

*Unapproved Draft Minutes
Subject to review and revision, pending final approval.
at the next regularly scheduled meeting of the Municipal Budget Committee*

**Municipal Budget Committee
Minutes of the Public Meeting
Kearsarge Regional School District
10/10/2023**

I. Call to Order	Call to order @ 6:30 by Richard Anderson
II. Roll Call	<p>Present: Richard Anderson – New London Robert Hemenway – Newbury James Bibbo – Bradford Michelle Kendrick – Warner Luke Gorman – Springfield Robert DeFelice – Sutton Patrick McGowan – Warner Winfried Feneberg – Superintendent Michael Bessette – Assistant Superintendent Larry LeBoeuf – Business Administrator Kristen Schultz – School Board Representative</p> <p>Absent: Tom Schamberg- Wilmot Lyndsay Lund Harkins – New London</p>
III. Approval of Minutes	
V. Public Comment	Karen Epstein, a resident of New London was in attendance, to get a sense of what is going on in the school district. She is appreciative of all the challenging work put into the budget.
IV. New Business	<p><u>School Board Overview:</u> Supt. Feneberg presented an overview of the joint School Board and MBC Board meetings in September. It has been a priority of the district to keep the budget at a minimum increase. Citing multiple roadblocks such as inflation and cost of living increases. The district is on a third draft of the budget, adjusting as suggested and needed. Both boards received individual budget books that lay out the school budget detailing line items. The district still has multiple paraprofessional openings. All NH school districts are facing the same pay scale, housing, and budget hurdles.</p> <p><u>Executive Summary/ Goals Discussion:</u> The Superintendent summary and overview document can be found in the front of the budget book. Supt. Feneberg spoke to this overview including the following proposal.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Facilities assessment per building from the ground up, this fall and into the spring. This is to enable the district to have solid information going into next year's budget planning for potential needs. Prioritizing projects based on needs.• The Facilities committee will organize the facilities assessment. Envisioning a building assessment subcommittee specifically for this project. More details to come.

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	<p><u>Budget Data Structure and Charts:</u> Version 3 of the 24/25 school year with specific line items details.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• First version the budget was up 6.99 % increase from prior year.• Second version the budget was up 6.91% showing reduction in operating budget and wages and fringes. The School Board asked the Administration to take another look.• Third version the budget was up 5.91% showing reduction in operating budget and wages and fringe – SB approved this budget on 10/5/2023.• The proposed overall budget in 2023-2024 to 2024-2025 is a 5.78 % increase from the prior year.• There was discussion of the overall reductions presented in Version 3 with the MBC board in detail, with specific adjustments to positions and maintenance projects across the district.• The district will again need to wait for health insurance rates. These rates should be out next month.• It is hard to predict the burden of individual taxpayers.• MBC members were overall satisfied with the items laid out in detail in version 3 of the 24-25 school budget. Appreciating the diligence of administration coming together to make changes.• Mr. Anderson suggested inviting Facilities Director, Brett Pare, to the next meeting for more details about the future district projects. <p><u>Other business as required:</u></p> <p><i>Mr. Anderson made a motion to forgo October 24, 2023, and move the proposed agenda for that meeting to November 14, 2023. Mr. Gorman seconded. 7/0/0 motion carried.</i></p>
V. Adjourn	<p><i>Michelle Kendrick made the motion to adjourn the meeting. Mr. DeFelice seconded. 7/0/0 motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 8:20.</i></p>

Respectfully submitted,

Carolyn Kershaw