

from Mrs. Gillpatrick asking if she they plan on following the same protocol as last year and she responded yes. They were cleaned up and off the property by 10:40 AM and elections do not start until 11:00 AM.

Mr. Babcock expressed concern that having the race on the same day as elections gives an appearance of impropriety. He continued that a large number of like-minded people, a potential political group, would be showing up en masse. Chair Pennington read the policy on facility use and shared that it is approved by the facilities manager, building principal, and the superintendent; they hold no purview over it. Mr. Babcock and Mrs. Maltz had a conversation with Mrs. Gillpatrick and they said she had concerns about the event. The Superintendent reiterated she spoke with and has an email from her that it is not a problem as long as the protocols from last year were repeated. VSP President Nicole Brown said last year was a great success with over 240 runners and she was not aware of any issues involved. They hold a post-race party and when elections start there is nobody from the race on the grounds. She said they are not a political group and is concerned they are being spoken of as a “like-minded” group; he responded that he is aware of whom they are, and she requested verification on what he meant. Mrs. Maltz said moving forward they should not be scheduled on the same day and her concern is more that it will keep people from coming here if they think there will be an issue with parking. Superintendent Legault said the Jr/Sr HS is used nonstop every day of the week. It is a community building and she does not have complete control over every event that is scheduled. Again, Town Clerk Sue Gillpatrick agreed it is all right to hold the event. An unofficial vote was taken and the Committee, as a whole, supports the race on this day.

- ❖ Public Hearing on the FY20 Proposed School Department Budget, Tuesday, March 5, 2019. The Superintendent shared that they will have the CLEARGOV website at the meeting; the site has had over 2000 views since it was put up on the district website. This site takes government data and data from DESE, and compares towns that are similar in size based on student enrollment. Our 2018 data has just been uploaded and once again we are the lowest in per pupil expenditure. The Budget Subcommittee met and now it will be up to the entire Committee to present and certify the budget at the public hearing. There will be free childcare available. An invitation has been extended to Mr. Sheedy and Mr. Samia for tomorrow morning in the conference room so they can review it together prior to certifying the budget. The invitation was accepted and they said they will do their best to come. The budget will be posted on our website and John’s model will be available for the public. Mr. Shea said he has contacted consultant Mr. Mark Abrams to review his estimate for Chapter 70 funding through FY21. Mr. Rhuda said a 2.75% budget will keep us where we are now and does not allow for any growth and does not represent what we really need. It is a bare bones level serviced amount to try and maintain what we have achieved. If we were to look at cutting anything, said Mrs. Pennington, it would be detrimental to the children in our district.

Mrs. Maltz made a motion for the Committee to vote on the budget presented at the Public Hearing seconded by Mr. Babcock. Vote: 6 in favor

- ❖ Superintendent Legault distributed a packet to the Committee regarding the district wide numbers of teachers, teacher replacement, and reassignment. Additionally included are the list of meetings for the School Committee and the meetings being held by the Board of Selectman.

New Business:

- ❖ John Shea, School Business Administrator discussed the FY19 Revolving Accounts and FY19 Operating Budget. Enclosed are the two monthly worksheets comparing this year’s operating budget to the previous year. We are tracking very closely to last year with a 44% balance remaining; last year we were at 45% on this date. The non-salary number does not include encumbrances. He is confident we are on track to meet our budget again this year. The revolving fund balances are doing well. There is \$631,000 in Circuit

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Breaker of which we will use \$520,000 to prepay tuitions for next year. If we didn't have the capability to do this our tuition budget would be much higher.

- ❖ Discussion on the approval process for one-time spending from revolving accounts. Mrs. Maltz asked for this to be placed on the agenda to create a mode of protection for the staff because in the past they have been raided for inappropriate uses. We oversee all fiscal funding and should have parameters regarding these. She suggested that if a request to purchase something reaches \$5000 it needs to come before the Committee for approval. Mr. Rhuda requested more discussion about the dollar amount and Mr. Shea will review the accounts and report back to the Committee for the second meeting in March.
Motion to table until then: Maltz/McKinnon Vote: 6 in favor

Action Items:

- ❖ Action is required on the School Committee Meeting minutes from the February 14, 2019.
Motion: McKinnon/Tessier Vote: 5 in favor, Maltz abstained not present
- ❖ Action is required, after review, to approve accounts payable warrant 36V dated 2/27/19.
Motion:Maltz/Tessier Vote: 6 in favor
- ❖ Action is required on payroll warrant 35PS dated 2/20/2019.
Motion:Maltz/Tessier Vote: 6 in favor

Mr. Shea told the Committee the busing bid has been released we have heard from 5 companies expressing interest.

A motion to close was made at 8:20 PM: Maltz/McKinnon Vote: 6 in favor

Respectfully Submitted by,

Joanne M. Benner
School Committee Clerk

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