



**Joint Meeting: Wellfleet Board of Selectmen and Finance Committee
Minutes of January 24, 2017
Wellfleet Senior Center**

Present: Selectmen Dennis Murphy, Helen Miranda Wilson, Janet Reinhart; Berta Bruinooge, Jerry Houk; Town Administrator Dan Hoort, Assistant Town Administrator Brian Carlson; Ira Wood, Arlene Kirsch, Bob Wallace, Janet Loewenstein, Fred Magee and Kathleen Granlund

Regrets: Stephen Polowczyk, Linda Pellegrino and Sieglinde Rogers

Janet Loewenstein, Vice Chair and acting as Chair called the Finance Committee meeting to order at 7:29 pm.

Business: Wellfleet Elementary School FY 2018 Budget Presentation

Wellfleet Elementary School (WES) School Committee Chair Janis Plaue spoke highly of the operations, management and administration of the WES, and said that WES is once again a level 1 school. She explained why the FY2018 Budget request exceed the limitations of Proposition 2 ½. Principal Mary Beth Rodman went into details of the proposed FY18 budget. She said that in the past five years the budget has always been under 2.5% increase, but for the next school year, due to increase in the special needs students population, and increased enrollment the budget cannot be kept within 2.5%. She explained the new Special Needs program and its benefits to Wellfleet's students and families. FinCom member Magee said that there is very little room to work with the school budget and commended Rodman for the job well done. Granlund wanted to better understand which funding sources were lost. Rodman explained the nature of the State funding sources for various programs and special needs students. Rodman said that she will provide a copy of her presentation and list of formulas and funding sources. Wilson was not happy to hear that the State is not funding a full-day Kindergarten program.

MOTION: Bruinooge moved to vote to approve the FY 2018 budget request of Wellfleet Elementary School. Reinhart seconded and the motion passed 5-0.

Business: NRSD FY 2018 Budget Presentation

Nauset Regional School District (NRSD) Superintendent Tom Conrad, NRSD Business Manager Giovanna Venditi and NRSD School Committee Wellfleet Representative Christopher Easley presented the Nauset Middle School and Nauset Regional High School FY2018 budget requests. Superintendent Conrad said that NRHS is Level 1 school and NRMS is Level 2 school. He explained that the budget challenges at the moment are due to unfunded retirement obligations in the past. The currently proposed budget for NRMS is at 3.01% increase and the NRHS is at 2.15% increase. Superintendent Conrad also explained that the raising health care costs are beyond his District's control. He shared that the District is facing the same challenges as WES in terms of special needs students increases. Since the proposed budget was in draft form, awaiting the NRMD and NRHS committees votes, he said that he would be happy to come back when the final numbers are available after February 9, 2017. Conrad shared that NRSD has expressed a letter of interest to upgrade the NRHS to the Massachusetts School Building Authority for a second year in a row. Wilson explained that the Charter Review Committee is looking into changing the date for Annual Town Meeting, to make the Budget process easier in the future. Hoort emphasized that the percentage of the Wellfleet share is based on student enrollment. The discussion concluded with no action taken by the Board of Selectmen and FinCom.

MOTION: Kirsch moved and Wallace seconded to adjourn the Finance Committee meeting at 7:58pm. The motion passed 6-0.

Respectfully submitted,
Michaela Miteva, Executive Assistant