

January 8, 2018

The Tri-Board meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Board of Finance Chairman David Shippee.

Also present from the Board of Finance-Neil Cook, Peter Rabbitt, and Neil Delmonico (7:07 p.m.).

Present from the Board of Selectmen-Russell Gray and Lincoln Cooper.

Present from the Board of Education-Leatrice Shippee and Dottie Capobianco.

Also in attendance-Beverly Boyd, Gail Lanza, Deana Chrzan, Joyce Gustavson, Jackie Angelone, Heather Nickerson (7:08 p.m.), and Cherie Monte (7:10 p.m.).

Budget Revenue for FY 17-18:

D. Shippee reported that the Board of Selectmen's revenues are not down that much.

L. Shippee, Board of Education Chairman, reported the revenue cuts from the legislator and the governor total \$255,000. According to State law, the Education budget cannot be cut more than the legislative cut which is \$109,161.

Due to revenue cuts, late buses shall be eliminated; some stipends shall be eliminated; administrative staff and paraprofessionals shall have reduced hours; additional programs will be added to pay to play sports. Additionally, the Board of Education and Administration have approached the teachers' union with a request to consider implementation of furlough days. These cuts could result in a savings of between \$52,000 and \$65,000.

G. Lanza, Acting Superintendent, reported that a spending freeze has been implemented, staffing patterns, and student enrollment shall be reviewed. Other options to handle the revenue cuts were also discussed.

Discussion followed regarding the actual amount that would be needed to maintain current status if the Town were to subsidize the Board of Education's budget. G. Lanza will have this information available for the February 14th Board of Finance meeting.

It was also reported that when residents vote on budgets, they are voting on the amount listed as "To Be Raised by Taxes". R. Gray shall contact legal counsel and set up a meeting including D. Shippee to inquire whether or not the Board of Finance can adjust line items in the budget without going to a Town meeting.

Any Other Issues:

Generator for the School: Renee Theroux-Keech would like to attend the Sterling Energy Committee's next meeting to discuss the generator. J. Gustavson reported that an Energy Committee meeting is scheduled for this Thursday, January 11 at 6:30 p.m. Agendas have been mailed and an email shall be sent as a reminder that we need to have a quorum.

N. Cook made a motion, seconded by R. Gray to adjourn the meeting at 7:22 p.m. All voted in favor of the motion.

Attest: _____
Joyce A. Gustavson, Recording Secretary