

Londonderry School District
Deliberative Session

5 A concurrent meeting of the School Administrative Unit No. 12 School Board and the Londonderry School District School Boards was held on **Friday, February 5th, 2016** at 7:00PM at the Londonderry High School for the purpose of holding the first session of the annual town meeting which is the Deliberative Session. In attendance were School Board members: Nancy Hendricks, John Laferriere, Dan Lekas, and Leitha Reilly. Also in attendance were
10 Superintendent Nate Greenberg, and Business Administrator Peter Curro, Budget Committee members: Ted Combes, James Hooley, Gary Vermillion, Greg Warner and Tim Siekmann, School District Attorney Peter Bronstein, Town Moderator Bob Saur and School Board Secretary Lisa Muse.

15 Mr. Saur called the meeting to order at 7:00PM. The Londonderry Color Guard presented the flag and members of the Londonderry High School Band played the National Anthem. There was a moment of silence for members of the Londonderry School District who were lost this year and for members of the armed forces. Mr. Saur introduced the head table.

20 Mr. Curro led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. Saur went over the purpose and set the rules of the meeting.

25 This session shall consist of explanation, discussion and deliberation of the warrant articles numbered 2 through 7. Warrant articles may be amended subject to the following limitations: (a) warrant articles whose wording is prescribed by law shall not be amended and (b) warrant articles, as amended shall be placed on the official ballot for a final vote of the main motion as amended.

30 Voting on warrant articles numbered 1 through 7 shall be conducted by official ballot to be held at Londonderry High School Gymnasium on the 8th day of March, 2016. Polls will be open from 7:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.

35 Mr. Saur read **Article 2: General Fund - Operating Budget**

Shall the voters of the Londonderry School District vote to raise and appropriate as an operating budget for the fiscal year 2016-2017, not including appropriations by special warrant articles, or separate warrant articles, one of the following amounts for the purposes set forth in the budget posted with the warrant? **Vote for only one:**

40 A. \$70,778,003 (School Board Budget as amended) (Estimated Tax Impact \$13.60)

| | | | | |
|----|--------------------------------|------------|-----------|------------------|
| | | <u>Yes</u> | <u>No</u> | <u>Abstained</u> |
| 45 | Voted by the School Board: | 5 | 0 | 0 |
| | Voted by the Budget Committee: | 5 | 0 | 0 |

OR

B. \$70,932,073 (Default Budget) (Estimated Tax Impact \$13.65)

50 NOTE: Warrant Article 2 (Operating Budget) does not include appropriations proposed under any other article in this warrant.

Mr. Laferriere made the motion to move the article to the ballot. Mrs. Hendricks seconded the motion. Mr. Greenberg presented the article. He outlined the budget and went over the numbers and the tax impact. He had a Power Point presentation outlining the details of the Budget. He discussed the Summary by Object Code and discussed the breakdown. He went over the highlights of the educational programs and services slide. The programs are driven by staff and he discussed the significant decrease in enrollment. Recommendations have been made to reduce staffing and Mr. Greenberg discussed what is being reduced and added. He spoke about the increase of 504 students at the high school. He then went over the students per teacher slide and the teacher reductions. He explained that we have been able to maintain good class sizes and programs across the board. Even with the reduction of staff we have been frugal and focused to maintain class sizes. He is very proud of over a two year period to lead the fight to change the State accountability from Smarter Balance to SAT. The State is picking up the cost of the SAT across the State. The District is picking up the cost of the essay part. College Board was implemented and the information we get back is very important and helps in setting the curriculum. The change in the math sequence was a result of this. We are able to provide students with better information and provide a better program. 77.4% of students last year who took AP classes got a 3 or better. STEM is a big effort that we are pushing. We are looking to increase our presence on social media and we are working on that. We are reorganizing our IT Department and outsourcing our web page which will give us a better presence and provide a mobile app. We presently have a great presence on Twitter and You Tube. He discussed our Special Education programs and the in-house programs. He went over the increase in our out-of-district placements which resulted in an increase in the special ed budget. Severity of disabilities does not allow us to provide the services in house. Co-curricular activities and extra-curricular activities are offered at all schools. He continued to go over technology, debt service and the emergency planning, building and grounds. He discussed how we pulled out of the national lunch program at the high school. Mr. Greenberg then continued to go over the achievements of the district including graduation rate, dropout rate, students that were accepted to a 2/4 year program, student awards, staff awards and district recognition. He continued to go over the Fiscal Information by discussing Revenue, Local Tax Base and Expenditures.

Mr. Combes stated the Budget Committee voted 5-0-0 on the school district budget.

Mr. Saur asked if there was any public discussion. Since there was none, he moved the article to the ballot.

Mr. Vermillion made the motion to restrict reconsideration. Mrs. Hendricks seconded the motion. No further discussion. Motion passed by a raised ballot vote.

Mr. Saur read **Article 3: School Lunch Program and Federal Fund Projects**

Shall the voters of the Londonderry School District vote to accept and receive federal grants and other such funds to support the school lunch program and federal projects; further to raise and appropriate such funds in a special revenue fund as follows: school lunch program, \$1,546,577; and federal projects, \$1,389,000; for an estimated total appropriation of \$2,935,577 such funds to be self-supporting through local, state or federal revenue sources?

(Estimated Tax Impact \$0.00)

| | <u>Yes</u> | <u>No</u> | <u>Abstained</u> |
|--------------------------------|------------|-----------|------------------|
| Voted by the School Board: | 5 | 0 | 0 |
| Voted by the Budget Committee: | 5 | 0 | 0 |

Mrs. Hendricks made the motion to move the article to the ballot. Mr. Lekas seconded the motion. Mrs. Hendricks presented the article.

5 Mrs. Hendricks mentioned that this program allows us to accept and receive federal funds to provide food to students.

Mr. Combes states the Budget Committee voted in favor 5-0-0 with a zero impact. Mr. Saur asked if there was any public discussion. Since there was none, he moved the article to the ballot.

10 **Mrs. Mee made the motion to restrict reconsideration. Mr. Laferriere seconded the motion. No further discussion. Motion passed by a raised ballot vote.**

15 Mr. Saur read **Article 4: Special Article (School Buildings Maintenance Expendable Trust Fund)**

20 Shall the voters of the Londonderry School District vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$500,000 to be placed in the School Buildings Maintenance Expendable Trust Fund? The Expendable Maintenance Trust Fund was previously established and approved at the March 1995 School District Meeting.

(Estimated Tax Impact \$0.14)

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|--------------------------------|------------|-----------|------------------|
| | <u>Yes</u> | <u>No</u> | <u>Abstained</u> |
| Voted by the School Board: | 5 | 0 | 0 |
| Voted by the Budget Committee: | 5 | 0 | 0 |

25 NOTE: The intended use for these funds is for major one-time capital costs for district facilities including roofs, paving, boilers and small renovation projects.

30 Mr. Lekas made the motion to move the article to the ballot. Mr. Laferriere seconded the motion. Mrs. Reilly presented the article.

This trust is used to provide large maintenance jobs. Proposed projects are general projects, security, general field improvement and emergency generator. Funds can only be used for what is approved at deliberative.

35 Mr. Combes stated the Budget Committee voted in favor 5-0-0. Mr. Saur asked if there was any public discussion. Since there was none, he moved the article to the ballot.

40 **Mrs. Mee made the motion to restrict reconsideration. Mrs. Reilly seconded the motion. No further discussion. Motion passed by a raised ballot vote**

Mr. Saur mentioned that there are 67 registered voters in attendance.

45 Mr. Saur read **Article 5: Special Article – Equipment Capital Reserve Fund**

50 Shall the School District vote to raise and appropriate up to the sum of \$100,000 to be placed in the School District Equipment Capital Reserve Fund established in 2013 to provide funds to procure essential small equipment for classrooms, offices, technology, and buildings and grounds? This sum to come from the June 30, 2016 fund balance available for transfer on July 1, 2016.

(Estimated Tax Impact \$0.00)

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|----------------------------|------------|-----------|------------------|
| | <u>Yes</u> | <u>No</u> | <u>Abstained</u> |
| Voted by the School Board: | 5 | 0 | 0 |

5 **Mrs. Reilly made the motion to move the article to the ballot. Mr. Lekas seconded the motion. Mrs. Reilly presented the article.**

10 Mrs. Reilly mentioned that this fund is used to finance the purchase of technology equipment, building and grounds and small equipment for classrooms and offices. Monies can only be used as approved at the deliberative session. Tax impact is zero.

15 Mr. Combes stated the Budget Committee voted in favor 5-0-0. Mr. Saur asked if there was any public discussion. Since there was none, he moved the article to the ballot.

Mrs. Mee made the motion to restrict reconsideration. Mr. Lekas seconded the motion. No further discussion. Motion passed by a raised ballot vote

20 Mr. Saur read **Article 6: Non-Lapsing Special Article Network Infrastructure & Wireless Improvement and Expansion**

25 Shall the School District vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$300,000 to fund the necessary costs to improve the School District’s network infrastructure including wireless capabilities to address the curriculum and administrative needs of the School District? This will be a non-lapsing appropriation per RSA 32:7, VI and will not lapse until all necessary infrastructure improvements are completed or by June 2020, whichever is sooner.

30 (Estimated Tax Impact \$0.08)

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|--|--------------------------------|------------|-----------|------------------|
| | | <u>Yes</u> | <u>No</u> | <u>Abstained</u> |
| | Voted by the School Board: | 5 | 0 | 0 |
| | Voted by the Budget Committee: | 5 | 0 | 0 |

35 **Mr. Laferriere made the motion to move the article to the ballot. Mrs. Reilly seconded the motion. Mr. Laferriere presented the article.**

40 Mr. Laferriere mentioned that we have been through a series of pilots with technology with great success, but the infrastructure needs to be updated to provide services to the student. We need to build out wireless through all the schools and provide adequate coverage and WIFI. With some significant planning, we were able to reduce the cost from \$600,000 to \$300,000. Coverage will also be provided outside on the campuses. This improvement will also help with security and adding cameras and other devices which this will support.

45 Mr. Combes stated the Budget Committee voted in favor 5-0-0. Mr. Saur asked if there was any public discussion. Since there was none, he moved the article to the ballot.

Mrs. Mee made the motion to restrict reconsideration. Mr. Laferriere seconded the motion. No further discussion. Motion passed by a raised ballot vote.

50 Mr. Saur read **Article 7: School District Charter Amendment**

Shall the school district vote to amend the Londonderry School District Charter to remove the quorum requirement for amendments at the School District Meeting by amending the following sections of the Charter?

- 5 1. Delete Section IV.C. that reads:
 "C. "Quorum of the meeting" shall mean 4% of registered voters or 500
 voters, whichever is less at the first session of an annual or special meeting."
 And, re-letter the subsections accordingly.
- 10 2. In Section VI.A.2, delete the last sentence that reads:
 "A quorum of the meeting will not be required to make such an amendment."
3. In Section VI.A.5, in the third sentence delete "of a quorum".
4. In Section VII.B.1, delete: ", regardless of whether a quorum of the meeting is
 present at the meeting".
- 15 5. Delete Section VII.B.2 that reads:
 "2. In order for the meeting to amend any warrant article, including the
 operating budget, a quorum of the meeting must vote and a majority of those
 voting must vote in the affirmative on said amendment to the warrant article."
6. In Section VII.B.5, delete "of a quorum of the meeting the" and insert a "," in its
 place.
- 20 7. Renumber the subparagraphs in Section VII.B. accordingly.

(Estimated Tax Impact \$0.00)

Voted by the School Board: Yes No Abstained
 5 0 0

25 ***Mr. Lekas made the motion to move the article to the ballot. Mrs. Hendricks seconded
the motion. Mr. Curro presented the article.***

30 He discussed how the quorum worked in the past and how the quorum was deemed too
restrictive and this brings the charter up to code and eliminates where the charter talks about
the quorum. This article will bring the charter up to code per the court order.

35 Mr. Combes said since this is a non-monetary article, the Budget Committee doesn't have to
vote.

 Mr. Saur asked for public input and seeing none he moved the article to the ballot.

 Mr. Saur closed the Deliberative Session at 7:54PM.

40 Respectfully submitted,

45 Lisa Muse
School Board Secretary