

LEBANON BUDGET COMMITTEE MEETING

6PM

LEBANON TOWN OFFICE

02/03/2009

Members Present: Tony Bragg, Christine Torno, Chris Gilpatrick, Jane Gerrish, Karen Gerrish, Paul Nadeau, Nancy Neubert, Ethel Lizotte, Lorraine Patch, Mandy Mullen, and Milt Olson.

Selectmen: Judy Churchard, Robert Frizzell, and Jason Cole.

Lebanon School Board Members: Joanne Potter, Karen Knight, and Karen Atherton.

SAD 60 Superintendent: Paul Andrade

Meeting called to order by Chairperson Nancy Neubert @ 6pm. Motion by Christine Torno to accept minutes as read of 01/09/2009 meeting seconded by Ethel Lizotte and all were in favor.

Nancy welcomed the Superintendent and the Lebanon School Board members to our meeting.

Paul stated that the economy isn't good at the State or Federal level. The state has cut 27 million dollars in Education, SAD 60 needs to cut \$379,224 this year. He has frozen all non-essential spending. He is asking all staff to consider furlough days but it has to be negotiated with the union.

If the stimulus package passes there is a lot of Education money to aide states. Money should reach states by March. We will all stay tuned for updates.

Are we considering a 4 day week to help conserve on utilities, busses, and food service? The legislature would have to change law to hours instead of days. Contracts with teachers specify so many days.

The price for oil & fuel is locked in for next year at \$2.00 a gallon. That should save between \$150,000 and \$200,000. They use 130,000 gallons of #2 oil, and 100,000 gallons of diesel for the busses.

It was asked about the Lebanon Schools being so cold. The temp is set at 68. The heat is not controlled at the central office it is controlled at the school. He would like to update the heating system at the Hanson School.

There were many questions about different items in budget:

Mortgage on bus garage: \$430,000 to pay off, we have a 44 bus fleet.

Food Service: cost of food \$600,000

Under Facilities & Maintenance what is contracted services: services they can't do themselves. Site work, is repair of the buildings.

Who takes care of grounds maintenance; the district does it themselves. There were many issues about the fields at Noble High School and the condition of them. They are a disgrace and something needs to be done. Paul will look into this.

Payroll; why aren't we doing it ourselves? They pay \$38,200 to a payroll company.

Legal: Lawyer does warrant for elections and other legal issues that might come up.

Central Office staff is pretty lean according to School Board members.

Athletic Director is part-time , there is a question whether that is a good idea for our athletes, since most of our sports teams are not very successful, what kind of message are we sending to our athletes about sports. Are they at the bottom of the list?

Teachers Raises are in the contracts, they received a 3% raise last year, and they will be negotiating a new one this year.

Special Education is very expensive.

Why did School Board give a raise to Superintendent, Assistant Superintendent, and Business Manager? They felt that they deserved it and they do a great job, and they didn't want to lose them.

Paul expressed that he knows budgets need to be tightened and that they hear us.

He also stated that he will come back and meet with us again to bring us up to date on what's going on with the budgets.

He invited us to attend the School Board meeting on Feb. 26th at the Lebanon Elem. School.

Paul passed out an updated Valuation of the three towns and student count. (see attached).

Laura will try to get budgets to all members before next Thursday to look over.

Meeting adjourned @ 7:15pm motion by Jane Gerrish seconded by Christine Torno.

Respectfully submitted

Laura Bragg
Recording Secretary