

Cape Elizabeth School Board
Tuesday April 21, 2020
6:30 p.m. Special Business Meeting
Zoom Video Conference

Heather
Altenburg

Kimberly
Carr

Philip
Saucier

Elizabeth
Scifres

M. Nasir
Shir

Hope Straw

Laura
deNino

Piper Strunk

Ally Lynch

AGENDA

Call to Order 6:30 p.m.

- I. Adjustments to the Agenda
None
- II. Comments from Public on Agenda Items (per SB BEDH)
None
- III. New Business
 - A. Update to FY21 Unassigned Fund Balance
John Quartararo- Mr. Quartararo was reconciling accounts, and found the assessor had raised \$300,000 more than was necessary for the FY20 budget. When he traced through, he found that it was in the amount of taxes that were raised to support the FY20 School Budget. As he dug deeper, he found the error was caused by the Revenue Account not being updated by the accounting system regarding the use of the unassigned account balance of \$300,000. At this point, he contacted the Superintendent, the Town manager, and the Business Manager to alert them that the FY20 School budget had \$300,000 more than was necessary to support the current FY. It affected the tax rate. This \$300,000 plus the FY20 Fund Balance \$100,000 would put \$400,000 towards the FY21 budget.
Elizabeth Scifres- Wanted to properly introduce Mr. Quartararo should members of the public be watching, and not know the nature of his knowledge. Mr. Quartararo is the Town Finance Manager. She thanks Mr. Quartararo and Ms. Weeks for looking into the situation with such great detail and bringing it to the table, allowing it to lower the tax impact.
Kimberly Carr- Is this something that we anticipated that the auditors would pick up on?
Mr. Quartararo- Yes.

Mr. Saucier- wanted to summarize that the Tax Impact has dropped significantly (almost 2%) with this new adoption of the School Budget, he wanted it to be clear for the public. Hope Straw-wanted to reiterate that the future, this budget could be too low, and the money also may not be there. She wants to make sure everyone is thinking about how we need to be flexible. That we cannot really make decisions right now. Whatever we do, it needs to be with careful planning and forethought.

Ms. Altenburg-our process was very thorough. That we need to not have a reactionary process here.

Kimberly Carr- concurs with Ms. Straw. She wanted to ask that the 4.13% is not the actual number that goes to the public.

Ms. Scifres says it is a projection. She says that a few emails have come in from the community. She reiterates Ms. Straw's sentiment that we don't know if this budget will be adequate in the fall because of the uncertainty in our distance-learning environment.

Mr. Shedd confirms that next year's HS will exceed this year's numbers. She wanted to bring to attention why the budget is needed in its current iteration.

Superintendent Wolfrom summarizes why the needs are lined up in the Budget, with enrollment increases, the number of new teachers only comes up with a 1.75 increase, which mirrors the need. The MS was a decrease and they made cuts where necessary. PC is down right now, but sometimes an increase is seen in the summer. If we don't address these, they will be over their state guidelines. The law mandates the Special Education new hire. Discussion about the One Town concept was had, as well as explanations of previous discussions by Mr. Shedd. These discussions were in previous budget meetings, and were reiterated for public attendees.

B. Cape Elizabeth School Board motion to approve the 2020-21 of School Budget

Motion: To consider the 2020-21 School Budget for the Town of Cape Elizabeth be approved in the total amount of \$28,490,012.

Note: The above motion is to approve the school budget to send to the council.

Motion:	Elizabeth Scifres	Second:	Laura DeNino	Vote:	Unanimous
Heather Altenburg: Yay <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Nay <input type="checkbox"/>	Kimberly Carr: Yay <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Nay <input type="checkbox"/>	Philip Saucier: Yay <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Nay <input type="checkbox"/>	Elizabeth Scifres: Yay <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Nay <input type="checkbox"/>		
M. Nasir Shir: Yay <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Nay <input type="checkbox"/>	Hope Straw: Yay <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Nay <input type="checkbox"/>	Laura DeNino: Yay <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Nay <input type="checkbox"/>			

C. Cape Elizabeth School Board motion to approve the 2020-21 Notice of School Budget

Motion: To consider the 2020-21 Notice of School Budget Adopted by Town Council and Submitted to Budget Validation Referendum be approved and that following Council approval of the school budget the Superintendent be authorized to complete, execute and deliver that Notice to the Town Clerk for use at the budget validation referendum.

Note: The above motion is to give the Superintendent authorization to complete the Notice of School Budget Approved by Town Council for posting at the polls once the Town Council votes on the school budget.

Motion:	Elizabeth Scifres	Second:	Kimberly Carr	Vote:	Unanimous
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Heather Altenburg: Yay <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Nay <input type="checkbox"/>	Kimberly Carr: Yay <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Nay <input type="checkbox"/>	Philip Saucier: Yay <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Nay <input type="checkbox"/>	Elizabeth Scifres: Yay <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Nay <input type="checkbox"/>
M. Nasir Shir: Yay <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Nay <input type="checkbox"/>	Hope Straw: Yay <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Nay <input type="checkbox"/>	Laura DeNino: Yay <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Nay <input type="checkbox"/>	

D. Cape Elizabeth School Board motion to approve Additional Local Funds Article for the 2020-21 School Budget

Motion: To consider the Additional Local Funds Article for the 2020-21 School Budget for the Town of Cape Elizabeth be approved for the purpose of raising \$9,996,516 in additional local funds for the school budget, which exceeds the State's Essential Programs and Services allocation model by \$9,996,516, that the Statement of Reasons for exceeding that model be approved as set forth below, and that the Superintendent be authorized to prepare and deliver that article to the Council for approval.

School Board's Statement of Reasons for Exceeding Essential Programs and Services allocation model: The state's funding model does not support all of the costs for K-12 education. It includes only those costs considered essential by the state's Essential Programs and Services (EPS) model.

Note: The above motion is to approve the additional local funds article for the school budget. When the budget exceeds the EPS model, Maine law requires a separate school Board vote and a separate council vote on this Article for the school budget. Maine law further requires approval of the article by majorities of the fall school Board and of the fall council. Maine law requires that a Statement of Reasons for exceeding the state allocation model accompany the Article.

Motion:	Laura DeNino	Second:	Kimberly Carr	Vote:	Unanimous
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Heather Altenburg: Yay <input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Nay <input type="checkbox"/>	Kimberly Carr: Yay <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Nay <input type="checkbox"/>	Philip Saucier: Yay <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Nay <input type="checkbox"/>	Elizabeth Scifres: Yay <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Nay <input type="checkbox"/>
M. Nasir Shir: Yay <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Nay <input type="checkbox"/>	Hope Straw: Yay <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Nay <input type="checkbox"/>	Laura DeNino: Yay <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Nay <input type="checkbox"/>	

IV. Consideration to Adjourn

Motion:	Laura DeNino	Second:	Elizabeth Scifres	Vote:	Unanimous
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Heather Altenburg: Yay <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Nay <input type="checkbox"/>	Kimberly Carr: Yay <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Nay <input type="checkbox"/>	Philip Saucier: Yay <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Nay <input type="checkbox"/>	Elizabeth Scifres: Yay <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Nay <input type="checkbox"/>
M. Nasir Shir: Yay <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Nay <input type="checkbox"/>	Hope Straw: Yay <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Nay <input type="checkbox"/>	Laura DeNino: Yay <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Nay <input type="checkbox"/>	

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION AT BOARD MEETINGS

BEDH

Regular, special and emergency meetings of the Board are open to the public. The Board wishes to provide opportunities for citizens to express their interests, concerns and suggestions related to matters under consideration by the Board. The public is cordially invited to attend and participate in these meetings as set forth in this policy.

In order that the Board may fairly and adequately discharge its overall responsibilities, citizens or groups wishing to address the Board on a topic not otherwise on the agenda must submit a request in writing to the Superintendent at least one full week in advance of the scheduled meeting. The Superintendent and/or Board Chair may add the item to the agenda at their discretion.

As the elected representative body of the school unit, the Board conducts meetings to carry out the official business of the schools. These meetings are not public forums, but are meetings at which the Board does its business in public. An agenda is prepared and published in advance of each meeting in accordance with Board policy. Anyone desiring additional information about any item on the agenda should direct inquiries to the Superintendent's Office.

Generally, opportunities for the public to speak on agenda items will take place prior to the Board's vote on those items.

The Board Chairperson is responsible for ensuring the orderly conduct of Board meetings. The following ground rules shall guide public participation at Board meetings:

- A. Citizens, employees, students and others with a legitimate interest in the Board's business is welcome to participate as provided in this policy.
- B. Orderly conduct of a meeting does not permit spontaneous discussion from the audience. Speakers are to identify themselves by name before they begin speaking and to direct their comments and questions to the Board Chairperson. Board members wishing to address a speaker are asked to direct their comments through the Board Chairperson.
- C. In order to make the most efficient use of meeting time, groups or organizations are asked to designate spokespersons to present their comments. Speakers are also requested to avoid duplication or repetition of remarks made by others. The Board Chairperson has the prerogative to limit the time allotted for comments on a particular topic as well as the time each individual may speak.
- D. Gossip, defamatory comments, and abusive, vulgar, or threatening language are not permitted. The Board Chairperson has the prerogative to stop any presentation which violates this rule or which would violate the privacy interests of any individual
- E. Complaints concerning individual students or employees will not be aired in public at Board meetings, but will be referred to the administration for resolution as appropriate.

F. Employees and employee groups may not discuss matters at Board meetings for which other, more appropriate forums are provided by law or contract.

Legal Reference: 1 M.R.S.A. Section 401 et seq.
20-A M.R.S.A. Section 1001

Cross Reference: BEDB – Agenda

ADOPTED: March 8, 2005 (Replaced original BEDH)
Revised: June 14, 2011
April 9, 2013