

Appleton Budget Committee 2021

March 29, 2021 AVS budget presentation. Meeting called to order by Bob Bocko at 6:02

Committee Members present:

Bob Bocko

Fred Bucklin

Ed Carroll

Rebecca Diaz

Bill Fiegener

Jane Jordan

Mary Kate Moody

Gary Sukeforth

Missing: Walter Esancy

Select board members present:

Peter Becket

Lori Costigan

John Fenner

Charlie Garrigan

School Committee Members:

Lisa Darling

Beth Grierson

Carly Kincaid

Jessica Pearson

Stephen Wadsworth

Principal Susan Stilwell

Kate Clark Superintendent Union 69

Teacher Josh Mitchell/PE

No Community members present

Meeting minutes from March 15th (sic – should read 18th) read and approved as written.

Bob Bocko Yes

Fred Bucklin Abstained

Ed Carroll Yes

Rebecca Diaz Yes

Bill Fiegener Yes

Jane Jordan Yes

Mary Kate Moody Yes

Gary Sukeforth Yes

Missing: Walter Esancy

Time for public comment offered, no takers

Reviewed with updated draft of budget provided by Susan Stilwell.

Health insurance numbers are down to 5% increase of premium.

Salary numbers have changed.

Contingency removed from Reg Instruction.

Included a One Time Covid-19 fund Balance to offset State subsidy. Last year was \$50,000. No recommendation to put funds in the Capital Reserve Account. Why \$50,005 in line 11 year 19-20? Was a special ed account fund.

3.71% increase equals \$107,441

Cost Centers explained

Regular Instruction

Line 25 Salary, 14 teachers. Comment made on an 8% increase in this line being difficult for residents.

Line 26 Retirement payout

Line 33 reduced for health insurance. Why does it show a 10.76% increase? The premium is only increased 5%. The number is the change in elected plans.

Line 82 removed

All G & T cost appear in subsidy.

Reduction of \$ 4,362 from last version. Was \$1,264,931

Special Education

Line 92 & 93 Health Insurance

Line 89 is the Ed Techs equals 5 staff members.

Line 87 2 for special education instruction.

Other Instruction

No changes

Athletic Stipends, are we participating with other schools? No, clinics for AVS students. Pay was pro-rated.

Student & Staff Support

Line 162 & 174 & 185 & 188 & 216 Health insurance adjustments

Line 194 doubled why? Lease program with the State. Is it annual? Yes. Could we keep them with the grade level and not pass them down a grade level? We need devices that meet the criteria for testing at certain grade levels.

System Admin

No changes

School Admin

Line 254 health insurance down.

Transportation

Extended the bus contract.

272 is a three-year contract and school elected to extended it for a one-year option.

Line 273 fuel/diesel has increased since January almost a \$1, is this a safe number? It changes historically. In 13-14 we went over. Fuel prices are comparable to 2019.

Line 274 is this contracted since there are no changes. Special Education director negotiates this with 2 separate drivers. Why this much for two students? It used to cost us \$200/day. Some of it is reimbursable since this is Special Education.

Facilities Maintenance

Reduced due to health insurance and no Capital Improvements.

Line 304 Does it need to be there? Removed contingency in Reg Inst, prudent to leave this line. Why if you can move funds across cost centers? Every cost center is tight, this is the most likely area to have an issue. What about the Facilities Reserve Account? Only for emergency use.

Line 302 is a locked in price with Maritime Energy.

Line 302 why is this down and generator fuel is up? Based on bids and the generator is new to the school/town.

Misc. funds are here but we do not have actual expenditures before we vote on next years projections. Where can we see the sum of Pandemic relief and how it is applied? Covid Funds could not be used to off-set current budget. Examples include kitchen equipment and generator, things that are long term benefits. A sizeable carry over is being applied to the next budget. Covid Funds, use it or lose it? Yes. Did the school committee approve each purchase? Both admin and committee. State has the final say on these expenditures. Why do we not see actual expenditures? Audit not complete. Audit has a year lag. Can the school track? Yes, monthly financials are available to the public. Could be on the district website? Public information. Could be provided to the budget committee next year prior to committee making recommendations.

Debt Service

No change

Other Expenditures

Line 306 is just plugged in, so it does not get lost.

Motion made to ask the School to provide year-to-date expenditures, and audited or unaudited prior year expenditures, prior to next year's budget committee meeting. 2nd

Bob Bocko Yes

Fred Bucklin Yes

Ed Carroll Yes

Rebecca Diaz Yes

Bill Fiegenger Yes

Jane Jordan Yes

Mary Kate Moody Yes

Gary Sukeforth Yes

All in favor

Regular Instruction Motion \$ 1,260,569 minus \$25,000 (line 25) leaving more than 4% increase. 2nd

(\$1,235,569 is the proposed amount.) Budget committee can recommend a cost center not specific line item.

Discussion why 25,000? Line 25 is the salary raise of just over 4%. How would this impact scale increase? Would be helpful if the B/C was involved earlier in the process. B/C needs to be realistic about applying the recommendation to the school committee.

Bob Bocko No

Fred Bucklin No

Ed Carroll No

Rebecca Diaz No

Bill Fiegenger Yes

Jane Jordan No

Mary Kate Moody Yes

Gary Sukeforth Yes

failed 3-5

New Motion: Regular Instruction Motion \$ 1,260,569 2nd

Bob Bocko Yes

Fred Bucklin Yes

Ed Carroll Yes

Rebecca Diaz Yes

Bill Fiegenger No

Jane Jordan Yes

Mary Kate Moody No

Gary Sukeforth No

passed 5-3

Special Education Motion \$ 648,093 2nd

Bob Bocko Yes

Fred Bucklin Yes

Ed Carroll Yes

Rebecca Diaz Yes

Bill Fiegener Yes

Jane Jordan Yes

Mary Kate Moody Yes

Gary Sukeforth Yes

All in favor

Other Instruction Motion \$36,283 2nd

Bob Bocko Yes

Fred Bucklin Yes

Ed Carroll Yes

Rebecca Diaz Yes

Bill Fiegener Yes

Jane Jordan Yes

Mary Kate Moody Yes

Gary Sukeforth Yes

All in favor

Student & Staff Support Motion \$ 294,895 2nd

Bob Bocko Yes

Fred Bucklin Yes

Ed Carroll Yes

Rebecca Diaz Yes

Bill Fiegener Yes

Jane Jordan Yes

Mary Kate Moody Yes

Gary Sukeforth Yes

All in favor

System Admin Motion \$ 102,135 2nd

Bob Bocko Yes

Fred Bucklin Yes

Ed Carroll Yes

Rebecca Diaz Yes

Bill Fiegener Yes

Jane Jordan Yes

Mary Kate Moody Yes

Gary Sukeforth Yes

All in favor

School Admin Motion \$ 194,521 2nd

Bob Bocko Yes

Fred Bucklin Yes

Ed Carroll Yes

Rebecca Diaz Yes

Bill Fiegener Yes

Jane Jordan Yes

Mary Kate Moody Yes

Gary Sukeforth Yes

All in favor

Transportation Motion \$ 124,234 2nd

Bob Bocko Yes

Fred Bucklin Yes

Ed Carroll Yes

Rebecca Diaz No

Bill Fiegener Yes

Jane Jordan Yes

Mary Kate Moody Yes

Gary Sukeforth Yes

passed 7-1

Facilities Maintenance Motion \$ 250,322 2nd

Discussion this includes the \$5,000 misc line item.

Bob Bocko Yes

Fred Bucklin Yes

Ed Carroll Yes

Rebecca Diaz No

Bill Fiegenger No

Jane Jordan No

Mary Kate Moody No

Gary Sukeforth No

failed 3-5

New Motion: \$245,322 2nd

Discussion is this for the line item Misc? Yes, since they can shift funds. In a normal year is this the most likely to cost overrun. The likelihood is there if we have an emergency, unpredictable. Capital Reserve needs a school committee vote.

Bob Bocko Yes

Fred Bucklin Yes

Ed Carroll Yes

Rebecca Diaz Yes

Bill Fiegenger Yes

Jane Jordan Yes

Mary Kate Moody Yes

Gary Sukeforth Yes

All in favor

Debt Service Motion \$ 56,264 2nd

Bob Bocko Yes

Fred Bucklin Yes

Ed Carroll Yes

Rebecca Diaz Yes

Bill Fiegenger Yes

Jane Jordan Yes

Mary Kate Moody Yes

Gary Sukeforth Yes

All in favor

Other Expenditures Motion \$ 35,559

Bob Bocko Yes

Fred Bucklin Yes

Ed Carroll Yes

Rebecca Diaz Yes

Bill Fiegenger Yes

Jane Jordan Yes

Mary Kate Moody Yes

Gary Sukeforth Yes

All in favor

Total: 2,997,875 motion 2nd

Bob Bocko Yes

Fred Bucklin Yes

Ed Carroll Yes

Rebecca Diaz Yes

Bill Fiegener Yes

Jane Jordan Yes

Mary Kate Moody No

Gary Sukeforth No

passed 6-2

Does the school committee need anything? No

Another B/C meeting? Not needed if all members approve the minutes in an email tomorrow.

If the auditors have more information soon the B/C may meet again to review.

Motion to adjourn at 8:30 unanimous

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Kate Moody