

Town of Holliston Finance Committee

EXECUTIVE SESSION MINUTES

September 5, 2017

The Finance Committee entered Executive Session at 6:37pm following a roll call vote in open session. In attendance: Chairperson Ken Szajda, Vice Chairperson Michelle Zeamer, Clerk Benjamin Sparrell, Vincent Murphy, Dan Alfred, Suzanne Nersessian and Tim Maxwell.

School Committee members Ann Louise Hanstad, Joan Shaughnessy and Cynthia Listewnik attended the Executive Session. Ms. Hanstad reported that the contract with the teachers' union could not be ratified in time to end FY17 with a contract in place. Negotiations were postponed until August, and then rescheduled for late September. She said that things being worked out include: 1) a way to officially rate teachers and how this relates to performance evaluations and 2) the teachers' request for more control of Professional Development. Ms. Hanstad reported that the negotiations had reached an impasse on the teachers' request to recover losses from the 2010 contract which was negotiated following the recession and override. She said that the contract will likely be negotiated in 2-3 months.

Mr. Szajda communicated the opinion of the Finance Committee that any money included in the FY18 school budget in anticipation of a new contract should remain untouched until such time that the contracts are finalized, especially since the negotiations are taking longer than anticipated. The concern of the Finance Committee is that a drawn-out negotiation may not result in a signed contract until late in the fiscal year, possibly even the start of FY19, and there is no money beyond what was already allocated to deal with any retroactive pay agreement. School Committee members, Ms. Hanstad, Ms. Shaughnessy and Ms. Listewnik affirmed that they understood.

Ms. Zeamer made a motion for the Finance Committee to exit from Executive Session, seconded by Mr. Alfred. The Roll Call vote for adjournment was as follows: Mr. Murphy, yes; Mr. Alfred, yes; Ms. Zeamer, yes; Mr. Szajda, yes; Mr. Maxwell, yes; Mr. Sparrell, yes; and Ms. Nersessian, yes. The motion was passed 6-0. The Executive Session was adjourned at 7:04pm.