

TRANSCRIPT OF RECORDED MINUTES

OF

THE METHUEN SCHOOL COMMITTEE

PUBLIC HEARING FY'18 BUDGET
ADOPTION OF FY'18 BUDGET

OF

May 22, 2017

SUBMITTED FOR THE APPROVAL OF:

THE METHUEN SCHOOL COMMITTEE

AND

THE SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

“AN OPEN MEETING ADVANTAGE FOR THE COMMUNITY OF METHUEN”

RECORDED BY:

MARTHA SIROIS, PUBLIC RECORDER

TRANSCRIPT OF RECORDED MINUTES
METHUEN SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING
PUBLIC HEARING AND FY'18 BUDGET ADOPTION
May 22, 2017

This Public Hearing and FY'18 Budget Adoption meeting of the Methuen School Committee was held at Methuen High School, Media Center, and was posted for 6:15 PM.

ROLL CALL FOR PUBLIC HEARING

Mr. Dennis D.J. Deeb PRESENT (P)
Mr. Robert F. Vogler, Secretary P
Ms. Lynne Hajjar Kumm, Vice Chairperson P
Ms. Joyce C. Campagnone P
Mr. Nicholas DiZoglio (Absent)
Ms. Jana DiNatale P
Mayor Stephen Zanni, Chairperson (P)

MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE:

Mr. Dennis D.J. Deeb
Mr. Robert F. Vogler, Secretary
Ms. Lynne Hajjar Kumm, Vice Chairperson
Ms. Joyce C. Campagnone
Ms. Jana DiNatale
Mayor Stephen Zanni, Chairperson

MEMBERS NOT IN ATTENDANCE

Mr. Nicholas DiZoglio

OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE:

Mrs. Judith Scannell, Superintendent of Schools
Dr. Brandi Kwong, Assistant Superintendent of C.I.A. and Grants
Mr. Ian Gosselin, Business Administrator
Ms. Martha Sirois, Public Recorder

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Mayor-We will start with a Public Hearing. Anyone that would like to speak on the Budget may do so. We will then close the Public Hearing and open the Adoption of the FY'18 Budget.

Mr. Vogler-They are in the process of creating a new Chargeback Letter. It should be done within the next few weeks.

Mr. Deeb-Commends the School Administration and the City for putting together a fiscally responsible Budget. This Budget moves the schools forward. This proposed Budget is requesting less money than the Budget last year. The Chargeback increases are due to Health Insurance increases which is beyond the

Committee's control. He would like to, in the future, look at Retiree Health Care and how they do it. He feels that retirees should work in the City for a certain amount of years to be eligible for the Health Insurance. He had requested a list from the City of the retiree's years of service and was told it would cost \$600.00 to put together that information. He feels they need to look at this and have it addressed. Ms. Hajjar Kumm- She is happy with this Budget. She would like to thank the Superintendent, her team, and the Mayor. There are no teacher layoffs and no cutting of student services. That is very difficult to do and still respect the taxpayer. There are difficult decisions that have to be made but that is so the focus stays on the education and services provided to our students. She is disappointed with the public comments she hears about the administration being top heavy. The piece that the administration plays in the overall learning experience of our students is vital. We have phenomenal teachers because they have phenomenal support from the administration. We offer, with no user fees, something for every student in this Community.

Mayor-The Superintendent and her staff created this Budget without losing any services and not charging any fees.

MOTION: Mr. Vogler motioned to close the Public Hearing Session @ 6:31 pm
Ms. Campagnone seconded the motion
VOTE: 6-0-0 APPROVED

BUDGET ADOPTION MEETING was opened at 6:31 pm

MOTION: Mr. Deeb motioned to open the Budget Adoption Session@ 6:31 pm
Ms. Campagnone seconded the motion

ROLL CALL FOR BUDGET ADOPTION

Mr. Dennis D.J. Deeb PRESENT (P)
Mr. Robert F. Vogler, Secretary P
Ms. Lynne Hajjar Kumm, Vice Chairperson P
Ms. Joyce C. Campagnone P
Mr. Nicholas DiZoglio (Absent)
Ms. Jana DiNatale P
Mayor Stephen Zanni, Chairperson (P)

MEMBERS NOT IN ATTENDANCE

Mr. Nicholas DiZoglio (entered the meeting at 6:37PM)

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Kelly Piantigini, 11 Varnai St.-She is not here to discuss the Budget, she is here to discuss the firing of her daughter's preschool teacher, Nancy Meehan. She feels Ms. Meehan is a great teacher and had wished that some of the administration would have come to visit her daughter's classroom before the decision was made to fire her. Her daughter has come a long way this year and she credits that to Ms. Meehan. She is disappointed with the situation and does not understand why it has been created and has not been given an appropriate answer. She would like the Superintendent to give them some answers as to why this is happening.

Mayor-We will take your comments under advisement.

Jenna Pellerin, 28 Warren Ave-She has emailed the Committee Members multiple times this weekend. The parents were not made aware at the beginning of the school year that Ms. Meehan was a substitute. They have been given multiple answers as to why she has left the classroom. The most recent answer was that the classroom needed a role model. She wonders why she has been able to teach her child in any capacity the past year. Her daughter has thrived this year in this classroom. Her faith and confidence is wavering with her son coming to the program next year because of the lack of communication. Something is not matching up and we need answers. Matthew Giordano-22 Marjorie St-His son has come a long way in this program. He started school speaking 3 words. He is now telling stories. It is amazing that the City has a program like this. Ms. Meehan has done a tremendous job with his son and the other students. His concern is that there are 14 days left of school and he is concerned as to who will replace her.

Nicholas DiZoglio entered the meeting at 6:37 pm

Jessica Finocchiaro, Lawrence Vocational School Committee Member however she is here as a resident, 22 Elsmere Ave-She wanted to make the Committee aware of something that is happening in the State House. It is call Amendment 75. It has a huge increase in funding for the local schools in the areas of Special Education and Health. She will get the Committee copies of the Amendment. She is in favor of this School Budget. Mayor-He asked Ms. Finocchiaro to get copies of the information to the Superintendent's Office.

ADOPTION OF FISCAL YEAR 2018 SCHOOL BUDGET	
Professional Salaries	
MOTION	to adopt \$46,035,418-by Mr. Vogler
	seconded by Ms. Campagnone
ROLL CALL:	
Mr. Dennis D.J. Deeb	Yes
Mr. Robert Vogler	Yes
Ms. Lynne Hajjar Kumm	Yes
Ms. Joyce Campagnone	Yes
Mr. Nicholas DiZoglio	Yes
Ms. Jana DiNatale	Yes
Mayor Stephen N. Zanni	Yes
VOTE: 7-0-0	
Classified Personnel Salaries	
MOTION	to adopt \$1,644,346 - by Ms. Hajjar Kumm
	seconded by Ms. Campagnone
ROLL CALL:	
Mr. Dennis D.J. Deeb	Yes
Mr. Robert Vogler	Yes
Ms. Lynne Hajjar Kumm	Yes

Ms. Joyce Campagnone Yes
Mr. Nicholas DiZoglio Yes
Ms. Jana DiNatale Yes
Mayor Stephen N. Zanni Yes

VOTE: 7-0-0

Other Salaries

**MOTION to adopt \$5,835,948- by Mr. Vogler
seconded by Ms. Campagnone**

ROLL CALL:

- Mr. Dennis D.J. Deeb** Yes
- Mr. Robert Vogler** Yes
- Ms. Lynne Hajjar Kumm** Yes
- Ms. Joyce Campagnone** Yes
- Mr. Nicholas DiZoglio** Yes
- Ms. Jana DiNatale** Yes
- Mayor Stephen N. Zanni** Yes

VOTE: 7-0-0

Contractual Services

**MOTION to adopt \$16,839,397- by Ms. Hajjar Kumm
seconded by Mr. Vogler**

ROLL CALL:

- Mr. Dennis D.J. Deeb** Yes
- Mr. Robert Vogler** Yes
- Ms. Lynne Hajjar Kumm** Yes
- Ms. Joyce Campagnone** Yes
- Mr. Nicholas DiZoglio** Yes
- Ms. Jana DiNatale** Yes
- Mayor Stephen N. Zanni** Yes

VOTE: 7-0-0

Supplies and Materials

**MOTION to adopt \$1,551,658- by Mr. Deeb
seconded by Ms. Campagnone**

ROLL CALL:

- Mr. Dennis D.J. Deeb** Yes
- Mr. Robert Vogler** Yes
- Ms. Lynne Hajjar Kumm** Yes

Ms. Joyce Campagnone Yes
Mr. Nicholas DiZoglio Yes
Ms. Jana DiNatale Yes
Mayor Stephen N. Zanni Yes

VOTE: 7-0-0

Other Expenses

**MOTION to adopt \$93,233- by Ms. Hajjar Kumm
seconded by Ms. DiNatale**

ROLL CALL:

- Mr. Dennis D.J. Deeb** Yes
- Mr. Robert Vogler** Yes
- Ms. Lynne Hajjar Kumm** Yes
- Ms. Joyce Campagnone** Yes
- Mr. Nicholas DiZoglio** Yes
- Ms. Jana DiNatale** Yes
- Mayor Stephen N. Zanni** Yes

VOTE: 7-0-0

OPERATING NET SCHOOL SPENDING

**MOTION to adopt \$66,806,469 - by Mr. DiZoglio
seconded by Mr. Deeb**

ROLL CALL:

- Mr. Dennis D.J. Deeb** Yes
- Mr. Robert Vogler** Yes
- Ms. Lynne Hajjar Kumm** Yes
- Ms. Joyce Campagnone** Yes
- Mr. Nicholas DiZoglio** Yes
- Ms. Jana DiNatale** Yes
- Mayor Stephen N. Zanni** Yes

VOTE: 7-0-0

TOTAL NON NET SCHOOL SPENDING

**MOTION to adopt \$5,193,531 to include
Transportation and Crossing Guards- by Mr. Vogler
seconded by Ms. Hajjar Kumm**

ROLL CALL:

- Mr. Dennis D.J. Deeb** Yes
- Mr. Robert Vogler** Yes

Ms. Lynne Hajjar Kumm Yes
Ms. Joyce Campagnone Yes
Mr. Nicholas DiZoglio Yes
Ms. Jana DiNatale Yes
Mayor Stephen N. Zanni Yes
VOTE: 7-0-0

TOTAL OPERATING FY'18 BUDGET

MOTION to adopt \$72,000,000 - by Ms. Hajjar Kumm
seconded by Ms. Campagnone

ROLL CALL:
Mr. Dennis D.J. Deeb Yes
Mr. Robert Vogler Yes
Ms. Lynne Hajjar Kumm Yes
Ms. Joyce Campagnone Yes
Mr. Nicholas DiZoglio Yes
Ms. Jana DiNatale Yes
Mayor Stephen N. Zanni Yes
VOTE: 7-0-0

CITY CHARGEBACKS

MOTION to adopt \$14,480,434 - by Ms. Campagnone
seconded by Ms. Hajjar Kumm

ROLL CALL:
Mr. Dennis D.J. Deeb No
Mr. Robert Vogler Present
Ms. Lynne Hajjar Kumm Yes
Ms. Joyce Campagnone Yes
Mr. Nicholas DiZoglio No
Ms. Jana DiNatale Yes
Mayor Stephen N. Zanni Yes
VOTE: 4-2-1 (Mr. Deeb and Mr. DiZoglio Voted No. Mr. Vogler Voted Present)

TOTAL SCHOOL FY'18 BUDGET

MOTION to adopt \$86,480,434- by Ms. Hajjar Kumm
seconded by Ms. Campagnone

ROLL CALL:
Mr. Dennis D.J. Deeb No
Mr. Robert Vogler Yes

Ms. Lynne Hajjar Kumm Yes
Ms. Joyce Campagnone Yes
Mr. Nicholas DiZoglio Yes
Ms. Jana DiNatale Yes
Mayor Stephen N. Zanni Yes
VOTE: 6-1-0 (Mr. Deeb Voted No)

***ADJOURNMENT:**

With no further business to discuss at this FY'18 Budget Public Hearing and Adoption of FY'18 Budget Meetings, Mayor Zanni entertained a motion to conclude the meeting at 6:49PM.

MOTION: Ms. Hajjar Kumm moved to adjourn the Public Hearing FY'18 Budget Public Hearing and Adoption of FY'18 Budget Meetings at 6:49PM.

Ms. Campagnone seconded the motion

VOTE: 7-0-0 UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED

Respectfully submitted,
Martha Sirois, Public Recorder
Methuen Public Schools