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MINUTES BOARD OF SELECTMEN APRIL 17, 2013
7:00 p.m. Sandwich Town Hall, 130 Main Street, Sandwich

JOINT MEETING
BOARD OF SELECTMEN/FINANCE COMMITTEE/SCHOOL COMMITTEE

Mr. Kennan called for a moment of silence for the victims of the Boston Bombing Tragedy.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mr. Kennan opened the meeting.

ANNUAL TOWN MEETING WARRANT DISCUSSION

Paul Sylvia called the meeting on order for the Finance Committee.
Andria Killion called the meeting to order for the School Committee

Mr. Kennan explained the meeting was called in order to discuss information received regarding THE High School A-Wing window replacement and procedurally what needs to be done. The estimate for repairs is $500,000. Mr. Dunham explained that an article was placed on the warrant; however, after Business Manager Austin spoke to MSBA, they said it is premature to ask for the funding and could put the funding in jeopardy. The CIPC has recommended removing the article from the warrant. **Mr. Pierce moved to strike Article 5 from warrants as it exists from this point. Ms. Grundman seconded.** Mr. Pannorfi said this doesn't mean we couldn't use the Stabilization Fund in the future. This will give us a chance to work with the School Committee on different options and better ways of funding. Ms. Austin said it could take up to 18 months to get approval from the MSBA. School Committee members expressed concern about safety issues if work is put off. Mr. Hall said even if funding approved the project due to lead time for bidding etc it would not be done until next spring or summer. If there is no quick answer from MSBA then the three Boards will have to make a decision and possibly ask voters to pay. Mr. Dunham said the Town cannot "piggyback" on the Oakridge/Forestdale borrowing.
Mrs. Gaffney moved the Finance Committee support motion by the Board of Selectmen to remove Article 5 from warrant. Mr. Diedering seconded. Mr. Diedering commented that the Finance Committee was not in support of taking the funding from stabilization all along. Mr. Hickey stated he does not want the School Committee thinking this project is not going to be

done because removing article from warrant – it will be done but has to go thru the correct process. **Unanimous for Finance Committee.**
Ms. Kangas moved to accept motion supported by Board of Selectmen. Ms. Sundermeyer seconded. Unanimous for School Committee.
For Board of Selectmen – Unanimous.

The group next discussed Article 2 the FY14 Budget. Mr. Dunham said that the House Ways and Means budget was received on Friday. The discretionary aide is down 5.68%, tuition assessment up 15.49% leaving a deficit of $143,000.
Mr. Pannorfi moved to accept Town Manager's recommendation to increase tuition assessment by $13,000 to $2,765,390. Mr. Pierce seconded. Mr. Pierce made a friendly amended accepted by Mr. Pannorfi to also reduce the discretionary aide line item. Unanimous.
Ms. Gaffney proposed reducing the town and school budgets proportionately.
Mr. Pierce moved to removal item from capital budget and scratch $500,000 from expenses side and change stabilization as well. Mr. Pannorfi seconded. Unanimous.
Mr. Diedering still feels the tuition assessment number is still $30,000-$60,000 short. Mr. Pierce said because of changes in Chapter 70, we will have to have a Fall Special. Mr. Pierce said he has reviewed the past 11 fiscal year budgets and each of those on average produced a $1.7 million surplus revenue, it doesn't come by and large from operating but $150,000 - $200,000 comes out of operating. He believes Mr. Dunham can find another $50,000 and the school budget there will be surplus. Last year enough to make substantial technology purchases. **Mr. Pierce moved to instruct Bud to find another $50,000 without touching operating budget and further move the school local assessment be reduced by $100,000 to $23,875,018 and at end of May there will be cost to cover that. Ms. Grundman seconded for discussion**. Mr. Dunham said he would probably take the $50,000 from the health insurance line item. He said he changed the numbers and if the motion goes through the school would be at 2.09% and would change deficit to a positive. Mr. Pannorfi said the only vote the Selectmen can take on the school budget is what number appears on the local contribution line. Mr. Vitacco questioned overestimating line items since Mr. Dunham states he can reduce the health insurance line item. Ms. Kangas said that when Dr. Canfield came in in FY12 the budget was frozen and comments made about previous budgets were with previous administrations and that Dr. Canfield's budget is the most transparent they have seen. There is not fat in the budget. Ms. Kangas stated if $100,000 is cut, it will not be in programs or staffing, they have contractual obligations. Ms. Killion noted the 435 increase over course of time unsustainable contracts in place and bound by step interests and federal mandates pay into the budget. Mr. Diedering questioned in light of declining enrollment, why school committee member would propose fees rather than cutting staff to keep students in school. He is of the opinion in a $30 million budget the school can absorb $150,000. After further discussion, **Mr. Pannorfi moved the question. Ms. Grundman seconded to move the question. Mr. Hickey supports that the Finance**

Committee accept and endorse motion by Board of Selectmen. Mr. Diedering does not support as he things they are making with wrong decision and would rather go unified. Mr. Sylvia suggested putting the enrollment discussion on a future agenda. **Unaimous on original motion.**

ADJOURNMENT

8:57 p.m. **Mr. Diedering moved for the Finance Committee to adjourn. Ms. Bliss seconded. Unanimous.**

Ms. Grundman moved for the Selectmen to adjourn. Mr. Pannorfi seconded. Unanimous.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathleen Coggeshall

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Supporting Documents:

1. Monday May 6/Tuesday May 7, 2013 Annual Warrant GHD draft 4.11.13
2. Budget
3. Email from Michelle Austin re; Draft Article 5 – A Wing Project (2 pages)
4. Projected Revenues and Expenses (2 pages)
5. Email from G. Dunham HWM Local Aid Proposals – Update (2 pages)
6. Sending Tuition Assessments State Budget Process History
7. DOR FY2014 Local Aid Assessments
8. FY14 Cherry Sheet Assessments
9. Tuition Assessments and Discretionary and Receipts History