



TOWN OF FREETOWN

Finance Committee

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RECEIVED
FREETOWN TOWN CLERK
2019 JUL -8 AM 6:28

Minutes of

MEETING: 7:00 PM Tuesday April 30th, 2019

Apponequet Highschool - Library

100 Howland Rd., Lakeville, MA 02347

Call to order 7:05PM

Present – Gary Martin, Craig Rosen, Huguette Lord, Kent Wilkins, Katie Calheta, Robert Alderson, Aleesha Freire, clerk.

Not Present – Carol Woldorf

Also Present – Lakeville Finance Committee members George Vlahopoulos, Darren Beals, Katherine Desrosiers, Jennifer Sipiora, and Miriam Hollenbeck. Freetown-Lakeville Regional School District Superintendent Richard Medeiros and Director of Finance and Operations, Ashley Lopes.

Topic	Freetown FC Discussion	Lakeville FC Discussion	Vote
Discuss school budget requests	Ashley Lopes explained that the bottom line budget number has not changed since previous version however allocations were adjusted to accommodate a number of new staff positions due to the school committee recommendations. There was a reduction to both Freetown and Lakeville's town assessments.	The Lakeville Finance committee chair explained that Lakeville has a 120k gap in their budget that they're trying to close. Suggests that perhaps more of the school choice money could be put back into the budget. The state will maybe bring 30-40k. If there's anything that can help Lakeville close that gap. This increase will increase our base making it	N/A

	<p>The increase from March to April's number was explained by the required local contribution by the state increasing for both towns. The per pupil cost rose to \$30.00 from \$20.00. Ashley stated that if Senate numbers change in the mean time, she will provide updated information to both committees.</p> <p>Ashley went over the intricate details of the budget such as teacher salaries, and the cost of books for advanced placement classes.</p> <p>Richard explained that the region a has a growing population of English language learners, more students with more needs, stating he believes we're going to see more students going forward with continued need for additional resources. Also, through the census we can anticipate that the onboarding kindergarten need will keep going up. We currently have 5 sections and we're going to need an</p>	<p>harder to get to that level next year.</p> <p>With regard to the contractual obligations, the school is growing at a rate higher than the Lakeville towns revenues.</p> <p>The state is not contributing enough to offset the costs.</p> <p>The Lakeville FC is asking the school to work with us. This is a problem that's not unique to Freetown-Lakeville. Lakeville cannot afford it. Lakeville budget is 120k short total after the rest of the department needs are satisfied. Lakeville goes to its full levy limit.</p> <p>We embraced Marijuana, so the towns could sustain the increase cost coming from the schools. Freetown could have gone to their levy limit.</p> <p>Mr. Medeiros believes that a reasonable conversation. School choice enrollment calculation does not</p>	
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	<p>additional section in the upcoming school years. In general, we have been around 2800 students since year 2011, Higher cost because of the services that the schools are required to provide</p> <p>There are more state requirements in the school buildings that are not covered by the state. Per pupil we're below the state average. 12-15K per student. An example; FY2017 we were \$12,901.00 while in district state average was \$15,459.00.</p> <p>Robert questions the D&D balance of 500K-700K to be certified in the fall. Ashley explained that the state gave additional funds this year in chapter 70 and chapter 71 funds that we can't access this year so they will go directly into D&D.</p>	<p>include some expected growth. Lakeville chair believes this is completely unsustainable, and the school needs to hear it,</p> <p>Heating system numbers – The school met with a vendor for a study and gave a number of around \$10,000.00 . This would be split between the two towns.</p>	
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Motion to adjourn meeting by Robert, Craig seconds, all in favor, unanimous.

Meeting adjourned: 8:15PM

This is a true record by me.

Attest: Aleesha Freire