

**Timberlane Regional School District Budget Committee  
Atkinson, Danville, Plaistow, and Sandown**

Regular Meeting  
December 6, 2007  
6:30 p.m.

SAU # 55, 30 Greenough Road  
Plaistow, New Hampshire  
03865

Call to Order:

Chairman Balanoff called the meeting to order at 6:35 p.m.

Roll Call:

Present: Mrs. Zerba, Mrs. Suech, Mrs. O'Neil, Mrs. Quigley, Mr. Balanoff, Mrs. Collie, Mrs. Lambert and Mr. Mascola.

Absent: Mrs. Winn, and Mrs. Hess

Timberlane Administrators Present:

Mr. LaSalle                      Superintendent  
Mr. Stokinger                  Business Administrator

Chairman Balanoff granted Mr. LaSalle's request to be allowed to present the 2008-2009 Budget information first since he would need to leave by 7:30 p.m. to attend the School Board Meeting.

Mr. LaSalle gave an overview of the starting point and where we are now in the proposed budget process. One concern that came up in reviewing the proposed budget was the larger than usual difference between the proposed budget and the default budget. With this in mind Mr. LaSalle proposed additional cuts in draft 4. One major item removed was the \$144,000 originally included in the budget to renovate the MS ASD room and made into a separate warrant article. Other items cut were equipment and facilities projects.

Chairman Balanoff asked if the money for the Middle School SRO was still in the 2008-2009 proposed budget and if it is, he feels very strongly that it be removed and also made into a separate warrant article. A lengthy discussion ensued.

Mr. LaSalle explained that to get the proposed budget down to below a 5% increase over last years budget, that an additional \$100,000 would need to be cut. Chairman Balanoff stated that taking out the SRO would be the first \$54,000 leaving another \$46,000. to cut. Mr. LaSalle stated he would remove \$25,000 from employee benefits and the balance from the Food Service line. He would have draft 5 available with the cuts discussed for the next meeting.

Chairman Balanoff made a motion to remove the \$54,000 Middle School SRO money from the proposed budget in account 2620.330 and put it into a separate warrant article, which would state the money would only be raised and appropriated, if the Town of Plaistow voters also approve the Police Department portion for the Middle School SRO. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Quigley. Vote: Five in favor and Three opposed.

Mr. Jack Sapia the Chairman of the Atkinson Board of Selectmen and Mr. Jim Blackadar the Chairman for the Atkinson Budget Committee arrived. After finishing the 2008-2009 Budget discussion, Chairman Balanoff gave the visitors an opportunity to speak. Mr. Sapia thanked the Budget Committee for letting him take this opportunity to speak and he was there hoping that the meeting which took place in Danville last winter could be repeated again this year, in Atkinson in an effort to educate the voters on the school budget and tax rate process. He was hoping to facilitate more communication between the Town and School District. Mrs. O'Neil stated that the meeting in Danville was organized by the PTA and SAU Administration were one of many groups invited to participate. She stated that the School District Public Hearing is the opportunity people have to ask questions, but no one ever shows up. Mr. Blackadar stated he was hoping to let the Budget Committee members know that he is getting numerous phone calls from Atkinson residents stating that this year has been particularly difficult for some people and to please keep that in mind during this years' budget process. Chairman Balanoff thanked the visitors who left to attend the School Board meeting.

Approval of Minutes:

A motion was made by Mrs. Quigley and seconded by Mrs. O'Neil to approve the minutes of November 20, 2007 with amendments.

Vote: 7 in favor. Abstain: Mrs. Lambert.

Mrs. Quigley made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:50 p.m. It was seconded by Mrs. Suech.

Vote: Unanimous

Respectfully Submitted,

Kathy Smith

Recording Secretary

Approved 1/3/2007