

REPORT OF BRENTWOOD SCHOOL-DISTRICT MEETING

MARCH 6, 2024

At a legal meeting of the inhabitants of the Town of Brentwood in the County of Rockingham, State of New Hampshire, qualified to vote in School affairs, held at Swasey Central School on March 6, 2024 at 6:00PM the following business was conducted:

Moderator Douglas Cowie called the meeting to order at 6:13pm and led the assembly in the Pledge of Allegiance.

There are 3,394 Brentwood registered voters of which 147 voters attended the School District Meeting.

Doug Cowie asked the board attendees to introduce themselves; Allison Higgins, School Board Chair, Brian Duffy Vice Chair, Meghan Fitzgerald, Letty Bedard and Kate Bonafede, School Board members, and Ron Kew Principal Swasey Central School. The representatives of SAU 16; Chris Andriski, Assistant Superintendent, Gordan Graham District Counsel and Mollie O'Keefe, Director of Finance.

Cowie introduced the School Clerk (ProTem) Heather Haggett, and the Budget Committee was introduced by Jack Mitchell, Budget Committee Chair; Michelle Siudut, Secretary, Gabby Kelly and Letty Bedard, School Board Rep, were in attendance. Alina Arida, Anthony Phillips, Jonathan Morgan, the Selectboard Rep, were unable to attend. Further introductions by Cowie included Skip Williamson and Kayley Dvorak, Supervisors of the Checklist and Carole Belliveau and Skip Belanger were the counters for the meeting. Later in the meeting, Doug noted that he was re-miss in introducing Melissa Hanlon as Assistant Moderator.

Cowie explained the Moderator's rules to be used at the meeting. A motion was made by Eric Trump and duly seconded by Matt Lipinski to waive the reading and adopt the Moderators rules. Motion passed by a show of voting cards.

School Board Chair, Allison Higgins presented the attendees with a slide show explaining the board's goals; to keep the students at the center of all decision making, data for decision making, and communication support and engagement.

Before the reading of Article #1, Solar Project, the process was overviewed stating that once the discussion portion of the warrant article had finished ballot voting will begin and remain open for one hour.

Article #1. Motion made by Allison Higgins and duly seconded by Brian Duffy to see if the school district will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$850,000 (gross budget) for the solar project at Swasey Central School, and to authorize the issuance of not more than \$850,000 of bonds or notes in accordance with the provisions of the Municipal Finance Act (RSA 33) and to authorize the municipal officials to issue and negotiate such bonds or notes and to determine the rate of interest thereon; and further, raise and appropriate an additional \$21,250 to meet the necessary financial obligations associated with the project's debt service for the 2024-2025 fiscal year. (3/5 ballot vote required).

Amendment made by James Berlo to include the following: Any Rebate(s) shall be purposed solely toward the bond principle. Motion made by Susie Curtis and duly seconded by Katie Coppola to close debate. Motion to close debate passed by show of voting cards. **Article #1, as amended, failed by show of voting cards.**

Article #1, as written, passed by ballot vote YES 89 (63%) and NO 52. Motion made by Meghan Fitzgerald and duly seconded by Kate Bonafede to restrict reconsideration. Motion passed by show of voting cards.

Article #2. Motion made by Allison Higgins and duly seconded by Brian Duffy to see if the Brentwood School District shall vote to raise and appropriate the Municipal Budget Committee's recommended amount of \$7,057,382 for the support of schools, for the payment of salaries for the School District officials and agents, and for the payment of the statutory obligations of the District. This article does not include appropriations voted in other warrant articles. (Majority vote required)

Amendment made by James Berlo to change the amount to raise and appropriate to \$6,600,000. Motion made by Robert Bergin and duly seconded by Andrew Artimovich to close debate on the amendment. Motion to close debate passed by show of voting cards. **Article #2, as amended, failed by show of voting cards.**

Request with 5 signatures made by James Berlo to have a ballot vote for Article #2, as written. Motion made by Eric Turer and duly seconded by Robert Bergin to close debate. Motion passed by show of voting cards. **Article #2, as written, passed with ballot vote YES 91 NO 38.** Motion made by Meghan Fitzgerald and duly seconded by Kate Bonafede to restrict reconsideration. Motion passed by show of voting cards.

Article #3. Motion made by Allison Higgins and duly seconded by Brian Duffy to see if the Brentwood School District shall vote to raise and appropriate the sum of up to \$20,000 to be placed in the Special Education Capital Reserve Trust Fund previously established for the unanticipated special education costs at Swasey Central School? This sum to come from June 30 fund balance available for transfer on July 1. No additional amount to be raised from taxation. (Majority vote required)

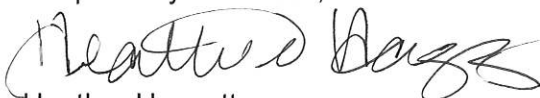
Motion by Elizabeth Faria and duly seconded by William Faria to close debate. Motion to close debate passed by show of voting cards. **Article #3 passed by show of voting cards.** Motion made by Meghan Fitzgerald and duly seconded by Elizabeth Faria to restrict reconsideration. Motion passed by show of voting cards.

Article #4. Motion made by Allison Higgins and duly seconded by Brian Duffy to see if the Brentwood School District will vote to establish a Technology Capital Reserve Fund under the provisions of RSA 35:1 for unanticipated technology expenses and to raise and appropriate up to \$10,000 to be placed in this fund. This sum to come from June 30 fund balance available for transfer on July 1. No additional amount to be raised from taxation. Further, to name the Brentwood School Board as agents to expend from the fund. (Majority vote required)

Amendment made by Brian Duffy and duly seconded by Letty Bedard to remove "unanticipated" from the language of the warrant article. Motion made by Meghan Fitzgerald and duly seconded by Kate Bonafede to close debate. Motion to close debate passed by show of voting cards. **Article #4, as amended, passed by show of voting cards** Motion made by Meghan Fitzgerald and duly seconded by Kate Bonafede to restrict reconsideration. Motion passed by show of voting cards.

A motion was made by Allison Higgins and duly seconded by Brian Duffy to adjourn the meeting at 8:58pm.

Respectfully submitted,



Heather Haggett

School Clerk(ProTem)

State of New Hampshire, County of Rockingham
On this the 14 day of March, 2024, before me
Daphne Woss the undersigned officer
personally appeared Heather Haggett
known to me (or satisfactorily proven) to be the person
whose name is subscribed to the within instrument and
acknowledged that he/she executed the same for the
purposes therein contained. In witness where in hereunto
set my hand and official seal.

