

Place: Raymond High School Media Center

Call to order: 7:00 p.m.

Members present: Gail Columbus, Colleen West Coates, Jim Tuttle, Ed Miller, Ed French, Sandy Ellis, School Board Representative John Harmon and Selectmen's Representative Tim Auclair.

Pledge of Allegiance

Review of the Raymond School District Operating Budget for 2007

Chairman Gail Columbus stated the School District Budget for 2007, submitted by the School Board is \$21,613,254. The default budget is \$21,493,028. Budget Committee Members were invited to comment.

MOTION: Ed French made a motion to recommend an operating budget for \$21,403,284 a reduction of \$209,970. Tim Auclair seconded. **DISCUSSION:** Ed French suggested that the new second grade teacher position be eliminated, substitutes be reduced by \$20,000 to offset the increase in the legal line, eliminate the RHS summer school program for \$8,000, reduce the Maintenance Salary line by \$5,500 and remove the Maintenance projects that are listed as low priorities. General supplies should be reduced to \$7,000. The budget would be level funded to 05-06 amounts.

John Harmon stated that the numbers reflect that it's better to have a lower class size and that was the rationale for adding a second grade teacher. The substitute pay is increased because we would like to have certified substitutes rather than non-certified. The summer school program is important because we do have a rather high drop out rate. Having the program here will make it easier for our students that need the help. In regards to the wage pool, the school district is trying to stay competitive to hire the best teachers we can.

Colleen West Coates stated that a summer school program would generate revenue, however, it's difficult to project that would be. Summer School provides the opportunity to those students who require an extended school year and perhaps save them from being a 5th year high school student.

Ed French stated that even though there would be revenue it would not be offsetting. The revenues would be less than the expenses. He stated his is not saying the substitute pay should or should not increase, the school board has always been able to find the money.

Acting Superintendent Shore stated that the cost of summer school would be \$2,000 per course for the district. Students would be charged about \$100.00 per class. Out of town students would pay more.

Tim Auclair stated that he agrees with the maintenance reductions but with a different take. The CIP should be used.

Colleen West Coates stated it doesn't make sense to take away summer school.

Jim Tuttle stated he could live with the motion but would like to see it cut more but does not want to penalize the school board for keeping increases down.

Sandy Ellis stated that she is concerned with the number of retirees and if a second grade teacher could come from that savings. She also stated that she still believes that one of the buses could be eliminated.

John Harmon stated that a transportation committee has been established and they will be looking at reducing buses.

VOTE ON THE MOTION:

Ed French, Tim Auclair, Ed Miller and Gail Columbus voted in favor of the motion. Sandy Ellis, Colleen West Coates, John Harmon and Jim Tuttle voted against the motion. **MOTION FAILED.**

MOTION: Jim Tuttle made a motion to reduce the budget to \$21,514,600 a reduction of \$98,654. This is level funded to 2006. Sandy Ellis seconded.

VOTE ON THE MOTION: Sandy Ellis, Jim Tuttle, Gail Columbus voted in favor of the motion. Colleen West Coates, John Harmon, Ed Miller, Ed French and Tim Auclair voted against the motion. **MOTION FAILED.**

MOTION: Colleen West Coates made a motion to reduce the budget to \$21,573,254. This is the current budget less the H-VAC system. John Harmon seconded. **DISCUSSION:** Ed French stated he could not support this because of the increase in taxes and there are a lot of other items I do not support.

Ed Miller agreed adding that just listening to the citizens we need to make a larger cut.

Sandy Ellis stated she was pleased with the way the budget came in and she expressed her concern for the teacher's contract.

Gail Columbus stated she is also concerned about support for the teacher contract and that it may not be there because of the operating budget.

VOTE ON THE MOTION: Colleen West Coates and John Harmon voted in favor of the motion. Ed Miller, Ed French, Sandy Ellis, Jim Tuttle, Gail Columbus and Tim Auclair voted against the motion. **MOTION FAILED.**

MOTION: Tim Auclair made a motion to reduce the budget to \$21,436,784 a reduction of \$176,470. Ed French seconded.

VOTE ON THE MOTION: Ed Miller, Ed French and Tim Auclair voted in favor of the motion. Sandy Ellis, Jim Tuttle, Gail Columbus, Colleen West Coates and John Harmon voted against the motion. **MOTION FAILED.**

MOTION: Colleen West Coates made a motion to reduce the budget to \$21,545,734 a reduction of \$67,520. Sandy Ellis seconded.

VOTE ON THE MOTION: Colleen West Coates, Sandy Ellis and John Harmon voted in favor of the motion. Ed Miller, Ed French, Jim Tuttle, Gail Columbus and Tim Auclair voted against the motion. **MOTION FAILED.**

MOTION: Tim Auclair made a motion to reduce the budget to \$21,476,784 a reduction of \$136,470. Sandy Ellis seconded.

VOTE ON THE MOTION: Tim Auclair, Gail Columbus, Ed Miller, Ed French, Sandy Ellis and Jim Tuttle voted in favor of the motion. Colleen West Coates and John Harmon voted against the motion. **MOTION PASSED.**

ARTICLE 3 – REA CONTRACT

MOTION: Colleen West Coates made a motion to recommend. Sandy Ellis seconded. **VOTE ON THE MOTION:** Ed French, Tim Auclair, Gail Columbus, Sandy Ellis, Colleen West Coates and Jim Tuttle voted in favor of the motion. Ed Miller Voted against the motion.

ARTICLE 6 – CIP CONSOLIDATION OF ACCOUNTS

MOTION: Sandy Ellis made a motion to recommend. Edward French seconded. Voted unanimously in the affirmative.

ARTICLE 7 –

MOTION: Colleen West Coates made a motion to recommend. Ed French seconded. **VOTE ON THE MOTION:** Ed French, Ed Miller, Gail Columbus, Sandy Ellis, Colleen West Coates and Jim Tuttle voted in favor of the motion. Tim Auclair Voted against the motion.

ARTICLE 8 –

MOTION: Ed French made a motion to recommend. Colleen West Coates seconded. Voted unanimously in the affirmative.

ARTICLE 12 – CITIZEN’S PETITION – MIDDLE SCHOOL BASEBALL TEAM

MOTION: Colleen West Coates made a motion to recommend. John Harmon seconded. **VOTE ON THE MOTION:** Ed Miller, John Harmon, Jim Tuttle, Sandy Ellis, and Colleen West Coates voted in favor of the motion. Ed French, Gail Columbus, and Tim Auclair voted against the motion. **MOTION PASSED.**

ARTICLE 13 – CITIZEN’S PETITION – HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL TEAM

MOTION: Colleen West Coates made a motion to recommend. Gail Columbus seconded. **VOTE ON THE MOTION:** Colleen West Coates voted in favor of the

motion. Ed Miller, John Harmon, Ed French, Gail Columbus, Sandy Ellis, Jim Tuttle and Tim Auclair voted against the motion. **MOTION FAILED.**

Approval of Minutes

MOTION: Tim Auclair made a motion to approve the minutes of 01-11-07 as amended. Ed French seconded. Voted unanimously in the affirmative.

Adjournment

MOTION: Ed Miller made a motion to adjourn. Jim Tuttle seconded. Voted unanimously in the affirmative. MEETING ADJOURNED AT 8:50 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Bette Patterson
Administrative Assistant