email address.

**Approval of Prior Minutes**

M. Murphy made a MOTION to approve the Minutes of July 21, 2020. Second: J. Guagliumi. C. Lang offered a grammatical correction.

MOTION PASSED: 9 – 0 – 2. (D. Illg and C. Lang abstained.)

**Procedure to Fill Vacant Seats**

C. Mower said the main purpose of the meeting was to fill the two vacant seats on the Committee. He said that six letters of interest had been received and the candidates were present to be interviewed. He explained that candidates would be interviewed in alphabetical order and that after the interviews, all candidates would be placed in nomination, followed by Committee discussion and a roll call vote to determine which two candidates would be appointed.

C. Lang said she thought the process previously discussed was interview tonight and actual voting another night.

C. Mower said there were difficulties scheduling a second meeting and he thought with the number of candidates, it might be better to complete the process in one night. He then asked each candidate to come forward and meet with the Committee.

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

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.

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

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

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

Mrs. Wilson told the Committee about her background and why she was interested in being on the Committee. She then answered questions from Committee members.

C. Mower thanked all the candidates for coming. He nominated Scott Adler, Shayne Albuquerque, Robbie Reisman, Scott Sabens, Brian Stisser and Ellen Wilson for appointment to the Budget Committee and called for Committee discussion.

C. Lang, G. Savitch, L. Peters, J. Hardy, A. Schneider, M. Murphy and C. Mower thanked the candidates and shared their thoughts on who should be elected.

C. Mower reminded members that they each had two votes and could vote for one candidate, two candidates or abstain.

A roll call vote was held:

	<b>Adler</b>	<b>Albuquerque</b>	<b>Reisman</b>	<b>Sabens</b>	<b>Stisser</b>	<b>Wilson</b>
D. Coakley					1	1
L. French		1			1	
J. Guagliumi				1		1
J. Hardy					1	1
D. Illg					1	1
C. Lang					1	1
C. Mower		1			1	
M. Murphy		1			1	
L. Peters				1		1
G. Savitch		1			1	
A. Schneider				1		1
<b>total</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>7</b>

C. Mower declared Brian Stisser and Ellen Wilson appointed to the Budget Committee and asked the School District Clerk to swear them in after the meeting.

**Next Meeting:**

C. Mower said the next Committee meeting would be a training session in about six weeks.

C. Lang asked if the training was going to be an official meeting or an educational session. C. Mower said the training would not be a meeting.

**Public Participation**

There was none.

**Member Comments**

C. Lang said that choosing which candidates to appoint had been particularly difficult because so many good candidates had applied. She suggested that those not appointed get involved in other areas of the community that could use volunteers.

L. Peters asked if the Committee training session would be open to the public. C. Mower said the training would be for members only.

C. Lang made a MOTION to adjourn. Second: A. Schneider. MOTION PASSED unanimously.

C. Mower adjourned the meeting at 8:48 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Pat Heinrich