

NORTH READING PUBLIC SCHOOLS
North Reading, Massachusetts

Regular Meeting of the School Committee

Open Session – Budget Workshop

Date: May 5, 2015

Time: 5:00 PM

Place: Superintendent's Conference Room

School Committee Members Present

Gerald Venezia

Mel Webster

Janine Imbriano

Clifford Bowers (left at 6:00 p.m.)

Staff Members Present

Jon Bernard – Superintendent of Schools

Michael Connelly – Director of Finance and Operations

Visitors: Mr. Robert Mauceri (Chair, Board of Selectmen), Ms. Deanna Castro, Ms. Marci Bailey, Mr. Dan Tomasello (of the North Reading Transcript)

I. Call to Order:

Chairman Venezia called the meeting to order at 5:02 PM.

II. Continued Business:

A. FY16 Budget Workshop:

The Superintendent reviewed the latest revenue available for the Fiscal Year 2016 budget. This represents a current unidentified reduction amount of \$309,695. The Superintendent also reviewed the list of the "Administration's Recommended Reduction List to Balance the FY16 Budget." Also reviewed was the list of "Priorities for Restoration if Additional Funds are Identified."

Mr. Connelly provided additional detail with respect to the above information.

Mr. Webster expressed his opinion that the School Committee move forward with an unidentified reduction amount of \$309,695 and that this be accounted for in the Town Meeting Warrant.

Mr. Mauceri informed the School Committee that the "Town/School Shared Facility Position" has been fully funded by the Town through its budget and therefore cannot be identified as a recommended reduction to the school department's budget.

Mr. Bowers expressed his belief that the Town should be aware of the limited funds.

Mr. Venezia presented his belief that there are 3 options to consider:

- 1) Adopt an unidentified reduction of \$309,695
- 2) Adopt an adjusted unidentified reduction of \$277,695
- 3) Adopt the “Administration’s Recommended Reduction List of Balance the FY16 Budget.”

The Committee voted on a motion by Ms. Imbriano and seconded by Mr. Bowers to adopt a Fiscal Year 2016 Modified Level Services budget of \$27,495,074 to include unassigned reductions in the amount of \$277,695 to achieve a balanced budget. The motion passed 3-1 (Mr. Webster voted no).

III. Executive Session

At 5:58 p.m. the Committee voted on a motion by Ms. Imbriano and seconded by Mr. Bowers pursuant to Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 30A, Section 21, to go into Executive Session for the purpose of ongoing discussion related to collective bargaining and to return to Open Session to adjourn. Motion passed 4-0 on a roll call vote.

At 6:20 p.m. the Committee voted on a motion by Mr. Webster and seconded by Mr. Venezia to adjourn. Motion passed 3-0.