

FINANCE COMMITTEE MINUTES

Executive Session

December 10, 2013

The Finance Committee entered Executive Session from open meeting session at 8:12PM for the purpose of discussing budget recommendations as they may affect / apply to collective bargaining strategy. The following Finance Committee members were present: Ken Szajda, Michelle Zeamer, Charlie Kaslow, Dan Alfred, Beth Liberty and Bill Dowd. Brendan Shea was absent. School Committee Chairperson Erica Plunkett and Town Administrator Paul LeBeau were also present.

- Dan Alfred expressed his opinion that the committee set a "floor" with a standard percentage increase and expressed concern over how that may affect collective bargaining process.
- Michelle Zeamer commented that a professional negotiator could read the committee's budget spreadsheet and determine the town's capabilities.
- Chairman Szajda raised the question of whether the committee should change position for the sake of collective bargaining strategy.
- Michelle Zeamer commented that the percentage change should be across the board for all departments and also questioned whether the recommendation should consider collective bargaining.
- School Committee Chairperson Erica Plunkett inquired what the committee's intent was.
- Michelle Zeamer asked Erica Plunkett if the committee's approach would impair the school's approach.
- Chairman Szajda asked if a 1.0% or 1.5% recommendation would compromise her position in negotiations. She responded that no it would not.
- Motion by Dan Alfred. Seconded by Michelle Zeamer to close executive session and return to open session.
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- Roll Call Vote:
 - Alfred YES
 - Kaslow YES
 - Szajda YES
 - Zeamer YES
 - Liberty YES
 - Dowd YES

The Committee returned to open session.

Respectfully submitted,

Date Approved: January 28, 2014

Date Approved for Release: March 10, 2015

Charles Kaslow, Clerk