

MASCONOMET REGIONAL SCHOOL COMMITTEE
School Committee FY17 Budget Deliberation Meeting
March 2, 2016

MEMBERS PRESENT: J. Spencer, Chair, Topsfield D. Volchok, Vice-Chair, Boxford
C. Miller, Boxford M. Cocciardi, Middleton
L. Richards, Middleton K. Sherwood, Topsfield
K. Prentakis, Middleton B. Messenger, Boxford
T. Buono, Middleton P. Fitzsimmons, Boxford
W. Hodges, Topsfield

MEMBERS ABSENT:

OTHERS PRESENT: K. Lyons, Superintendent S. Givens, CFO
L. Hodgdon, HS Principal D. Flaherty, MS Principal
J. Ricklefs, Boxford Fin. Com. Others

A. Regular Meeting - Call To Order – Vice-Chair D. Volchok called the School Committee FY17 Budget Deliberation meeting to order at 6:03 p.m. on Wednesday, March 2, 2016 in the Ralph Osgood Presentation Room. The meeting is video and audio taped.

B. School Committee Workshop Item: Vision 2025 Conversation - J. Spencer facilitated a discussion with the School Committee regarding their 2025 vision for the District.

C. FY17 Budget Deliberation – D. Volchok introduced the subject items for tonight’s deliberation as follows:

1. Review of revolving accounts; 1. Discussion of shifting expenditures from revolving accounts to the operating budget and an equal change in the fund transfer; 3. Review of international student income and discussion of how much should be allocated to the operating budget; and 4. Review of items/projects not in FY17 budget that may be included.

A comprehensive review of all the revolving accounts was given. Discussion was held regarding circuit breaker and it was determined that Masco was in a good position because it dealt with actual rather than predictions as is done in almost all other districts. Discussion was held regarding athletics participation, changes to the fees charged to sports, declining enrollment resulting in declining athletics participation and that fee increases reflect need to continue operation of all sports. The foreign student revolving fund was debated as to whether it should maintain the current balance. A vote may be taken later in the meeting or a direction given to the administration to develop a motion for the next meeting. Discussion was held regarding which revolving funds would be candidates for transferring funds to the Operation Budget. In response to B. Messenger’s question regarding Youth Orchestra and Legion Baseball, P. Fitzsimons stated that everyone using the facilities would be charged in the new plan. S. Givens will develop a recommendation for some transfers as discussed and to close out inactive funds. Discussion was held regarding adding substitute management software at an approximate cost of \$6000 annually, plus start up costs of \$2000. S. Givens indicated that she would develop a motion to fund this item without increasing the assessment to the Towns by using savings in insurance costs or closing a revolving fund with an off-setting balance to E & D.

An update on putting the replacement of the phone system on the Towns’ warrant articles was given and that Middleton looked encouraging. P. Fitzsimmons will attend the Boxford meeting next week regarding the warrant article. D. Volchok read a sample of what the warrant article would look like. A motion was made by J. Spencer.

MOTION: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds the sum of \$200,000 to pay for the Town’s percentage (XX%) of the \$200,000 total cost of a fully integrated telecommunication system at Masconomet Regional School District to replace the existing multifaceted telecommunication systems that were installed during the 2000/2001 building project, said funds to be expended under the direction of the Masconomet Regional School Committee.

VOTE: Motion passed unanimously.

L. Old/New Business – S. Givens requested approval of three grants to fund the Romeo and Juliet performances at Masco. A motion was made by M. Cocciardi.

MOTION: To accept the Boxford Cultural Council grant in the amount of \$623, the Middleton Cultural Council grant in the amount of \$387 and the Topsfield Cultural Council grant in the amount of \$400 to fund the performance of “Romeo and Juliet” for the drama club and the freshman class on April 5, 2016.

VOTE: Motion passed unanimously.

M. Adjournment – A motion was made by P. Fitzsimmons.

MOTION: To adjourn.

VOTE: Motion passed at 9:20 p.m.

Submitted by: _____
Olga Langlois, Secretary

Approved: _____
Date

Per the New Open Meeting Law, the list of the documents that were either distributed to the Masconomet Regional School Committee before the meeting in a packet, or at the meeting:

1. Agenda