

**[NORTHFIELD SELECT BOARD MEETING MINUTES WITH THE  
FINANCE COMMITTEE]**

January 30, 2023  
Northfield Town Hall  
69 Main St

Select Board Present: Barbara “Bee” Jacque, Chair; Heath Cummings, Vice Chair (remote 6:30pm-& 7:15pm);  
Bernard Boudreau, Clerk

Select Board Absent: Alexander Meisner; Mary Bowen

Finance Committee Present: Dan Campbell, Chair; Bernard Porada; Andrew McCarthy; Tony Matteo

Finance Committee Absent: Sue Kaczinski

Also Present: Andrea Llamas, Town Administrator; Sandra L. Wood, Town Secretary (remote); Mandy Shute, BNCTV

Others Present: Reina Dastous, School Committee Chair, Patricia Kinsella PVRSD Superintendent; Jordan Burns Dir.  
Of Finance & Operations; Melissa Gerry; Jim Trill, Interim Principal Northfield Elementary

- Campbell convened the Finance Committee at 6:02pm
  - The Finance Committee met with Sewer Dept. Superintendent Isaac Golding and Sewer Commission member Karen Boudreau
- Jacque convened the Select Board at 6:30 pm
- Pioneer Valley Regional School District Budget
  - Reina Dastous, School Committee Chair, Patricia Kinsella PVRSD Super Jordan Burns Director of Finance & Operations
  - Burns reviewed the process and explained budget priorities. (slide show)
    - Warwick departure and its impact -408, 021K
    - Health insurance- with detailed explanation to avoid yo-yo of budget
    - School choice decrease
    - Less staffing
    - Temporary increased use of Elementary & Secondary School Relief (ESSR) funds
    - Proposed budget total reduced to 14,813,000.
    - Review of each schools’ enrollment numbers
      - Kinsella added class size numbers were “cuspy” explaining going with 2 classrooms for 1 grade
    - Burns- review of school choice numbers
      - Kinsella gave further explanation on special needs / school choice
      - The School Committee votes to numbers accepted by school & grade
        - Matteo- what rough cost range?
      - Kinsella-Couple thousand to 10’s of thousands for special needs with further explanation on high school tuition students and rules that apply
    - Burns- Investments in teaching and learning. Woodshop etc. hands on learning outdoor/environmental; Instrumental music
    - Per the Dept. of Elementary & Secondary Education (DESE), Warwick will not be part of town meeting votes creating a 2/3 vote needed
    - Review of upcoming meetings
- Questions

**[NORTHFIELD SELECT BOARD MEETING MINUTES WITH THE  
FINANCE COMMITTEE]**

January 30, 2023  
Northfield Town Hall  
69 Main St

- Porada- Superintendent community outreach item?
    - Kinsella flexible to work with 3 towns, meetings w/ lunch; bring in facilitator; unexpected opportunities
      - Jacque- increase of 10k from 4k seems high
  - Porada- \$37 -47k for clerk?
    - Increase in hours for position
    - Facility master plan?
      - Older buildings, maintenance costs looking to prioritize
      - To look long term
      - Configuration of grades in each building study
    - Debt service decline, interest up
      - Bank rates; refinancing the debt
  - Matteo- new mentoring administration line?
    - Several people mentoring
    - Evals being done
      - Yes; need work in quality of evals
  - Porada- reason for dean salary fluctuations
    - Full to part time back to full
      - Jacque- are they the assistant principal?
        - No different position. No asst principal now
  - McCarthy-expense for virtual high school
    - VHS, online platform for classes not offered in our curriculum
  - Jacque- ESSR column; using for subs etc. doesn't ESSR go away?
    - Yes, will continue to identify areas to match student need; subs not included in bargaining agreement
    - Before/After school project paid by outside; some ESSR funds this year
  - Porada- curriculum director increased hours?
    - Yes
    - Resource officer?
      - Yes, \$30,000 budget
    - Completed teacher contract
      - Yes 2,2,2 for 3 years
    - Enrollment for middle and high school
      - Published monthly, will email
    - Mechanism for transportation expended to come back to towns
      - Part of your budget so we don't assess, it's a revenue
- Dastous & Gerry out 7:49p
  - Jim Trill, NES Interim principal joined Kinsella and Burns

**[NORTHFIELD SELECT BOARD MEETING MINUTES WITH THE  
FINANCE COMMITTEE]**

January 30, 2023  
Northfield Town Hall  
69 Main St

- Capital projects
  - To be addressed in February
- Trill, Kinsella and Burns out at 7:55 pm
- Jacque closed the Select Board participation at 7:55 pm

The Finance Committee continued with their meeting.

Recorded by Sandra L. Wood, Secretary

\_\_\_\_\_  
Select Board Clerk

2/7/23  
Date Approved