­ Shelburne Finance Committee Meeting

Monday September 25, 2023, 6:15 pm

Shelburne Fire Station

18 Little Mohawk Road

Minutes

Call to order: Meeting called to order at 6:15 pm by Terri Mitchell. Those present include, Finance Committee member Jay Readinger, Todd Dubreuil and Jim Burnham. Absent: Matt Popoli. Guest – School Committee Rep, Jason Cusimano.

1. Old Business:

* Reviewed Draft Meeting Minutes for 9/11/23. Minutes were unanimously approved as written for posting.
* 6:30 pm – Joined Selectboard Meeting to review proposed language changes to the District Agreement, Warrant Articles # 2, 3, & 4 at Special Town Meeting, October 11, 2023. Jason reiterated that the changes are all about fairness to the towns. The changes will bring us in line with DESE and most other school districts in the state. There are 3 amendments to the current Regional Agreement. The proposed language changes will use Foundation Enrollment as the basis for Assessments going forward. The amendments are supposedly just changing the way enrollment is defined. The proposed language revisions ADD maintenance to the definition of Capital Costs. The Article revisions basically deletes the entire cost allocation section from the existing agreement and replaces it with new wording changing the definition of Capital costs to include maintenance. The changes are NOT limited to how we count students for assessments. Concerned that Shelburne’s defeat of the proposed language changes would derail the movement, School Committee Chairperson, Martha Thurber, proposed fixing it later, but it couldn’t be fixed by Special Town Meeting. It can be brought back as an Amendment in the spring. The Committee had asked for the red lined version of the agreement, to see what else has changed, last spring, but never received it. Martha is going to get the Committee the red lined version of the Agreement asap. If only dealing with the changes in enrollment calculation, the Finance Committee is in agreement with the changes. It is the Maintenance language change that is the sticking point. Selectboard tabled the discussion until 10/10/23.
* Also discussed was Article # 1 on the Warrant, Own Our Lights. It was discussed that the Article will be proposed to be passed over and brought to All Town Meeting in the Spring.

2. New Business: None

3. Other Issues not anticipated 48 hours before the meeting:

4. Next Meeting: October 2, 2023 @ 5:30 pm.

5. Motion to Adjourn by Todd Dubreuil, seconded by Jim Burnham. All in favor. Meeting adjourned at 8:26 pm.