

SHARON BOARD OF FINANCE  
Draft until approved at the next regular meeting

A special meeting of the Sharon BOF was held on October 13, 2020 at 6:30PM via Zoom. Present were regular members Dignacco, Duncan, Bartram, Bancroft and Fowler; alternate Ensign; First Selectman Colley, Board of Ed Chairman Cahill, Dr. Manning and the secretary.

Chairman Dignacco called the meeting to order at 6:30.

Mr. Bancroft made a motion to approve to Town Meeting an additional appropriation from the Undesignated Fund of up to \$324,750 to cover Sharon's shortfall in funding for the new Transfer Station, seconded by Ms. Fowler. This additional funding is needed in order to proceed with the finalization of the USDA loan. A Town Meeting will be required for this as the USDA funding is federal and they are not under the Governor's Executive Orders. Mr. Colley explained that the overage is basically due to the fact that an on-site manager was hired who was not budgeted for and with the need to re-design the facility, the engineering fees were higher. The contractor was actually under budget. The finances for the project were reviewed. It is unknown if there will be any costs to "clean up" the existing site per Hotchkiss School's request. It was noted that part of this property does belong to the Town of Salisbury and any cost may be able to come out the Transfer Station Account that Salisbury maintains. With all questions answered, vote taken on motion = all in favor = motion carried unanimously.

The Board of Education requested a discussion with the Board of Finance regarding the usage of the \$50,000 in their budget for Capital Improvements for estimates on mechanical drawings and specifications to be used for bidding purposes, oversight of the bidding process and construction management for air conditioning at the school. Rough estimates were \$700,000 for two floors - \$260,000 for the gymnasium and \$370,000 for the main floor only. The BOE is interested at this point in doing the main floor. The funds in the budget can be spent without BOF approval but the BOE wanted feedback from this Board on the project in general – should they proceed or not. Mr. Cahill gave a history of Capital Improvement Plan and how they have been working on the list within their budget. The air conditioning is the last big item on the list. The BOE has approximately \$383,000 in their portion of the Capital Non-recurring Account. The estimates proposed are for the main floor only. School enrollment was discussed as well as future enrollment. If the BOE moves ahead with the proposal, they would be looking for a Town Meeting in January or February 2021 with the goal for the work to be done during the summer months. Unfortunately, this project is not eligible for state grants. It was commented that this work might even have health benefits for the students and staff. It was the consensus of the BOF that BOE proceed with obtaining the estimates.

With nothing further, Mr. Bartram made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Mr. Duncan, with all in favor. The meeting was adjourned at 7:02.

Respectfully submitted,



Tina Pitcher  
Recording Secretary

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NEXT REGULAR MEETING: DECEMBER 8 7 PM

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SHARON TOWN CLERK