

DRAFT

Hanover Finance Committee

January 24, 2014

Black Community Center

Hanover, NH

Members present: K. Fenner, M. Gerling, H. Postupack (Chair), J. Roberts, J. Buckley, J. Ruth, D. Press

Members absent: none

Also present: K. Cotter, G. Spaeth (to answer questions regarding the Hanover School budget)

The meeting was called to order at 5:50pm by Committee Chair H. Postupack

Agenda Items Discussed

1. Review/amendment of agenda

The Chair asked for comments on the agenda. There were none.

2. Public comments on items not on the agenda

There was no public in attendance or comments regarding the agenda.

3. Minutes of HFC meeting of January 13, 2014

Minutes of January 13, 2014 were reviewed. A motion to approve was made by K. Fenner second by J. Ruth. Approved

4. Discussion of the Hanover Budget

K. Cotter distributed a Budget Change sheet and discussed the 4.78% increase. There was a lengthy discussion regarding the impact of the substantial increase in Special Education expenses due to increased numbers of students (6 new students) as well as the need to revamp the staffing requirements for Special Education and the substantial reductions that were attempted in the current fiscal year.

There was a lengthy discussion regarding the \$5.8 million building project and whether now is the time for such a large project and whether the town can afford such a project at this time given other expenditures facing the district.

There was a discussion regarding the Full Day Kindergarten and expense associated with it.

Members expressed concern that the budget does not meet the guideline set by the Finance Committee. Members expressed concern that too much has been added in this year's budget.

There was a motion to support the School Budget of \$12,254,252: Motion made by M. Gerling, seconded by D. Press. This support was given even though the budget increase

of 6.6% falls substantially higher than the 3.5% guideline which was given by the Finance Committee. It was felt the substantial increase in Special Education costs are not controllable and it has negatively impacted the budget substantially. Motion passed: Yea 7 Nay 0 Abstained 0

There was a motion to not support the Capital Expenditure Project of \$5,790,000 Motion made by D. Press seconded by K. Fenner Motion passed: Yea 5 Nay 1 Abstained 1

A motion to support all the other remaining warrants listed was made by M. Gerling, seconded by K. Fenner. Motion passed: Yea 7 Nay 0 Abstained 0

Daryl will forward wording for the Committee's opinion on the capital project Article.

5. Next Meeting Date

TBD

6. Adjournment

There was a motion by M. Gerling to adjourn. Second by J. Ruth. The HFC adjourned at 7:20 PM.

Submitted

Michael Gerling, Secretary

Submitted 1/24/2014