

**Hanover Finance Committee**  
***Minutes***  
**January 11, 2016**

**Location:** Black Center – Room 215 – Hanover  
Meeting was called to order at **5:04 PM**

Members Present: H. Postupack, K. Asmus, J. Ruth, W. Geraghty, C. Callaghan (in lieu of D. Rockmore)  
Members Absent: D. Press, D. Rockmore

1. *Review/amendment of agenda*  
None
2. *Public comments on items not on the agenda*  
None
3. *Review/discuss latest draft of the Hanover School District FY17 budget* – Discussion / action  
H. Postupack provided an update of the Hanover school budget. In special education, staffing will shift somewhat from Ray School to RMS resulting in an expected drop in special education staffing at Ray offset somewhat by a couple additions at RMS.

Ray school pre-K – 5<sup>th</sup> operating expenses are budgeted to decline -0.85%, excluding the changes resulting from the teachers' contract, if any. The total district budget, if accepted, would decline by -1.26%, excluding the changes resulting from the ratification of the teachers' contract, if any. Total Hanover school district staffing is expected to decline by -4.13 FTEs.

The school board is projecting that the kindergarten class will be 64 students, despite the three year weighted average projection of 48 students. The 2016-17 budget projection for students is 466 (the 2015-16 budget was for 486 students). The Ray school is projecting a decline of one teacher (budget-to-budget) to 25 teachers.

**H. Postupack motioned that the HFC endorse the Hanover School District proposed budget of approximately \$13.5 million for FY 2017 as presented. C. Callaghan seconded. Motion passed unanimously.**

4. *Review/discuss Hanover and Dresden Teacher Contract* – Discussion / action  
H. Postupack shared the article regarding the teacher contract that was published in the Valley News. The proposed contract would increase salaries by 0.5%, 1.5%, 1.75% (years 1-3, respectively). Health insurance premium and deductible changes were made to prevent the school district being subject to the "Cadillac-tax". The new contract will result in deductibles up to \$3,000 and the employee will pay 5% of the premiums in year 1, increasing to 7% in year 3. Additional changes were made to the (i) maternity/paternity leave policies and (ii) retirement match on the annuity for the newer employees will decline from 3% to 2% for employees that are not at the top step, (iii) professional development, and (iv) insurance opt-out payments, which increased slightly. The employees will continue to receive the defined benefit plan.

**K. Asmus motioned that the HFC endorse the Hanover and Dresden Teacher Contract. H. Postupack seconded. Motion passed unanimously.**

5. *Update on development of FY17 Hanover Town budget* – Discussion  
Deferred until February's meeting.
6. *Set agenda and time for next meeting*  
To be determined.
7. *Adjournment*  
Meeting adjourned at 6:07 PM.

Recorded by: John Ruth

Submitted by: Heidi Postupack