



Torrington Public Schools

SUSAN M. LUBOMSKI
SUPERINTENDENT

SUSAN FERGUSON
ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT

Budget Committee Meeting Wednesday, November 10, 2021, 7:00 P.M. 355 Migeon Ave.

Minutes

1. Call to Order: 7:03 P.M.
2. Roll Call: Mr. Maniccia, Ms. DePretis, Mr. Corey, Mr. Eucalitto,
3. Absent: Ms. Fappiano, Mr. Lafreniere (Teacher Representative)
Also Present: Ms. Cappabianca, Mr. Kissko, Ms. Todor (Remote), Ms. Richardson, Ms. Lubomski, Ms. Ferguson, Ms. Herold, Ms. Boisvert, Mr. Barlow, Ms. Schulte, Ms. Klimaszewski
4. Approval of Agenda: Mr. Corey made a motion to amend the agenda to add 2022/2023 5 Year Capital Plan and Board of Finance E-Mail Update, second by Mr. Maniccia all in favor.
5. Approval of Minutes: Ms. DePretis made a motion to approve the minutes, second by Mr. Maniccia. All in favor.
6. Public Participation: None
7. Discussion/Next Steps:
 - a. Final Financials 2020 – 2021: We finished off the year by returning \$346,122.13 to the City.
 - b. Monthly Financials: The committee reviewed the synopsis of the monthly financials. Ms. Boisvert is anticipating that our propane line item will be over because the price of propane is skyrocketing. Ms. Boisvert shared an update on the free and reduced lunch program. The reimbursement rate has doubled per meal. She is working on increasing the participation. By serving more fresh foods, she believes participation will increase.
 - c. Propane Bid: Ms. Boisvert presented the bid to the committee. It is all the standard language. We are locking the contract for 1 year. This will go to the full board for approval.
 - d. School Food Management Contract Bid: We are waiting for the State to present the rules of the bid.

- e. R.F.I. – Busing: We are trying to stabilize the bus shortage issues. There are delays with morning and afternoon runs. We are limited bussing availabilities after-school. This is a statewide issue. We are working on getting companies to apply. This would be grant funded.
 - f. ECS 2%: The first proposal was rejected by the state, because it included security items rather than intervention and supports for students. The requirements follow a needs-based intervention model. The grant total is \$478,667. The state allows for RBTs, instructional coaches, interventionists, social workers, and instruments for elementary.
 - g. Alliance Update: The updated budget includes more funding for benefits. Mr. Maniccia asked if we are expecting a surplus in afterschool funding because of the difficulty accessing transportation and staffing. Ms. Lubomski confirmed this was issue we are facing. A question was asked about the different rates of para salaries. Ms. Schulte explained the various reasons for the difference.
 - h. Nurse Subs: We have been struggling to hire nurse substitutes. Ms. Schulte shared with the committee the rates of pay with the districts around us and recommended that the committee increase the rate to become more competitive. She recommended \$30/hr which reflected surrounding districts.
 - i. 2022/2023 5-Year Capital Plan: Ms. Lubomski presented a preliminary draft of the 5-year capital plan for each school and the district plan. Some of the new items that were included were: Vogel Wetmore Bathroom, New Voices Room at Torringford School, water heaters, and items due to end of life on some equipment.
 - j. Board of Finance meeting request – The City is requesting a board of representative be present at Tuesday’s meeting at 5 P.M. to discuss the updated ECS 2% funding, benefits for new hires, financial systems, and the waiver of permit fees for the new building. This would not be a joint meeting. Ms. Cappabianca will notify the Mayor who will be attending the meeting.
8. Topics for Future Meetings:
- a. Monthly Financials
 - b. Propane
 - c. Food Contract
 - d. Update on the Bussing R.F.I
 - e. Alliance Update
 - f. Capital Plan
9. Comments for the Good of the Order (paraphrased)
- Chair “Congratulations Armand, you will be missed on the board. Thank you for everything you’ve given to the district.”
- Sue L. “Thank you Armand. We appreciate all your hard work while on the Board and the time you have given to this committee.”

Cathy "Thank you Armand, we will miss you!"

Sue F. "Thank you everyone and thank you Armand, I will definitely miss you."

Laura "Thank you Mr. Maniccia I am proud of you. Thank you for upping the nurses sub pay."

Kim "Thank you for upping the nurses sub pay. Thank you, Armand. I will miss you."

Ed "It will be very strange having a new chair of the budget committee; you will be missed."

John K. "Congratulations Armand. Veteran's day parade is tomorrow."

Sue D. "Thank you, Armand."

Armand "Thank you everyone, I will miss you. This is the best Central Office we've had in a long time in Torrington."

10. Adjournment: Mr. Corey made a motion to adjourn the meeting, second by Ms. DePretis. Meeting adjourned at 8:24PM.