EDUCATION COMMITTEE AGENDA January 21st, 2015 4:30 P.M.

- I. Agenda Changes
- II. Preliminary School Budget Discussion
- III. General Information
- IV. Next Meeting Date: February 18th, 2015
- V. Adjournment

EDUCATION COMMITTEE MINUTES January 21st, 2015

Mr. Shreaves called the meeting to order at 4:30 pm. Committee members present include Tina Gulley, Paul Kelley and Wayne Healy.

Also present: Chris Vincent, Town Council Member; John Edwards, Town Manager; Karen Barrow, Town Clerk; Dr. Jeffery Smith, School Superintendent and Duddly Olsson, Chairperson of the West Point School Board.

I. Agenda Changes

No changes were made to the agenda.

II. Preliminary School Budget Discussion

Dr. Smith advised that staff presented their Budget Request to the School Board in December. The primary request is for a 3% salary increase to cover the cost of living and for the School Board to cover any increases to the health insurance. We are projecting enrolment to be 780 students, a number that is down from last year. Due to the decline in enrolment numbers, we are expecting the State funding to be level. Also because of the enrolment numbers there will not be any roll over funds from the current budget.

Mrs. Gulley asked if the schools can get the same health insurance as the town.

Mr. Edwards advised that the town falls under a different category, the town has 39 employees. The health insurance requirements are now in ranges for the number of employee's. The town falls in the under 50 employee category, the schools fall in a category of over 100 employees'.

Dr. Smith advised that the School Board has 128 employees and not all of the employee's participate in the Health Insurance program. There is a requirement that a certain percentage of employee's participate in the program. The Town has almost 100% participation by employees with the program.

Mr. Edwards advised the Town has 37 employees that participate in the Health Insurance program and that the monthly fee for the schools would be entirely different.

Mrs. Gulley advised the schools will see an increase of employee's that sign up during open enrolment for health insurance. Several employee's that had insurance through their spouse's job no longer have that insurance due to new health care laws so they will need insurance through the schools.

Duddly Olsson advised they are reviewing Health Insurance options.

Dr. Smith stated that there are other infrastructure cost increases for technology that the School Board would like to cover.

Duddly Olsson advised that the School Board is planning additional staff for the Athletic Director and Special Ed instructor and that there will be some increased classes and extra dual enrollment classes.

Mr. Edwards advised that the Joint Work Session with the School Board is scheduled for Tuesday, March 3rd 2015 at 7:00 p.m. at the School Board Office.

III. General Information

There was nothing available for discussion under General Information.

IV. Next Meeting Date: February 18th 2015

V. Adjournment

There being no further business Mr. Shreaves adjourned the meeting at 5:52 p.m.

Otto B Shreaves
Chairman

ATTEST:

Karen M. Barrow

Town Clerk