

**PORTSMOUTH SCHOOL BOARD PUBLIC WORKSHOP SESSION #3 MINUTES FOR  
FEBRUARY 2, 2016**

EILEEN M. FOLEY COUNCIL CHAMBERS, CITY HALL

PORTSMOUTH, NH

DATE: TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 2, 2016

TIME: 6:30 [or thereafter]

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- I. **CALL TO ORDER** - School Board Chair Leslie Stevens called the meeting to order at 6:35 p.m.
- II. **ROLL CALL**- Chair Leslie Stevens, Vice Chair Tom Martin (late), Ann Mayer, Lennie Mullaney, Gary Epler, Roseann Vozella Clark, Nancy Clayburgh, Patrick Ellis, Superintendent Stephen Zdravec, Assistant Superintendent George Shea, Business Administrator Steve Bartlett
- III. **INVOCATION**
- IV. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**- Chair Stevens led the Board in the Pledge.
- V. **PUBLIC COMMENT**- None
- VI. **WORKSHOP SESSION ON FY 2017 BUDGET**
  - i. **STUDENT SERVICES**- Director of Pupil Support & Instruction Jeanette Souther gave a detailed overview of her budget.  
Contracted Services: increase for outside evaluations.  
Peep Personnel: slight increase FTE for 2 Paraeducators at Headstart.  
Elementary: shifting of personnel and salary changes according to experience.  
Middle school: changes in middle school sped teacher line: due to movement of staff. The shift in personnel at middle and high school is a result of trying to maximize reimbursement to increase ability to collect both Cat Aid and Medicaid.  
High school: changes in personnel.  
Speech: no changes except salary changes.  
OT: slight increase in overall FTE.  
ESL: currently not reflecting increase but see this as the greatest area of need. Ms. Souther provided updated ESOL student numbers which reflect a steady increasing need. She would propose adding a teacher and a part time para. Currently, there are 2.6 teachers and the ESL Grant covers a 15 hour para position. Superintendent Zdravec explained there will be a separate memo going to City Council to justify adding a full time ESOL teacher.  
  
Questions/Comments followed: One area of future concern could potentially be an increase in out of district tuition. Currently, we have 10-12 out of district students. Lister Academy is helping offset those costs by servicing some students that otherwise would have been out of district. The current Speech and OT services being provided meet the needs of the IEP. However an additional staff would allow for additional early intervention services.

ii..MAINTENANCE: CIP, ENERGY, UPGRADES- Director of Facilities Ken Linchey gave a detailed overview of his budget.

Athletics: significant increase includes- beginning 2 year process for dugout renovations, irrigation system, and maintenance equipment. Expected life span of the turf field of 12-14 years, on year 5 this fall.

Facilities: Uniforms: no changes. Equipment repairs: up significantly due to last year snow storms. Gas price: decrease.

Dondero: overall decrease of \$2k.

Little Harbour Phase II will begin this summer. There is an overall increase of \$13,500 due to cost associated with HVAC system, equipment repair, monitor old systems, sprinkler.

New Franklin: stays relatively the same, shifted some items around.

Sherburne: left the same. There were mechanical issues this and last year that had to juggle some funding to make repairs.

Middle school: increase \$5k (electrical and mechanical needs).

High school: increase \$11,300 (mechanical and electrical).

Building Supplies/ Maintenance: increase of \$2k.

Training: increase \$1k.

Energy: water & sewer flat lined, \$40k reduction in gas, \$90k reduction in electricity.

Mr. Linchey presented a PowerPoint containing information on:

Sustainability

Little Harbour and New Franklin KWH & Gas Usage trends

PHS & New Franklin Solar

Conceptual photo of the Varsity Baseball Dugout Renovation

CIP projects: district wide roof replacement, auditorium stage lighting upgrade, security system upgrade, digital data control-HVAC upgrades, elementary playground repairs

Currently seeking bids for the PHS athletic field project: field lighting, tennis court replacement

Overview of Summer Projects

**Questions/Comments followed:** The snow removal around the solar panels was explained. The athletic field lights will be an 8 week project and has a deadline of August 15. There is a good city wide team together that we are seeing result of the collaborative work. Composting has been successful and has reduced the amount of waste going to the land fill.

**OTHER:** Superintendent Zadavec- upcoming meetings:

*Regular Business Meeting & First Public Hearing- Tuesday 2/9 at 7:00 p.m. - Council Chambers*

*Budget Workshop Session- Tuesday 2/16 at 6:30 p.m. - Portsmouth Middle School*

Nancy Clayburgh- There was a letter to the editor written by a PHS junior talking about the Heroine Heartache. The student spoke of how important intense education is at the high school level. Ms. Clayburgh would like the Board to think about ways the school department could be proactive and possibly have a positive impact to address this issue. Discussion followed.

**VII. ADJOURNMENT-**

MOTION: Motion to adjourn meeting at 7:52 p.m. by Mr. Martin

SECOND: Ms. Clayburgh

DISCUSSION:

VOTE: Unanimously accepted