

**TOWN OF RYE – BUDGET COMMITTEE  
MEETING AND PUBLIC HEARING  
RYE SCHOOL DISTRICT  
PROPOSED BUDGET FOR THE SCHOOL YEAR ENDING 2018  
Wednesday, January 11, 2017  
6:30 p.m.  
Rye Jr. High School**

*Members Present: Chairman Paul Goldman, Peggy Balboni, Mae Bradshaw, School Board Representative Kevin Brandon, Jenness Beach Representative Randy Crapo, Rye Beach Village District Representative Shawn Crapo, Water District Representative Ralph Hickson and Selectmen's Representative Craig Musselman.*

**I. CALL TO ORDER AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Chairman Goldman called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**II. WORK SESSION**

**Jim Katkin, Business Administrator SAU 50**, noted that the SAU 50 Board has met since the previous Budget Committee Meeting. The board has changed the budget that was presented to add \$144,000 for an assistant business administrator. Under State Law, there is a formula because the SAU costs are a mandatory assessment. For Rye, it is about 47%. Rye's share of that cost is \$67,906., which raised what was in the budget. The change was made to the budget and is being presented at this meeting.

Member Brandon noted that this is the only change to the budget. The other numbers are consistent with what the committee has already seen. He continued that this is for succession planning at the SAU 50 office. The idea is that this person will be identified over the course of the next budget year and would gradually work into the business administrator's position at some point. It would not be a permanent organizational chart position. The expectation that the maximum potential overlap in positions would be three years. The earliest this person would be in place is July 1<sup>st</sup>. The overarching belief of the SAU 50 Board is that succession planning is important, especially given the amount of information that someone has to backfill given the current Business Administrator's tenure and public finance statutes. He noted that the figure presented covers all potential costs of the position.

The committee reviewed the change in the budget.

**Motion by Shawn Crapo to suspend the work session. Seconded by Randy Crapo. All in favor.**

**III. PUBLIC HEARING – RYE SCHOOL DISTRICT PROPOSED BUDGET**  
**The purpose of the hearing is to consider the Rye School District's proposed Budget for the school year ending 2018, including warrant articles.**

At 6:50 p.m., Chairman Goldman opened the Public Hearing for the Rye School District Proposed Budget for school year ending 2018.

**ARTICLE 1.**

**Shall the Rye School District raise and appropriate as an operating budget, not including appropriations by special warrant articles and other appropriations voted separately, the amounts set forth on the budget posted with the warrant or as amended by vote of the first session, for the purposes set forth therein, totaling \$14,087,950. Should this article be defeated, the default budget shall be \$13,967,307., which is the same as last year, with certain adjustments required by previous action of the Rye School District or by law or the governing body may hold one special meeting, in accordance with RSA 40:13, X and XVI, to take up the issue of a revised operating budget only. (Majority vote required.)**

**(NOTE: This Warrant Article [operating budget] does not include appropriations in ANY other warrant article.)**

**The Rye School Board recommends the operating budget by a vote of 5-0.**

Chairman Goldman opened to the public for comments.

**Peter Crawford, 171 Brackett Road**, expressed his concerns regarding the increase of \$330,000 for the Special Education Budget. He noted that student enrollments in the schools has been declining and this is a big concern. He asked if the numbers for Special Education were vetted by the School Board.

Member Brandon explained that the School Board, during its six-hour budgeting session, had an extensive discussion about special ed. A significant portion of the increase is due to tuition attached to special ed. Students with particular needs, which could not be met in the schools within the district, were tuitioned out to special environments. There is also a new Special Ed Director that was hired to look at trying to streamline some of the delivery of special education services throughout SAU 50. There have been services that have been subcontracted out that

have reduced expenses. He continued that there is no flexibility in determining special education services. Parents and special education professionals determine the services that the child deserves and is allowed to receive under the law.

Mr. Katkin noted that the average increase in the budget over the last three years is 1.39%. Over the last ten years the increase has been 2.85% each year. Almost less than what inflation has been for that same period of time. He noted that \$170,000 of the increase in the Special Education Budget is for out of district tuition, which is not something that is taken lightly by SAU 50. There is a committee that reviews the needs, the Individual Education Plan (IEP), the psychological testing, special ed transportation and the salaries to the teachers. The services for special education are required by law. If the school district does not follow through, there will be a suit and it will cost the town more than the services the student has a right to receive. He noted that the special education increase is the highest increase at 23.67%. The services that are being provided for special education is being provided in the best possible way.

**Paula Tssetsilas, 12 Rock Orchard Lane**, stated that she supports the School Board and the assistant business administration position being added to support Mr. Katkin's position. She noted that special education services may continue to increase in the coming years. The residents should expect an increase so services as a whole are not cut at the schools. It is important that the town continues to invest in services for the students.

**Catherine Errecart, 11 Forest Green**, spoke in regards to ways to attract families to Rye, as she would support that type of investment.

There was discussion on the default budget.

**Note:** *Shawn Crapo left the Public Hearing before the vote was taken.*

**Motion by Mae Bradshaw to recommend Article 1. Seconded by Randy Crapo.  
Vote: 7-0**

## **ARTICLE 2.**

**To see if the Rye School District will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$75,000 to be placed in the School Buildings and Grounds Expendable Trust Fund, previously established for necessary anticipated and unanticipated repairs and maintenance. (Majority vote required.) This appropriate is in addition to warrant article 1 [operating budget].**

**The Rye School Board recommends Article 2 by a vote of 5-0.**

**The Budget Committee recommends Article 2 by a vote of 9-0. (vote taken at the December 7, 2016 meeting.)**

Chairman Goldman opened to the public for comments.

**Steve Borne, 431 Wallis Road**, asked if there is something that is planned for the \$75,000.

Member Brandon explained that this is for the Buildings and Grounds Expendable Trust. Over time, there has been anticipated and unanticipated expenses. He noted that the boiler repair exceeded the anticipated cost and it was felt that this fund should be replenished because of this drawdown. The fund is not earmarked for specific projects.

**Deb Crapo, Big Rock Road**, spoke in support of the Buildings and Grounds Expendable Trust Fund.

**Peter Crawford, 171 Brackett Road**, spoke in support of the fund also.

**Motion by Randy Crapo to leave the vote on Article 2 as voted by the Budget Committee at the December 7<sup>th</sup> meeting, as the article has no changes. Seconded by Peggy Balboni.**

**Vote: 7-0**

### **ARTICLE 3.**

**To see if the School District will vote to establish a Building Feasibility Committee to explore the feasibility of combining the Rye Elementary School and the Rye Junior High School in one location. The committee shall consist of two School Board members, invite one Selectmen, one Planning Board member, and one Budget Committee member, each appointed by their respected boards, along with two parent representatives, who are not members of the previously referenced boards, as well as additional members identified as needed by and appointed by the committee. The committee should self-elect a chairperson. The committee should provide a report to the town prior to December 1, 2017 identifying the pros and cons of a single k-8 facility with recommendations for next steps, including addition research or implementation steps if applicable. The committee shall disband following the 2018 Town Election.**

**(Submitted by resident petition.)**

**Deb Crapo, Big Rock Road**, spoke in regards to the formation of the committee.

**Joe Cummins, 990 Washington Road**, spoke in support of the article.

**Peter Crawford, 171 Brackett Road**, also spoke in support of the article.

Selectman Musselman stated that on behalf of the Board he would say that they would both be in favor of supporting this idea being deliberated. There is a town hall issue to resolve. Following on the heels of that, a community center deliberation in Rye. He sees nothing that would be a

drawback to having this committee proceed. He encourages everyone at the Deliberative Session to let this go to the voters.

A member of the public stated that she would hope that the committee would also examine the school structure and other elements, other than just the building facilities.

#### **IV. OTHER BUSINESS**

- **None**

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

**Motion by Craig Musselman to adjourn at 9:15 p.m. Seconded by Randy Crapo. All in favor.**

Respectfully Submitted,  
Dyana F. Ledger

**TOWN OF RYE, NEW HAMPSHIRE**

**BUDGET COMMITTEE**

**PUBLIC HEARING - WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 11, 2017**

**2017/2018 SCHOOL BUDGET**

The purpose of the Hearing is to consider the Rye School District Operating Budget for the school year ending June 2018, including Warrant Articles.

Name (please print)	Address	Signature
Paul Goldman	1190 WASHINGTON RD RYE NH	<i>Paul Goldman</i>
James Katkin	1400 Wiscobury Portsmouth, NH	<i>James Katkin</i>
Solly Michel	964 Green Blde Rye NH	<i>Solly Michel</i>
Jeanne Moynahan	176 Central Rd.	<i>Jeanne M. Moynahan</i>
Ralph Hickson	91 Washington Rd	<i>Ralph Hickson</i>
Randy Crapo	8 Big Rock	<i>Randy Crapo</i>
Peggy Balboni	40 Red Mill Ln	<i>Peggy Balboni</i>
Craig Musselman	172 Sycamore Rd.	<i>Craig Musselman</i>
Spencer Crapo	676 Central Rd	<i>Spencer Crapo</i>
Peter Crowder	171 Beckett Rd	<i>Peter Crowder</i>
Kevin Binnison	617 CENTRAL RD	<i>Kevin Binnison</i>
Cyndie Kingmelter	535 Washington Rd.	<i>Cyndie Kingmelter</i>
MAE BRADSHAW	106 Harbor Rd.	<i>Mae Bradshaw</i>
Paula Tsetsius	12 ROCK ORCH	<i>Paula Tsetsius</i>
Suzanne Will	Dover, NH	<i>Suzanne Will</i>
Katherine Ercourt	11 Forest Green Rd	<i>Katherine Ercourt</i>
Steve Boim	431 Wallis Rd	<i>Steve Boim</i>
Debra E. Crapo	8 Big Rock Rd.	<i>Debra E. Crapo</i>