

OAK BLUFFS SCHOOL DISTRICT OF MARTHA'S VINEYARD
Tuesday, January 6, 2009 5:00PM
Oak Bluffs School Library

Present: Chair - Priscilla Sylvia, Judi O'Donoghue, Lisa Reagan,;
Others: Principal's Office – Laury Binney, Gina Patti;
Superintendent's Office – Jim Weiss, Amy Tierney, Laurie Halt
SAC – Beth Flaherty
OB FinCom – Peter Palches
Press – Sam Bungey – Vineyard Gazette
Recorder - Marni Lipke

*Late arrivals

or early

departures.

The meeting was called to order and the Public Hearing convened at 5:08PM.

Public Hearing on the Fiscal Year 2010 Proposed Budget

Business Administrator Amy Tierney reviewed the Fiscal Year 2010 (FY10) Oak Bluffs School (OBS) proposed budget (see documents on file).

- Contractual raises accounted for a 4.25% raise over FY09.
- The School Advisory Council (SAC) recommended levels of cuts to reduce it to a 2.31% raise in spending.
- Use of the School Choice Fund then reduced the proposed budget to a 1.85% (\$109,145) assessment rise.

Peter Palches asked a series of questions.

- There was a long discussion on school choice policy and funds.
 - 13 more school choice students came to OBS than left OBS-showing a high quality school.
 - School choice students were only allowed in classes below the cut off size determined by policy and school principals. Once accepted a school choice student had the right to remain in the school until graduation. Siblings of attendees were given preference but not guaranteed a slot.
 - School choice policy was Islandwide and governed by Mass. State regulations so that it would be difficult to manage an exactly even exchange of students.

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- The OBS had reduced two class sections/positions in the last two years with a stable population and was now proposing further reductions – all in all over the years 9 positions in 6 departments had been cut - with the added gain of reducing Town benefit costs.
- Increments were included for administrative raises.
- Enrollment projection for Academic Year 2009-2010 (AY10) was about 400 students however the hard economic times affected the accuracy of the prediction.
- Changes in revenue or failure to pass the budget in the difficult economic times would mean a re-evaluation of the budget. There were no current plans.
- The OBSD could not increase revenues as could some other town departments – however it was noted these funds went into the Town General Fund and did not stay with the department.
- *JUDI O'DONOGHUE MOVED TO CLOSE THE PUBLIC HEARING AT 5:35PM; LISA REAGAN SECONDED; MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY: 3 AYES, 0 NAYS, 0 ABSTENTIONS.*

Old /New Business

(Agenda Item #2)

- Despite bad weather on the last day of school before the holiday break, students stayed late to go to the Senior Center to sing holiday carols.
- Tufcor proposed to come for one day (charging only one hour travel time each way) to evaluate and repair the cafeteria / gym doors and any others in the school (see documents on file). No other Island schools had partition doors. The matter would be taken up at the regular school committee meeting.
- After a series of plumbing back ups it became evident that a previously neglected grease trap was full. There was a long discussion on maintenance, location, accessibility and the unusual size of the trap. The situation re-emphasized the need for the missing as-built OBS blueprints. The OBSC discussed: best business practices, as well as alternatives such as the installation of a new trap.

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- LISA REAGAN MOVED TO AUTHORIZE THE WITHDRAWAL OF UP TO \$5,000 FROM SCHOOL CHOICE FUNDS FOR WORK TO LOCATE AND CLEAN THE GREASE TRAP; JUDI O'DONOHUE SECONDED; MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY: 3 AYES, 0 NAYS, 0 ABSTENTIONS.

- The OBSC asked that the work be monitored to be as inexpensive as possible without cutting corners.

The next OBSC meeting will be 8:30AM January 20, 2009 at the Oak Bluffs School Conference Room.

Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 5:57PM.

Documents on file:

Agenda/Posting 1/6/09

OBS FY10 Budget Analysis 1/6/09

SAC Recommendations for 2009-2010 OBS Budget

OBS Proposed FY10 Budget Draft #2 (4 p.) 1/6/09

Reagan Memorandum re: Folding Door Repair and Maintenance 1/6/09

Corbin - Hufcor, Inc. letter re: Operable Partition Preventive Maintenance
Repair Terms and Conditions 12/2/08

Approved as written 1/20/09.