

Town of Northwood
Budget Committee Public Hearing
January 13, 2022

Chair Ginger Dole called the meeting to order at 7:20 PM and opened the work session
PRESENT: Ginger Dole, Chair, Tom Chase, Vice Chair, Betsy Colburn, (participated electronically) Brad Hall, Tim Jandebour, Michael Moore, Steve Robinson, Betty Smith, Paul Tudor, Pam Sanderson, Jim Guzofski, Selectmen's Rep, Bob Young, Water District Rep, Mike Jobin, Cove Village Rep. Eric Buckland, Gulf Village District Rep
Absent: (excused) Ted Wilkinson (not excused) Dan McNally

Betsy Colburn is not attending in person based on her doctor's orders.

School Budget Work Session:

Motion is made by Mr. Chase, seconded by Ms. B. Smith to waive the Budget Committee procedure of requiring receiving information 7 days prior to the meeting.

Ms. Colburn stated that at the work session in December, they were told that the School Board was going to vote on the NESPA contract on December 22. That was over two weeks ago. They said that this would be mailed out immediately to the Budget Committee, and they would have it well in advance of the 7 days. She asked when they were going to enforce the rules? She stated that she is at a disadvantage because she is attending the meetings remotely. Mr. Winslow stated that he would like to apologize to the committee and he fully acknowledges that the procedure was not followed. On December 22, the School Board did meet. They did vote to approve this association contract. It was ratified by the association on December 23. The School Board signed on December 22nd as they intended to, the association, for reasons unknown to him, signed on January 4. He communicated with the SAU and asked them to mail out the NESPA contract to the Budget Committee as soon as it was signed by the association, and he was told that they would. He stated that he does not know where the breakdown was, but he apologizes for the inconvenience. Mr. Jandebour stated that he takes extreme exception to meeting tonight on these issues. He stated that they broke all the rules at the first meeting, and as they all know, he walked out. But the Budget Meeting continued with the meeting. That has only exacerbated the issue. These people don't appreciate rules and regulations and frankly it blows his mind that they are education our students and this is the best they can do. He stated that he would rather not meet tonight but he will be voting against their budget. Chair Dole stated that there are conflicts if they don't take a vote tonight and waive the 7-day rule. They can recess that portion of tonight's meeting, but there are conflicts with the meeting hall. They have obligations. Mr. Robinson stated that he is tired of coming to the meetings and getting handouts. It's unfair to him to make a correct decision on a vote when he is just getting this information all at once. He needs time to look this over. He's tired of bending the rules. He feels they need to stick to their guns and say no, and reconvene. Chair Dole stated that she hopes that the members keep in mind that if they vote to not hear this tonight, she doesn't know what happens to that article. It certainly isn't the fault of this particular union's membership that they didn't receive it on time. That is only punishing town employees.

Call the question

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Ginger Dole, yes. Tom Chase, yes. Betsy Colburn, yes. Brad Hall, yes. Tim Jandebour, no. Michael Moore, yes. Betty Smith, yes. Paul Tudor, no. Pam Sanderson, yes. Jim Guzofski, no. Bob Young, yes. Mike Jobin, yes. Eric Buckland, yes. Steve Robinson, no. Brian Winslow, yes. Motion carried 10/5

Mr. Jandebour recused himself from this vote

Voting designation: Ginger Dole, Chair, Tom Chase, Vice Chair, Betsy Colburn, (Participated electronically) Brad Hall, Paul Tudor, Steve Robinson, Michael Moore, Betty Smith, Pam Sanderson, Jim Guzofski, Selectmen's Rep, Bob Young, Water District Rep, Mike Jobin, Cove Village Rep. Eric Buckland, Gulf Village District Rep

Article 3: Collective Bargaining Agreement

Shall the Northwood School District approve the cost items included in the collective bargaining agreement reached between the Northwood Education Support Staff and the Northwood School Board covering the three-year period from July 1, 2022 to June 30, 2025 which calls for the following increases in salaries and benefits, at the current staffing levels, over those paid in the prior fiscal year;

Year	Estimated Increase
2022-2023	\$60,932
2023-2024	\$62,162
2024-2025	\$62,194

And to further raise and appropriate the sum of \$60,932 for the 2022-2023 fiscal year, such as a sum representing the additional costs attributed to the increase in salaries and benefits over those of the appropriation at current staffing levels paid in the prior fiscal year? The School Board recommends this article by a 4-0 vote.

Motion is made by Ms. Sanderson seconded by Ms. B. Smith to recommend Article 3.

Ginger Dole, yes. Tom Chase, yes. Betsy Colburn, no. Brad Hall, yes. Michael Moore, yes. Brian Winslow, yes. Betty Smith, yes. Pam Sanderson, yes. Jim Guzofski, no. Bob Young, yes. Mike Jobin, yes. Eric Buckland, yes. Paul Tudor, abstain. Steve Robinson, abstain.

Motion carried 10/2/2

Mr. Jandebour returned to the table.

Voting designation: Ginger Dole, Chair, Tom Chase, Vice Chair, Betsy Colburn, (Participated electronically) Brad Hall, Paul Tudor, Tim Jandebour, Steve Robinson, Michael Moore, Betty Smith, Pam Sanderson, Jim Guzofski, Selectmen's Rep, Bob Young, Water District Rep, Mike Jobin, Cove Village Rep. Eric Buckland, Gulf Village District Rep

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Motion is made by Ms. B. Smith, seconded by Mr. Chase to have Linda Smith write a memo of disappointment pertaining to information received for tonight's meeting, the 12/11/21 meeting and several meetings in 2021 to the school board.

Ginger Dole, yes. Tom Chase, yes. Betsy Colburn, yes. Brad Hall, yes. Tim Jandebour, yes. Michael Moore, yes. Betty Smith, yes. Paul Tudor, yes. Pam Sanderson, yes. Jim Guzofski, yes. Bob Young, yes. Mike Jobin, yes. Eric Buckland, yes. Steve Robinson, yes. Brian Winslow, no.

Motion carried 14/1.

Chair Dole recessed the work session and opened the public hearing.

Northwood School Public Hearing

Article 2: Operating Budget

Shall the Northwood School District raise and appropriate as an operating budget, not including appropriations by special warrant articles and other appropriations voted separately, the amounts set forth on the budget posted with the warrant or as amended by the vote of the first session, for the purposes set forth therein, totaling Twelve Million, Eight Hundred Ninety-One Thousand, Nine Hundred Ninety-Three Dollars (\$12,891,993). Should this article be defeated, the default budget shall total Twelve Million, Seven Hundred Seventy-Two Thousand, Two Hundred Forty-One Dollars (\$12,772,241) which is the same as last year, with certain adjustments required by previous action of the Northwood School District or by law; or the governing body may hold one special meeting, in accordance with RSA 40:13, X and XVI, to take up the issue of a revised operating budget only.

The operating budget does not include appropriations contained in any other warrant articles.

The School Board recommends this appropriation by a 3 to 0 vote.

The Budget Committee recommends this appropriation by a 13-1 vote

Jim Hadley

Mr. Hadley stated that he has provided the members with a handout. The last three 36 years he has been on the SAU audit committee representing Northwood. The talk has been about Strafford leaving and hiring a part time superintendent, Nottingham 38 leaving and hiring a superintendent. When he saw the full-time superintendent at 39 \$120,000, at first, he thought it was a typo, but then he saw that Nottingham, in their file report on withdrawing, they compared their proposed budget as a single SAU to what Northwood probably would be, and they had a part time superintendent at

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\$75,000 and they have a business manager at \$60,000. The Northwood proposed budget has a full-time business manager at \$90,000. The cost of the SAU that the Northwood School Board is proposing is \$562,000. Nottingham is looking at \$516,000. The enrollment numbers have gone down drastically in the last 10 years. He stated that he was on the school building committee in 2004, and enrollment should have been at 592 10 years ago, but now they are at 337, while Nottingham is at 574. He would ask the Budget Committee, when this public hearing closes, to reopen the work session and look at the payment for a full-time superintendent and a full-time business manager. That's one area that would be easy to make a recommendation on. The elementary school is only at 56% capacity, so it would be good for the school board to incorporate the SAU into that building. He was surprised at the cost per student comes up to \$25,477. This is quite a bit more than Department of Education recommends.

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No public comment

Article 6: Building Improvement Capital Reserve Fund

To see if the Northwood School District will vote to raise and appropriate "up to" Twenty-Five Thousand Dollars (\$25,000) to be placed in the Building Capital Improvement Reserve Fund for the purpose of financing any and all capital improvements to school buildings as well as all or part of the cost of new construction for the Northwood School District, with such amount to be funded from the year end undesignated fund balance (surplus) available on July 1, 2022. Current balance on 9/30/2021 is \$136,376.

The School Board recommends this appropriation by a 4-0
The Budget committee recommends this appropriation by a 13-1 vote.

No public comment

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Article 7: Special Education Capital Reserve

To see if the Northwood School District will vote to raise and appropriate “up to” Ten Thousand Dollars (\$10,000) to be placed in the Special Education Capital Reserve Fund for the purpose of meeting the expenses of education educationally disabled children for the Northwood School District, in accordance with the provisions of RSA 35:1-b, with such amount to be funded from the year end undesignated fund balance (surplus) available on July 1, 2022. Current balance on 9/30/2021 is \$105,526.

The School Board recommends this appropriation by a 4-0 vote.
The Budget committee recommends this appropriation by a 13-1 vote.

No public comment

Village of Northwood Ridge Water District

Article 2: Operating Budget

To see if the District will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$31,051 for general district expenses.

No public comment.

Article 3: Water District Expendable Trust for Major Repairs

To see if the District will raise and appropriate the sum of \$1,000 to be added to the previously established Water District Expendable Trust for Major Repairs.

No public comment.

Article 4: Water District Expendable Trust

To see if the District will raise and appropriate the sum of \$3,937 to be added to the Water District Expendable Trust Fund previously established. The sum to come from unassigned fund balance.

No public comment.

Article 5: Water District Capital Reserve

To see if the District will raise and appropriate the sum of \$10,000 to be added to the Water District Capital Reserve for system enhancements previously established. The sum to come from unassigned fund balance.

No public comment.

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Cove Village District

Article 3: Road Maintenance Expendable Trust

To see if the Northwood Cove Village District will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of six thousand dollars to be added to the Road Maintenance Expendable Trust Fund previously established.

No public comment.

Article 2: Cove Village District Operating Budget

To see if the Northwood Cove Village District will vote to raise and appropriate the Northwood Budget Committee's recommended budget amount of ten thousand four hundred and fifty dollars (\$10,450) for general operations. This article does not include special or individual articles addressed. Majority vote required)

Gulf Village District

Article 2: Village District Operating Budget

To see if the Gulf Village District will raise and appropriate the Northwood Budget Committee's recommended budget amount of twenty thousand dollars (\$20,000) for general operations. This article does not include special or individual articles addressed.

No public comment.

Article 3: Add funds to the Gulf Village Expendable Trust Fund.

To see if the Gulf Village District will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of two thousand five hundred dollars (\$2,500) to be added to the Gulf Village Road Maintenance Expendable Trust Fund previously established.

No public comment.

Chair Dole closed the public hearing and opened the work session.

Article 2: Operating Budget

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Dollars (\$12,772,241) which is the same as last year, with certain adjustments required by previous action of the Northwood School District or by law; or the governing body may hold one special meeting, in accordance with RSA 40:13, X and XVI, to take up the issue of a revised operating budget only.

The operating budget does not include appropriations contained in any other warrant articles.

The School Board recommends this appropriation by a 3 to 0 vote.
The Budget Committee recommends this appropriation by a 13-1 vote

Motion is made by Ms. B. Smith, seconded by Mr. Winslow, to recommend Article 2.

Ginger Dole, yes. Tom Chase, yes. Betsy Colburn, yes. Brad Hall, yes. Tim Jandebour, no. Michael Moore, yes. Betty Smith, yes. Paul Tudor, no. Pam Sanderson, yes. Jim Guzofski, no. Bob Young, yes. Mike Jobin, yes. Eric Buckland, yes. Steve Robinson, no. Brian Winslow, yes.

Motion carried 11/4

Minutes:

December 4, 2021

Motion is made by Ms. B. Smith, seconded by Mr. Winslow, to approve the minutes of 12/4 as amended.

Ginger Dole, yes. Tom Chase, yes. Betsy Colburn, yes. Brad Hall, yes. Tim Jandebour, yes. Michael Moore, yes. Betty Smith, yes. Paul Tudor, yes. Pam Sanderson, yes. Jim Guzofski, yes. Bob Young, yes. Mike Jobin, yes. Eric Buckland, yes. Steve Robinson, yes. Brian Winslow, yes.

Motion carried 15/0

December 6, 2021

Motion is made by Ms. B. Smith, seconded by Mr. Winslow, to approve the minutes of 12/6 as amended.

Ginger Dole, yes. Tom Chase, yes. Betsy Colburn, yes. Brad Hall, yes. Tim Jandebour, yes. Michael Moore, yes. Betty Smith, yes. Paul Tudor, yes. Pam Sanderson, yes. Jim Guzofski, yes. Bob Young, yes. Mike Jobin, yes. Eric Buckland, yes. Steve Robinson, Brian Winslow, abstain.

Motion carried 14/0/1

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December 8, 2021

Motion is made by Ms. B. Smith, seconded by Mr. Winslow, to approve the minutes of 12/8 as amended.

Ginger Dole, yes. Tom Chase, yes. Betsy Colburn, yes. Brad Hall, yes. Tim Jandebour, yes. Michael Moore, yes. Betty Smith, yes. Paul Tudor, yes. Pam Sanderson, yes. Jim Guzofski, yes. Bob Young, yes. Mike Jobin, yes. Eric Buckland, abstain. Steve Robinson, yes. Brian Winslow, abstain.

Motion carried 13/0/2

December 11, 2021

Motion is made by Ms. B. Smith, seconded by Mr. Winslow, to approve the minutes of 12/11 as amended.

Ginger Dole, yes. Tom Chase, yes. Betsy Colburn, yes. Brad Hall, yes. Tim Jandebour, yes. Michael Moore, yes. Betty Smith, yes. Paul Tudor, yes. Pam Sanderson, yes. Jim Guzofski, yes. Bob Young, yes. Mike Jobin, yes. Eric Buckland, abstain. Steve Robinson, yes. Brian Winslow, yes.

Motion carried 14/0/1

December 16, 2021

Motion is made by Ms. B. Smith, seconded by Mr. Winslow, to approve the minutes of 12/16 as amended.

Ginger Dole, yes. Tom Chase, yes. Betsy Colburn, yes. Brad Hall, yes. Tim Jandebour, yes. Michael Moore, yes. Betty Smith, yes. Paul Tudor, yes. Pam Sanderson, yes. Jim Guzofski, yes. Bob Young, yes. Mike Jobin, yes. Eric Buckland, yes. Steve Robinson, yes. Brian Winslow, yes.

Motion carried 14/0/1

Ms. B. Smith made a motion to adjourn at 9:22 PM. Mr. Chase seconded. Motion carried by roll call vote 14/0

Respectfully submitted,

Susan Austin, Land Use Assistant