

MINUTES – WAYLAND SCHOOL COMMITTEE

Budget Hearing/Regular Meeting – March 9, 2015

A Budget Hearing and Regular Meeting of the Wayland School Committee were held on Monday, March 9, 2015, at 7:00 P.M. in the Large Hearing Room of the Wayland Town Building.

Present were:

Ellen Grieco, Chair (arrived at 7:26 p.m.)
Barb Fletcher, Vice Chair
Malcolm Astley
Donna Bouchard
Jeanne Downs

Also:

Paul Stein
Superintendent

Brad Crozier
Assistant Superintendent

Susan Bottan
Business Administrator

Marlene Dodyk
Director of Student Services

Also:

Ellen Tohn, Co-Chair Energy Advisory Committee
Tom Sciacca, Member Energy Advisory Committee
John Harper, Associate Member Energy Advisory Committee
Mike Statias, Associate Member Energy Advisory Committee
Maureen Tillet, Wayland Boosters
Mark Lucier, Wayland Boosters
Ben Keefe, Public Buildings Director

Vice Chair Barb Fletcher convened the Budget Hearing at 7:05 p.m.

1. **Budget Hearing and Discussion regarding the FY16 Budget:**

Barb presented the recommended FY16 Operating and Capital Budgets. To begin, Barb noted that the vision for the district, put into place by the Superintendent, is an integrated approach for continuous improvement by which the system-wide goals inform the School Improvement Plans at the building levels which drive the individual goals and professional development plans.

Barb reviewed the system-wide, multi-year HEART goals:

- **H**Health and Wellness
- **E**valuation
- **A**chievement Gap
- **R**esponse to Intervention (RTI)
- **T**echnology

The over-arching goal is to build on momentum of the following district-wide initiatives: the elementary reconfiguration, supporting and challenging all students, realizing the potential of instruction technologies, fostering the life-long health and wellness of students, instituting the new DESE model evaluation system, and the introduction of Chinese language and culture into the schools' programmatic offerings.

Barb reviewed the administrators' budget process that started with enrollment projections followed by establishing a Level Services Budget within the Finance Committee guideline. From there, efficiencies and cost

MINUTES – WAYLAND SCHOOL COMMITTEE
Budget Hearing/Regular Meeting – March 9, 2015

savings measures were incorporated into the budget as well as an evaluation of the district's unmet needs, such as a 0.5 FTE Assistant Principal at Claypit Hill, a 0.6 FTE elementary Reading Specialist, a 0.4 FTE high school health and wellness teacher, a ramp-up program for 6th and 10th grade students going into accelerated courses, and the replacement of teacher computers that are over 5 years old.

During the course of the process, the School Committee heard from many residents in town who are faced with an overwhelming tax burden. As a result, the Committee presented a maximum budget amount to the Finance Committee late January, and the School Committee and the administrators proceeded to mitigate the budget in several areas, which Barb noted, for a total savings of about \$290,000 in the recommended budget. The Committee decided not to include in the FY16 Budget the 0.5 FTE Assistant Principal at Claypit, as recommended by the Superintendent, but agreed to make it a priority for consideration in the FY17 Budget. Barb informed the audience that the School Committee is committed to finding more ways to reduce spending while continuing to balance the importance of maintaining the momentum in the education for the students.

Barb summarized the Committee's recommended budget that included required increases in ELL, Special Education, Utilities, enrollment, and contractual obligations, as well as additional unmet needs. After realizing the savings in the mitigation process, the School Committee's FY16 Recommended Budget totals \$36,719,239, a 3.6% increase over the FY15 budget.

Barb detailed the budget drivers in the recommended budget in terms of enrollment and class size and staffing, FY16 personnel, and FY16 non-personnel. The net change in personnel expenses total \$920,855 and the net change in non-personnel expenses total \$365,337 for a total FY16 incremental increase of \$1,286,192 or a 3.6% increase below the Finance Committee's guideline of about \$94,000.

Also noted were the initiatives that, although not funded this year, are important to the district. They include a 1.0 elementary assistant school principal (both at HH and CH), a 0.4 FTE elementary reading specialist, a 0.4 FTE Health and Wellness K-12 Department Chair, one additional after school stipend per elementary school, and a 1.0 FTE middle school writing specialist.

Barb reviewed the total school revenue and the sources from which it is received, and total school expenditures for the past 3 fiscal years. Based on the total expenditures, per pupil expenditure is \$16,689, and, in comparison with peer towns, Wayland falls in the middle or 5th out of 10 districts on a per pupil basis. Also reviewed were the benefits per school employee that the town provides. Thus, the average yearly cost for the town per benefits eligible employee is \$17,333 for a non-teacher who contributes to Middlesex Retirement and \$14,747 for a teacher who contributes into the state retirement program.

Finally, Barb reviewed the FY16 capital requests that are included in the recommended budget. The Hearing was open for discussion and to receive questions from the public.

Annette Lewis asked for an overview of the structure of the budget with regard to the management of curriculum and personnel budgets, as well as the high school budget for conferences, textbooks, subscriptions, license renewals, supplies, and memberships. *Brad explained that certain funds are included in the district-wide budgets as they represent district-wide purchases and initiatives, while other funds are included at the building level since they represent building based purchases.*

Ellen arrived at 7:26 p.m.

Joe Fagnoli commented on the budget as a whole, noting that some increases are very minimal in the grand scheme for the taxpayers. He added that the School Committee wants to satisfy the residents without children, but feels that the residents with school-aged aren't being considered since the fees are constantly being increased. Joe commented that going forward there will be more increases to the budget due to technology necessary to educate the students in STEM programs and the arts, to mention a few. He asked the School Committee to address how the educational needs of the students will be met while still trying to satisfy both town constituencies. *Ellen commented on how the Committee addressed the residents' concerns by containing the spending in the school budget; the budget process is a balancing act weighing the interests of all constituencies.*

MINUTES – WAYLAND SCHOOL COMMITTEE
Budget Hearing/Regular Meeting – March 9, 2015

Donna compared the FY11 budget in which several teachers were cut to this year's budget in which level services were maintained, including the addition of new initiatives. Malcolm encouraged the audience to continue to voice their opinions both at the town level and the state level. He informed the public of the Suburban Coalition and its mission and invited them to attend its meeting on March 12th.

Taking an agenda item out of order (6d), Ellen asked for a town volunteer to attend the Suburban Coalition meeting on March 12th and will be further discussed later on during the meeting. Barb and Malcolm will attend the meeting.

Annette Lewis asked how technology is budgeted – school-based or district-based – including the purchasing protocols. Barb referred to a chart on page 62 of the Budget Book that lists all district-level and building-level expenses associated with technology. Brad explained the subscription/licensing charges and how and where the costs are allocated. Susan confirmed that technology purchases are school-based and can be easily tracked. Paul explained the technology staff structure in the buildings and how they work collaboratively to make purchases. A discussion ensued in terms of the process for all purchasing. Barb commented that she and Susan, through the Finance Subcommittee, are working together to improve the budget reporting.

Annette also questioned the budget for utilities costs per school. Susan commented that a budget is developed for utilities and costs are charged directly to the schools. However, at the district-wide level, the actual costs are constantly reviewed to determine how they compare to the budgeted amounts. She explained the Purchase Order process for utilities. Paul described the budget process with each building principal leading up to his recommended budget.

Annette asked about the Circuit Breaker and why the SPED pre-pay is budgeted. Marlene explained what the Circuit Breaker is and the formula used in terms of calculating a district's reimbursement from the state, as well as the timing of the reimbursement. Barb explained the pre-pay as a budgeting/expenditure tool. Paul explained how the pre-pay was used in past years, which is different from how it is done now. A discussion ensued in terms of the current process.

Annette asked for a comparison of the Student Services budget and the SPED expenses for each school, including how the spending is tracked and by whom. Marlene gave examples of mandated costs for centrally managed Student Services, such as home tutoring, private testing, equipment repair, office supplies, miscellaneous service contracts, and out-of-district tuition. Marlene explained the difference in budgeting for staffing, including teacher assistants.

Annette referred to Page 8 of the Budget Booklet in terms of how the Special Education staff is reported and if all paraprofessionals hold degrees. Susan and Marlene explained the reporting system by state function code. Brad commented that each new hire fills out a data sheet that identifies degrees and the universities at which the degrees were earned. The data sheet information is also used for the SIMS reporting. Paul noted that more information is available in the Budget Book.

Ellen asked the audience if there was a volunteer who would like to attend the Suburban Coalition meeting. There were no volunteers.

2. **Comments and Written Statements from the Public:**

There were no comments or written statements.

3. **Special Matters:**

(a) Introduction of New Claypit Hill Principal:

Paul introduced Christie Harvey as the new Claypit Hill Principal beginning July 1, 2015. Currently Ms. Harvey is the Assistant Principal at Countryside School in Newton. She is currently working on her doctorate in educational leadership and described her educational experiences leading up to what she considers to be a wonderful opportunity to call Wayland her professional home.

MINUTES – WAYLAND SCHOOL COMMITTEE
Budget Hearing/Regular Meeting – March 9, 2015

The School Committee welcomed Ms. Harvey to Wayland. Barb asked her what the biggest challenge is today facing elementary schools in general. She responded that it is not usually one issue, but many, because there are changes every day and she wants to be sure that every child is getting what they need on a daily basis.

(b) Review Financial Model for Proposed Solar Projects at the Middle School and High School Parking Lots and Discussion of and Possible Vote on related Warrant Article:

The School Committee reviewed the documents provided by the Energy Advisory Committee: Wayland Solar Projects (How Net Metering Works); the Peregrine Energy Group's third party assessment of the proposed energy projects; Town Meeting Warrant Article 14; and a list of questions posed by the Finance Committee and responses given by the Energy Advisory Committee.

Ellen Tohn commented that earlier this evening, the Finance Committee voted 6-0 to support the warrant article. To recap, Ellen noted that four solar projects are being proposed by Ameresco: Town Building parking lot; DPW roof; high school parking lot; and the middle school parking lot. Referring to the chart, Ellen explained how the net metering of the electricity and funding works. Each site will act as a mini power plant and, within a contractual agreement, Wayland will buy the power at a fixed cost for 20 years, which will, in turn, go back to Eversource. As a result, metering credits will be applied to Wayland school and town utility bills. Wayland will also receive annual tax payments from Ameresco at a fixed amount.

The Energy Committee members explained the tariff rates, which are assigned to meters by Eversource and secured by Ameresco. In the best interest of the Town, the Energy Advisory Committee will only move forward with this agreement if an A9 or B5 rate is secured. A discussion ensued in terms of the difference in the rates that are based on cost projections, how they are assigned within an inter-connection agreement between Ameresco and Eversource, and if the rate applies to the life of the 20-year contract.

Also, a grant of about \$260,000 was secured to install a resiliency component at the middle school to the generator if the grid is down. Ameresco will develop curriculum that can be integrated at any school.

The Committees discussed where the authority will lie in terms of licensing and the control and management of the spaces on which the solar panels will be installed.

Ellen Tohn announced that there will be a Solar Forum on March 18th.

Upon a motion duly made by Barb Fletcher, seconded by Ellen Grieco, the School Committee voted unanimously (5-0) to support Warrant Article 14 that will go before Town Meeting for approval to install the solar panels as described.

4. **Educational Matters:**

(a) Superintendent's Report:

Paul noted that the Chinese Lunar New Year Celebration was an incredible program that brought the community together to support Chinese and other Asian cultures and the programs that are evolving in the schools.

(b) Technology Spotlight #8:

"Google Earth" is a program that is continuously being integrated into the middle school curriculum by 7th grade teacher Daniel Fernandez. The important fundamental concept for students begins with knowing "where" we are and the importance of how it relates to our environment and how cultures are created and developed. There must be a fundamental skill in knowing to locate ourselves in relation to other people, places, and things.

As a global tool, there are many possibilities for students to explore the world. Paul described the history of Google Earth dating back to the Cold War. Paul demonstrated how to find a location/address on a "Google Earth" map. Anything that is built into Google Earth in relation to the address can be super-

MINUTES – WAYLAND SCHOOL COMMITTEE
Budget Hearing/Regular Meeting – March 9, 2015

imposed, such as roads, golf courses, including accessing historical maps of a particular town. Students can also insert videos and pictures and use other software in conjunction with Google Earth, resulting in visual, creative and informative class projects. Teachers can share class projects with other teachers, and projects can be uploaded to Google Earth Community for the whole world to see.

Paul shared a student's presentation on a tour of Europe, which focused on Berlin, Germany.

5. **Financial Matters:**

(a) Continued Discussion regarding the Proposed FY16 Budget

- Additional and Previously Presented Information and Analysis regarding the FY16 Budget

Malcolm distributed a charge in an effort to reconsider placing into the budget a 0.4 FTE Health and Wellness Coordinator for the purpose of building a model system to oversee health and wellness. Malcolm cited what other districts are doing in this regard and statistics of violence in Massachusetts. Further, he noted that violence is a national issue and there is a need for early intervention once certain signs are identified in potential perpetrators. Paul noted his concern about a position that is only funded for one year in terms of hiring a qualified person and the long term goal of its success; however, he considers this position very important. A discussion ensued regarding the timing of possible implementation and how to fund the position. The Committee will revisit this discussion on March 23rd.

6. **Administrative/Procedural Matters** (taken out of order):

(a) Discussion of Proposed Donation of Bus through the Wayland Boosters and the Village Bank:

On behalf of Wayland Boosters and its fundraising efforts to purchase an MFSA mini-bus, Maureen Tillett informed the School Committee that Village Bank wants to donate a second 15-passenger bus to the schools for the purpose of transporting students to athletic events. Village Bank would like its logo only to appear on the bus. Maureen noted that the transportation costs for athletic events are 30% of the athletic budget, with the definite potential of increasing. Because of this, the Athletic Director has put limitations on team travels to events. Mark Lucier noted that it is estimated that each bus would generate a savings of about \$10-\$12,000 in transportation costs per year/per bus. The bus would also be available during the day for non-athletic travel by the schools. Maureen noted the requirements for a bus driver, including having a regular Class D license and DMV approval by the Wayland police department.

A discussion ensued regarding advertising on the bus in terms of what is or is not appropriate. Paul noted his concerns of having students exposed to certain types of advertising and explained the rationale in this regard. Paul recommended that the School Committee only consider advertising on capital items, which have a life of over five years and costs over \$25,000. He explained the basis for his recommendation and the terms to which he would agree, including the identification of all maintenance costs, such as insurance, and the guarantee that coaches will not be required to drive the buses.

The Committee discussed how other towns, such as Newton and Sudbury, deal with the issues of owning these types of buses and the possibility of other educational programs using the bus. Paul will call Lincoln-Sudbury High School regarding maintenance costs of their buses. Maureen will ask Village Bank in terms of the size of the logo they are considering placing on the bus. Mark will work with the Athletic Director to determine the actual savings and ongoing maintenance costs.

Before moving forward, the School Committee agreed that there should be a policy and a general set of guidelines in place. This discussion will resume on March 23rd.

(b) Discussion and Possible Approval of the Next Phase of an Ongoing Contract with Pinck & Co., the OPM for the Claypit Hill Windows Project, and Invoices for the Claypit Hill Windows Project:

Ben Keefe noted that Pinck & Co. is the Owners' Project Manager for the Claypit Hill windows and door project and the original contract was written for a Feasibility Study only in the amount of \$15,000. Given that they are in the schematic design stage and will go before the Massachusetts School Building Authority Board (MSBA) on March 25th for approval, the contract must be amended so that Pinck & Co.

MINUTES – WAYLAND SCHOOL COMMITTEE
Budget Hearing/Regular Meeting – March 9, 2015

can serve as Owner's Project Manager through the completion of the project, not to exceed \$124,675. The amendment assumes that the entire project will be approved at Town Meeting for \$1.8M. If not, another amendment will have to be written for a lower amount. Ben also noted that the Permanent Municipal Building Committee approved this amendment.

Upon a motion duly made by Barb Fletcher, seconded by Jeanne Downs, the School Committee voted unanimously (5-0) to approve the Pinck & Co. contract amendment #1 in the amount of \$109,675.

Upon a motion duly made by Barb Fletcher, seconded by Jeanne Downs, the School Committee voted unanimously (5-0) to approve payment of the invoices to Pinck & Co., Inc. in the amount of \$3,326.25 and invoices to CGKV Architects in the amount of \$15,540 for a total amount of \$18,766,25.

7. **Financial Matters** (continued):

(a) Vote to Approve FY16 Operating and Capital Budgets:

Barb commented that the Rule of Necessity must be invoked because a majority of the School Committee members have a conflict relative to fees. Thus, each member, Barb, Ellen, and Donna, disclosed the reason that created the conflict.

Upon a motion duly made by Barb Fletcher, seconded by Ellen Grieco, the School Committee voted unanimously (5-0) to invoke the Rule of Necessity because the majority of the School Committee potentially has a conflict through the payment of fees associated with this budget.

Upon a motion duly made by Barb Fletcher, seconded by Ellen Grieco, the School Committee voted unanimously (5-0) to approve the operating budget in the amount of \$36,719,239.

Donna noted that her vote will be contingent upon the Committee's efforts over the next month to find more savings in the budget and a technology review. A discussion ensued regard the technology operating budget vs. the capital budget. Donna expressed her appreciation to the Committee for its efforts to take all sides into consideration in terms of agreeing to a budget.

The Committee discussed the capital project for the Claypit Hill windows and door project in terms of the warrant. Barb will research the process taken for the middle school roof and the high school building project.

Upon a motion duly made by Barb Fletcher, seconded by Ellen Grieco, the School Committee voted unanimously (5-0) to approve \$690,000 to complete the replacement of the windows and doors project at Claypit, \$250,000 to complete the replacement of certain windows at the Middle School, \$195,000 to provide correctly sized space for the Happy Hollow cafeteria and nurse's office areas, \$172,100 to replace floor tile at Happy Hollow and Loker, \$130,000 to replace outdated classroom furniture at Loker and Happy Hollow and cafeteria and classroom furniture at the Middle School, and \$52,000 to repave the parking lot at Happy Hollow.

Upon a motion duly made by Barb Fletcher, seconded by Donna Bouchard, the School Committee voted unanimously (5-0) to approve \$120,000 to upgrade the network infrastructure at Loker, including switches, wiring and access points, subject to the completion of the assessment to be conducted by the Technology Department and \$39,000 to upgrade the phone system at Loker.

(b) Vote to Close Certain Outstanding Capital Project Accounts from Prior Years:

The School Committee reviewed the status of outstanding capital project accounts from prior years for the purpose of closing some accounts. Susan noted a conversation with Brian Keveny in response to a question about the balance remaining in the High School Building Project account. Susan will ask Brian Keveny to clarify the amount remaining in this account.

MINUTES – WAYLAND SCHOOL COMMITTEE
Budget Hearing/Regular Meeting – March 9, 2015

Upon a motion duly made by Barb Fletcher, seconded by Donna Bouchard, the School Committee voted unanimously (5-0) to close out the capital project accounts provided in a document to the Committee tonight highlighted in yellow that total \$30,211.

(c) Provide Finance Subcommittee Update:

Barb commented that the Finance Subcommittee is working on direct and indirect cost allocation for certain revolving accounts, currently for Pegasus and Building Use, is continuing to develop recommendations for uses of surplus funds in some accounts (Enrichment, Tutoring, Global Language), and is working to improve reporting on staff exchanges, specifically the impact from new hires, steps, lanes, leaves and COLAs. The Finance Subcommittee has finalized the Fee-Based Policy and will bring the policy to the next School Committee meeting for review and approval on March 23rd.

Malcolm asked if BASE has an account balance that could be used for the 0.4 FTE Health and Wellness Coordinator position. A discussion ensued; Malcolm's suggestion will be taken into consideration by the Finance Subcommittee.

(d) Review and Possible Vote to Approve Food Service Assessment Proposal to be Conducted by Edvocate:

This agenda item was passed over because action had already been taken at a prior meeting. Donna agreed with Malcolm's concern that the quality of the service and the quality of the food served remain intact regardless of the outcome of the Food Service Assessment.

(e) Review Updated Projections for Certain Fee-Based Funds, including Food Service and The Children's Way Programs:

Barb noted that based on updated projections for The Children's Way, Director Cheryl Fertig is recommending a 5% increase in tuition for next year, which is included in the projections. The Committee reviewed the chart provided in terms of expenditures being in excess of revenues. A discussion ensued. When a new Director is hired, the School Committee recommends that he/she perform a cost analysis in an effort to increase revenues and/or reduce expenditures.

(f) Possible Vote to Approve Fee/Tuition Changes for FY16 for Certain "Revolving Account Programs, including The Children's Way, Transportation, the Athletic Cap, and Musical Instrument Rental Fee:"

Upon a motion by Barb Fletcher, seconded by Ellen Grieco, the School Committee voted unanimously (5-0) to invoke the Rule of Necessity because of a conflict of interest as stated earlier in the evening related to the fees.

The Committee reviewed the chart provided by Susan listing the revolving accounts and the statutes associated with programs that charge fees, including athletics, transportation, parking, and instrumental music, and any proposed changes for FY16.

In terms of accessing money from these revolving accounts at Town Meeting, a question arose as to what can be appropriated or not appropriated from these funds based on the statute 71:71E. Donna identified the programs that are under this statute and noted that they were all voted on March 11, 2013, which may not be the correct statute for which to separate funds. She consulted with Brian Keveney regarding this issue and cited findings from the audit review by The Abrahams Group. Barb recommended that Susan work with Brian Keveney to research this matter further.

Upon a motion duly made by Barb Fletcher, seconded by Ellen Grieco, the School Committee voted (4-1) (Malcolm opposed) to increase the family cap to \$1,200 for athletic fees and increase the general education bus transportation fee to \$300, if issued prior to June 1, with a cap of \$850 for a family of more than three, \$350 if issued after June 1 and an increase to a \$1,000 cap for families greater than three after June 1, and a \$50 rental fee for musical instruments.

Upon a motion duly made by Barb Fletcher, seconded by Ellen Grieco, the School Committee voted (3-2) (Barb and Ellen opposed) to increase the tuition associated with The Children's Way by 5%, assuming that

MINUTES – WAYLAND SCHOOL COMMITTEE
Budget Hearing/Regular Meeting – March 9, 2015

the statutory reference of 71:71E is appropriate and legal for the revolving account associated with The Children's Way.

A discussion resumed regarding the statutory reference and how the amount of the fee is tied to the statute at this point in time. The Committee moved forward with the motion, as it is necessary that the families be notified of a tuition increase now. However, further discussion necessitated the following motion.

Upon a motion duly made by Donna Bouchard, seconded by Malcolm Astley, the School Committee voted unanimously (5-0) to rescind the prior vote.

Upon a motion duly made by Barb Fletcher, seconded by Ellen Grieco, the School Committee voted (4-1) (Donna abstained) to approve the increase for the tuition for The Children's Way by 5% for FY16.

(g) Review and Approval of the Proposal for the SPED Review:

Marlene provided the School Committee with two SPED Reports completed by Dorsey Yearley in other towns in which the focus was on particular programs and slightly different from what Wayland is seeking. Marlene is confident that Dorsey Yearley can provide Wayland with the information being requested and noted that Dorsey Yearley has worked in SPED and has the perspective in terms of collaborative programs. The Committee will discuss again on March 23rd.

8. **Administrative/Procedural Matters** (continued):

(a) Continued Discussion of Superintendent's Evaluation, including Process for Providing Feedback to Superintendent on Self-Evaluation and Composition of Superintendent Evaluation Subcommittee, including Possible Appointment of New Member:

Ellen commented that the Superintendent Evaluation Subcommittee recommends that the School Committee provide feedback to Paul, based on his mid-year self-evaluation, by discussing one goal at each meeting going forward and beginning on March 23rd. Malcolm commented that this course of action will make the evaluation process more manageable for the School Committee. However, the effectiveness of this process is yet to be determined.

Paul commented that the most valuable part of the evaluation process is to develop the goals and plan for the year and feels that what Ellen and Malcolm are recommending is also valuable despite the time involved. A discussion ensued regarding this process and using it as a pilot for this year.

As Malcolm will be stepping down from the School Committee, Ellen thanked Malcolm for his service and the work he has done regarding the Superintendent's evaluation. Ellen nominated Jeanne to replace Malcolm on the Superintendent Evaluation Subcommittee after Town Meeting.

Upon a motion duly made by Barb Fletcher, seconded by Ellen Grieco, the School Committee voted unanimously (5-0) to appoint Jeanne Downs to the Superintendent Evaluation Subcommittee following Town Meeting.

(b) Discussion of a Revised School Committee Charge to Form a Joint Committee on Concussions:

Malcolm commented that he met with the Board of Health recently. They don't have a plan yet, but are moving in that direction. He noted that Cynthia Hill will draft a plan to form a task force with the School Committee and other named parties. Although Malcolm will not be a School Committee member, he could continue to work in this regard.

(c) Discussion and Possible Vote of Town Warrant Article relating to Minuteman Regional Vocational Technical High School:

Jeanne commented that Minuteman did receive a copy of Warrant Article 17 by the Selectmen proposing a withdrawal from the Minuteman Regional Vocational Technical High School. Although presented at Town Meeting last year, it became a resolution; thus, it is being brought back to Town Meeting this year.

MINUTES – WAYLAND SCHOOL COMMITTEE
Budget Hearing/Regular Meeting – March 9, 2015

The Selectmen are asking School Committee for its support. Based on research done by Jeanne and Paul, she noted that it would not be economical for Wayland to stay in the Minuteman community, since there will be a large capital assessment for the new school that is being built. The Committee discussed the economic analysis of attending another vocational school or several schools, as well as transportation costs and whether Wayland students are guaranteed enrollment as a non-member district.

Paul stressed that this decision to withdraw is not a reflection of Minuteman, as they do have excellent, high-quality programs and they will only improve with a new school. He confirmed that this is an economical decision only, and his recommendation is done so with regret. Based on the current agreement, all other member towns must approve Wayland's withdrawal. If not approved, Wayland students cannot attend Assabet unless they offer something that Minuteman doesn't offer in terms of classes.

Malcolm commented on his concerns in this regard and that a vocational education for some students can be valuable, even though Wayland's numbers are declining in attendance. The sense of the Committee is to withdraw from Minuteman.

(d) Discussion of Suburban Coalition Meeting Scheduled for March 12, 2015, including Appointment of Representatives to Attend on the Committee's Behalf:

This agenda was passed over, as it was discussed earlier in the meeting.

(e) Discussion of Meeting Schedule and Future Agenda Items:

- School/Calendar Times
- Coordination with Recreation and DPW; Field Maintenance
- 9C Cuts/METCO
- Electronic Availability of Public School Documents
- Schedule for Student Report
- Summit Information

Added:

- Input for System Goals and Paul's Goals for Next Year
- Custodial Negotiations
- Other

The School Committee reviewed the list of future agenda topics. A discussion ensued. Barb will follow up with Leisha regarding the posting of HSBC documents on the web. Donna noted that she discovered a law that requires the Committee to meet with a student advisory body every other month for student reporting. Student reporting, 9C cuts, and custodial negotiations will be discussed on March 23rd. The Committee discussed the schedule for receiving Summit reports.

7. **Consent Agenda:**

(a) Approval of Accounts Payables & Payroll Warrants:

- Wayland Public Schools Accounts Payables Warrant, dated March 9, 2015 in the amount of \$408,168.27
- Wayland Public Schools Accounts Payables Student Activities Warrant, dated March 9, 2015, in the amount of \$13,845.75
- Wayland Public Schools Payroll Warrant, dated March 4, 2015, in the amount of \$1,234,016.93

(b) Approval of Minutes:

- Regular Session of December 11, 2014
- Regular Session of December 15, 2014
- Regular Session of December 29, 2014
- Regular Session of January 5, 2015

MINUTES – WAYLAND SCHOOL COMMITTEE
 Budget Hearing/Regular Meeting – March 9, 2015

(d) Acceptance of Gifts:

- Donation to Wayland High School Drama from the Lauren Dunne Astley Memorial Fund in the amount of \$1,000
- Donation to the Happy Hollow Gift Account from the “Target Take Charge of Education” in the amount of \$281.10

Upon a motion duly made by Barb Fletcher, seconded by Ellen Grieco, the School Committee voted unanimously (5-0) to approve the Consent Agenda, including the December 11, 2014 and December 15, 2014 Regular Session Minutes as written, the December 29, 2014 Regular Session Minutes, as amended, and excluding the January 5, 2015 Regular Session Minutes.

8. **Comments from the Public:**

Tom Sciacca commented that previous School Committees have discussed the issue of advertising in the past and rejected it. He believes that advertising is a promotion of consumerism, which underlies some of the most serious environmental issues. Tom expressed his sadness that Malcolm is not running for re-election as, in Tom’s opinion, he brings a perspective of age and wisdom to the Committee and encouraged the Committee to carry on the issues that Malcolm has raised. Finally, Tom mentioned the issue of field maintenance related to the turf field. When the field was approved, there was a legal agreement providing a stipulation of maintenance, which included the fact that the field could not be snow plowed for the purpose of game playing for several environmental reasons. Tom asked the Committee to maintain the field in accordance with the law.

9. **Executive Session:**

Upon a motion duly made by Ellen Grieco, seconded by Jeanne Downs, the School Committee voted unanimously (5-0) to enter Executive Session at 11:27 p.m. for the purpose of reviewing Executive Session minutes of July 30, 2014 to amend and confirm declassification related to George Harris’s Open Meeting Law Complaint filed on December 16, 2014, as permitted by M.G.L. c. 30A, §22, potentially discussing strategy related to George Harris’s Open Meeting Law Complaint filed on December 16, 2014 related to providing insufficient detail for July 30, 2014 executive session minutes and not stating a purpose for entering executive session on August 28, 2014, as permitted by M.G.L. c. 30A, §21(a)(1), discussing strategy related to George Harris’s Open Meeting Law Complaints filed by George Harris on September 15, 2014 and by Richard Lodge on November 14, 2014 related to prior executive session minutes as listed on the meeting notice, as permitted by M.G.L. c. 30A, §21(a)(1), including the potential vote to provide a limited waiver of attorney client privilege, discussing the investigation of criminal misconduct, as permitted by M.G.L. c. 30A, §21(a)(5), and approving minutes from prior Executive Sessions, as permitted by M.G.L. c. 30A, §22 for the following meeting: February 23, 2015. A roll call vote was taken as follows:

<u>Roll Call</u>	<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>
Ellen Grieco, Chair	X	
Barb Fletcher, Vice Chair	X	
Malcolm Astley	X	
Donna Bouchard	X	
Jeanne Downs	X	

The School Committee will be joined by Paul Stein, Superintendent, and Diane Marobella, recording secretary.

The School Committee will reconvene in open session to conduct regular matters as noted on the meeting notice.

10. **Regular Matters (continued):**

(a) Possible Vote to Declassify the Executive Session Minutes of July 30, 2014 related to George Harris’s Open Meeting Law Complaint of December 16, 2014:

This agenda item was passed over, as the Committee has not completed its business related to this topic.

MINUTES – WAYLAND SCHOOL COMMITTEE
Budget Hearing/Regular Meeting – March 9, 2015

11. **Adjournment:**

Upon a motion duly made by Barb Fletcher, seconded by Donna Bouchard, the School Committee voted unanimously (5-0) to adjourn the Regular Session at 11:51 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Paul Stein, Clerk
Wayland School Committee

Observers:

See attached list.

Corresponding Documentation:

1. Agenda & Backup Information
2. Budget Hearing Presentation
3. Article 14 re: the Solar Project
4. Peregrine Energy Group's Third Party Assessment of the Proposed Energy Projects
5. Chart re: How Net Metering Works (solar)
6. Draft Charge re: a 0.4 District-wide Health and Wellness Coordinator
7. FY15 Schedules of Appropriation by Dept., Org, Category, Object
8. FY16 Budget Booklet
9. FY15 Capital Account Status
10. Proposal re: Food Service Assessment
11. Past and Projected Cost Allocations for The Children's Way
12. Tuition Cost Comparisons
13. School Revolving Fund Statutes and Fees
14. Memo re: Claypit Hill Windows Project Approvals
15. Revised Draft of School Committee Concussions Charge
16. Minuteman Warrant Article 17
17. Accounts Payables and Payroll Warrants
18. Regular Minutes of January 5, 2015
19. Regular Minutes of December 11, 2014
20. Regular Minutes of December 15, 2014
21. Regular Minutes of December 29, 2014
22. Memo re: Happy Hollow Donation
23. Memo re: WHS Donation