



**NORTH MIDDLESEX REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT FINANCE COMMITTEE**

Ashby – Pepperell – Townsend, Massachusetts

**MINUTES – APRIL 27, 2022**

Virtual

**PRESENT**

|             |                 |                            |
|-------------|-----------------|----------------------------|
| Chairperson | Lisa Martin     | Member, At-Large           |
|             | Craig Hansen    | Member, Pepperell ~ Absent |
|             | Randee Rusch    | Member, At-Large           |
|             | William Hackler | Citizen Member             |

**ALSO PRESENT**

|              |                     |
|--------------|---------------------|
| Brad Morgan  | Superintendent      |
| Nancy Haines | Business Manager    |
| Robin Eibye  | Recording Secretary |

**OTHER ATTENDEES**

|                  |             |
|------------------|-------------|
| Jeremy Hamond    | IT Director |
| Patricia Lee     | NMRSD       |
| Jessica Sheridan | NMRSD       |
| Patrick          | Ashby       |

**CALL MEETING TO ORDER**

- Lisa Martin opened the meeting at 8:02 a.m. Ms. Martin announced the committee was meeting in a virtual setting, fully remote via teleconferencing, practicing social distancing, and in accordance with the Governor’s suspension of specific open meeting laws.
- Roll Call

|                   |     |              |     |
|-------------------|-----|--------------|-----|
| <b>Roll Call:</b> |     |              |     |
| Randee Rusch      | Yes | Craig Hansen | -   |
| William Hackler   | Yes | Lisa Martin  | Yes |
| Brad Morgan       | Yes | Robin Eibye  | Yes |
| Nancy Haines      | Yes |              |     |

**MEETING MINUTES APPROVAL**

- The committee agreed to move the minutes to the next meeting.

**OLD BUSINESS**

- FY23 Budget:
  - Brad Morgan and Nancy Haines provided an update to the FY23 Budget.
  - A discussion ensued about the Budget Summit meetings, and that member towns’ attendance was sparse. Mr. Morgan said the district had shared its budget with the member towns, but the towns had not shared their proposed budgets until recently
  - Mr. Morgan said the district is still unclear about where the numbers need to be for the budget to pass in all three towns.
  - Mr. Morgan said the district was working on a backup plan
  - Randee Rusch said she had an interesting discussion with Ross Perry. Ms. Rusch said she felt Townsend representatives did not have a good understanding of the school district’s budget
  - Ms. Rusch noted 60% of the towns’ budgets go to the school district, which is in line and comparable with the state average for regional school districts
  - A discussion ensued about Townsend’s \$362,000 deficit and that the town would probably not support the school budget
  - Ms. Rusch said she did not believe Townsend or Ashby would vote to support the proposed budget
  - Lisa Martin said the proposed budget was reasonable, and all towns should support it
  - Ms. Rusch recommended that the School Committee vote to recalculate and lower assessments to member towns if the district’s FY23 revenue increases from the Revenue Estimates presented on March 21, 2022.
  - Ms. Haines provided an update on state funding and said she expected the state budget would be approved sometime in July

**NEXT MEETING**

- The committee agreed to meet again on May 5, 2022, at 7:30 a.m.

**ADJOURNMENT**

At 8:27 a.m., William Hackler motioned, and Randee Rusch seconded the committee vote to adjourn.

|                        |     |              |     |
|------------------------|-----|--------------|-----|
| <b>Roll Call Vote:</b> |     |              |     |
| Randee Rusch           | Yes | Craig Hansen | -   |
| William Hackler        | Yes | Lisa Martin  | Yes |

Vote: The motion unanimously passed 3/0/0.

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Documents Reviewed / Referred To:

- 2022 04-27 Finance Agenda
- 2022-03-29-FinanceMinutes
- FY22 Budget Summary Detail 4-26-22
- FRY23 Revenue Sources for 3-21-22
- North Middlesex Regional School District FY23 Presentation for Town meetings revised 4-25-22
- RegSchBudget740\_2023HOUSE budget

Respectfully submitted,  
Robin Eibye, Recording Secretary

**APPROVED:** June 10, 2022

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