

Chebeague Island School Committee Workshop Minutes February 8, 2017

This was a joint budget workshop between the Chebeague Island School Committee (SC) and the Chebeague Island Board of Selectmen (BoS). The BoS held their regular meeting, which began at 6:00 pm, and then went into the workshop session with the SC at 6:45 pm.

Attendance: School Committee members Jeff Putnam, Jen Belesca, Stephen Todd and Beverly Johnson, (Suzanne Rugh excused absent); School Superintendent/Principal Mike Pulsifer; Board of Selectmen members Peter Pellerin, Jean Beaupre, Jay Corson and David Stevens; Town Manger Marjorie Stratton and Town Clerk Gloria Brown; and guests Herb Maine, Bob Earnest, Donna Damon and Lisa Tucker.

Discussion of School Department Budget Needs: Jeff Putnam informed the BoS that at this time the SC does not have a firm number for its 2017/18 budget proposal, because they are still working to get renovation costs confirmed in case the SC wants to include an amount for that in the budget. The SC is working on the budget, and are close to a final proposal.

Marjorie Stratton said that it would be very helpful if she could get budget numbers soon. She said if the SC could get a budget proposal to her in early March, that would be timely enough for the BoS. She also said that bonding for a school renovation project could take quite a bit of time, and getting that to the citizens this spring might be close.

Jeff informed her that the SC plans on finalizing a School Department budget proposal at their March 7th meeting. Jeff also shared that if a bond was proposed by the SC to the citizens, the SC would try to secure the best deal possible for budgeting, and might need time to do that process.

Jeff also asked if the BoS had any plans for bonding in the upcoming budget year, as it might make things complicated for citizens if the SC wanted to get a bond for a school renovation project, and the BoS also wanted to get bonding for their projects. Peter Pellerin informed the SC that the BoS did not plan on taking on any bonded debt in the next budget year.

The next budget workshop between the SC and the BoS is scheduled for Tuesday, March 21st at 6:00 pm, the location will be at CIS.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 7:30 pm.