

Budget Committee February 5, 2013 Approved Minutes

BUDGET COMMITTEE
FEBRUARY 5, 2013
TOWN COUNCIL CHAMBERS

MEMBERS PRESENT: Chairman Brian Hart, Vice Chairman Ellen Snyder, Rose-Anne Kwaks, Amy Thompson, Jack Fitzgibbon, Drew Kiefaber, Russ Simon, Judy Ryan, Town Council Representative Gary Levy

EXCUSED: Dana Glennon, School Board Representative Linda Mantegani

Chairman Hart called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m., followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Vice Chairman Snyder moved to approve the minutes of the January 22, 2013 meeting as written. Mr. Kiefaber seconded. Motion carried unanimously, 9 – 0.

Mr. Simon moved to recommend the school operating budget of \$15,623,567 as amended by the deliberative session. Town Council Representative Levy seconded.

Discussion: The Budget Committee by a vote of 7 – 3 had reduced the school operating budget by \$70,000 at its January 22, 2013 meeting, and recommended an operating budget of \$15,553,567. A motion to add \$70,000 to the budget passed at the February 2, 2013 deliberative session. Chairman Hart said the Committee could not change the figure, only vote to recommend or not recommend. Ms. Thompson asked if a negative vote on Mr. Simon's motion would mean a favorable vote for the default budget. As there are only 2 budget choices, this could happen. Town Council Representative Levy asked if there was a way to indicate non-support of the higher figure and also non-support of the default budget. Even if the Committee voted to support their original motion of January 22nd, it would not change the amount in the Warrant Article. Chairman Hart suggested that those not supporting Mr. Simon's motion could abstain from the vote, citing their reasons.

Vote: Motion carried 7 – 0 – 2, with Chairman Hart, Vice Chairman Snyder, Ms. Kwaks, Mr. Fitzgibbon, Mr. Kiefaber, Mr. Simon, and Ms. Ryan in favor. Ms. Thompson and Town Council Representative Levy abstained to register their support of the Budget Committee's recommendation for a school operating budget of \$15,553,567.

Committee members thanked Chairman Hart for his service to the town.

Mr. Kiefaber moved to adjourn. Ms. Thompson seconded. Motion carried unanimously, 9 – 0, and the meeting adjourned at 7:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Ellen Adlington, Recording Secretary