

Hillsboro-Deering Cooperative School District

Deliberative Session

February 3, 2020

School District Moderator John Segedy opened the meeting at 7:02pm and made introductions: School Board members Herla Iadonisi, Richard Pelletier, Vice Chair Chris Bober, Chair Kathryn McGinn, School District Clerk Joyce Bosse, Superintendent Robert Hassett, Legal Counsel Chris Pyle, and Business Manager Jean Mogan.

He then led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Article 01: Election of Officers: To choose by nonpartisan ballot the following School District Officials:

One School Board Member from Hillsborough for a three year term—Paul Plater*

One Moderator for a one year term—John Segedy*

*Incumbents-no other candidates signed up.

Article 02: Set Salaries of School Board, Agents/Officers—Presented by Kathryn

Shall the Hillsboro-Deering School District set the salaries of the School Board and compensation of any other officers or agents of the District as printed in the 2019-2020 Budget?

School Board Chair \$1,800

School Board Members \$1,000 each

School Treasurer \$3,400

District Clerk \$100 per meeting

Moderator \$90 per year

Ballot Clerks \$10 each per voting session

Recommended by School Board

Alan Dobrowolski asked why this Board gets more money than the State Legislators who get \$200.00 per biennium.

Article 03: Operating Budget—Presented by Chairman Kathryn McGinn

Shall the voters of the Hillsboro-Deering School District raise and appropriate as an operating budget, not including appropriations by special warrant articles and other appropriations voted separately, the amounts set forth on the budget posted with the warrant or as amended by vote of the first session, for the purposes set forth therein, totaling

\$23,121,866(twenty-three million, one hundred twenty-one thousand, eight hundred sixty six dollars)? Should this article be defeated, the default budget shall be \$22,832,265 (twenty-two million, eight hundred thirty-two thousand, two hundred sixty-five dollars), which is the same as last year, with certain adjustments required by previous action of the school district or by law; or the School District may hold one special meeting, in accordance with RSA 40:13, X and XVI, to take up the issue of a revised operating budget only. (Funding the operating budget for 2020-2021 but does not include appropriations in other warrant articles, except Article #2)
Recommended by School Board.

Kathryn presented a slide presentation and statement of goals, slides of the budget, key budget factors, and the proposed and default budget summaries.

Mary Plater questioned why there was a difference in the anticipated revenues in 2020.

Alan Dobrowolski presented an amendment to delete the language “or the School District may hold one special meeting, in accordance with RSA 40:13, X and XVI, to take up the issue of a revised operating budget only.” Mary Plater 2nd the amendment. As part of the discussion, legal counsel was asked if the vote would be legal. He was unsure whether or not it would be binding.

After a raising of voter cards, amendment was defeated.

Leigh Bosse asked what the unassigned fund balance from last year was. Business Manager Jean Mogan said that those figures are not yet audited. He also asked how much was sent back to the taxpayers, but there was no answer from the Board. Leigh stated that the Board is asking for \$1.7 million more than was used last year. Superintendent Hassett thought that \$575,000 was returned. Board member Richard Pelletier explained that the budget is a “best guess” and that giving back should be considered a good thing.

After the discussion on Article 3, Chris Bober made a motion to restrict reconsideration on the Article. Herla Iadonisi 2nd. Motion carried.

Article 04: Appropriation for Food Service and Federal / State—Presented by Chris Bober

Shall the Hillsboro-Deering School District raise and appropriate \$1,862,000 for the support of school projects as follows: \$700,000 (seven hundred thousand dollars) for Food Service and, \$1,162,000 (one million, one hundred sixty two thousand dollars) for Federal and State projects? Such sum to be offset by school lunch sales and State and Federal grants.
Majority vote required. Recommended by School Board

No discussion

Article 05: Appropriation for SAU Budget—Presented by Kathryn

Shall the voters of the Hillsboro Deering School District adopt a School Administrative Unit budget of \$1,172,621 (One million, one hundred and seventy-two thousand, six hundred twenty one dollars) for the forthcoming fiscal year in which \$993,523 (nine hundred ninety three thousand, five hundred twenty three dollars) is assigned to the school budget of this district? This year's alternative budget of \$1,158,304 (one million, one hundred fifty eight thousand, three hundred and four dollars) for the forthcoming fiscal year in which \$981,392 (nine hundred eighty one thousand, and three hundred ninety two dollars) is assigned to the school budget of the district, will be adopted if the article does not receive a majority vote of all school district voters in the School Administrative Unit. Recommended by the School Board.

Alan Dobrowolski asked why this budget is so high as it's in the top 10% of all schools in the State. Kathryn explained that we don't get as much aid from the State. Bob Hassett said that the DOE figures are out of date.

Article 06: Collective Bargaining Agreement—Presented by Kathryn

To see if the school district will vote to approve the cost items included in the collective bargaining agreement reached between the Hillsboro Deering School Board and the Hillsboro-Deering Support Staff (AFT Local #6219) which calls for the following increases in salaries and benefits at the current staffing level:

Fiscal Year Estimated Increase

2020-2021 \$92,160

2021-2022 \$82,960

2022-2023 \$88,585

Total cost for three year contract is \$ 530,985

And further to raise and appropriate \$92,160 for the 2020-2021 fiscal year, such sum representing the additional costs attributable to the increase in salaries and benefits required by the most recent collective bargaining agreement over those that would be paid at current staffing levels. (Majority vote required) Recommended by School Board.

Kathryn said that this affects 66 employees in the District, the agreement between the Union and the Board was made on 10/21/19 and its structure would keep pace with the School Districts around us. Alan Dobrowolski said that he would like to see higher pay. It was explained that since this is a collective bargaining agreement, it cannot be amended. Chris thanked him for his support. Bob Whitehead said that \$12.00 an hour is not a living wage.

Article 07: If Article # 6 is defeated—Presented by Paul Plater.

Shall the School District, if Article # 6 is defeated, authorize the School Board to call one special meeting, at its option, to address Article 6 cost items only? Recommended by the School Board

Article 08: Fund Special Education Expendable Trust—Presented by Chris Bober

Shall the Hillsboro-Deering School District vote to raise and appropriate up to \$100,000 (hundred thousand dollars) to be added to the Special Education Expendable Trust Fund previously established? This sum to come from the Jun 30, 2020 unassigned fund balance available for transfer after July 1, 2020. No amount to be raised from taxation. Recommended by the School Board.

No discussion.

Article 09: Fund Technology ETF—Presented by Chris Bober

To see if the school district will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$25,000 (twenty-five thousand dollars) to be added to the Technology Expendable Trust Fund previously established. This sum to come from June 30, 2020 unassigned fund balance available for transfer on July 1, 2020. No amount to be raised from taxation. Recommend by School Board.

No discussion.

Article 10: Fund HVAC Expendable Trust—Presented by Rich Pelletier

To see if the school district will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$50,000(Fifty Thousand) to be added to the Heating, Ventilation and Air Conditioning (HVAC) Expendable Trust Fund previously established. This sum to come from June 30, 2020 fund balance available for transfer on July 1, 2020. No amount to be raised from taxation. Recommended by the School Board.

No discussion.

Article 11: Fund Paving Expendable-- Presented by Rich Pelletier

To see if the school district will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$25,000 (Twenty five thousand dollars) to be added to the Paving Expendable Trust Fund previously established. This sum to come from June 30, 2020 unassigned fund balance available for transfer on July 1, 2020. No amount to be raised from taxation. Recommendations by the School Board.

No discussion.

Article 12: Accept Annual Reports

Shall the Hillsboro-Deering School District accept the reports of agents, committees and officers chosen as printed in the Annual Report? Recommended by School Board

No discussion.

Meeting adjourned at 8:03pm

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Joyce Bosse", written in a cursive style.

Joyce Bosse

Hillsboro-Deering School District Clerk