

**SPECIAL MEETING OF THE
SOUTH BURLINGTON SCHOOL BOARD
WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 15, 2020
Special Meeting at 6:00 P.M.
Executive Session to follow Special Meeting
Frederick H. Tuttle Middle School Library**

PRESENT

Elizabeth Fitzgerald, Bridget Burkhardt, Martin LaLonde, Alex McHenry, Brian Minier

ADMINISTRATION/STAFF

David Young, Delina Gilroy, Gary Marckres, Amadee Denton, Karsten Schlenter

GUESTS

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REGULAR SESSION

The meeting was called to order at 6:02 p.m.

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC

Sheldon Katz asked for a syllabus and other resources used for a course his child is taking, Race in American Society.

AMENDMENTS TO THE AGENDA

David Young added a presentation of the Master Planning and Visioning project after the budget presentation. These two presentations will be at the beginning of the meeting for discussion purposes.

**PRESENTATION OF THE FY 2021 BUDGET RECOMMENDED BY THE
ADMINISTRATION**

David Young provided an overview of the FY 2021 budget recommended by the administration. The board asked specific questions about facilities upgrades, health care expenses, and staffing including the school security positions. Mark Bradley asked about tuition students. David Young responded.

David Young reviewed the adjusted expenditure budget, the net “ed spending” per equalized pupil, and the other state level factors that make up the school budget. He also reviewed income sensitivity factors. The yield number will not be finalized until the legislature adjourns in May.

Gerry Silverstein spoke about the \$5,600 cap on income sensitivity.

David Young reviewed the components of the tax rate calculation and how they work. The administration recommended budget is \$55,865,686.00 with a property tax rate increase is 11.22%. David Young reviewed the enrollments and average class sizes at each of the schools.

The board will consider action on the budget later on the agenda.

MASTER PLANNING AND VISIONING UPDATE

Bridget Burkhardt provided a brief overview of the of the Master Planning and Visioning project including cost estimates, cost containment/value engineering recommendations, project budget, tax impact projections, updated building plans and imagery, and next steps. The presentation is available on the district website.

There was a lengthy discussion about bonding and the total cost of the project. There were many other questions from the audience.

Elizabeth Fitzgerald discussed the cost of new build versus the work that must be done on the high school and the middle school in order to continue to maintain the existing buildings.

Elizabeth Fitzgerald talked about the process that brought the board to this point. She has been on the board for 15 years and this has been a disciplined and thorough process which began many years ago. As difficult as it is to put these two significant items in front of the community, a lot of work has brought the district to this point and the board believes it is the right decision. She thanked her fellow board members, especially Bridget Burkhardt and Brian Minier, as well as the administration for all of their hard work.

RESOLUTION OF NECESSITY FOR CAPITAL CONSTRUCTION PROJECT

Martin LaLonde made a statement about the Master Planning and Visioning process which began many years ago. The board has an obligation to bring the bond issue question to the community because the board thinks this is what we need to do to keep the public education in our community as exemplary as it has been for the last 50 years. He said this is why I will be supporting both the bond and the budget so that the community has the opportunity to weigh in and vote.

Elizabeth Fitzgerald read the Resolution of Necessity for Capital Construction Project.

Bridget Burkhardt motioned to approve the Resolution of Necessity for Capital Construction Project as presented with or without the following language, "Exclusive of Bond Interest." Brian Minier seconded the motion. All were in favor. The motion passed with or without the additional language requested by the school board.

Elizabeth Fitzgerald asked the question about the documents relating to the bond including the wording "Exclusive of Bond Interest." David Young said he would ask legal counsel.

AUTHORIZATION FOR ISSUANCE OF GENERAL OBLIGATION DEBT FOR SCHOOL CONSTRUCTION

Martin LaLonde read the Authorization for Issuance of General Obligation Debt for School Construction.

Bridget Burkhardt motioned to approve the Authorization for Issuance of General Obligation Debt for School Construction as presented with or without the following language, "Exclusive of Bond Interest." Brian Minier seconded the motion. All were in

favor. The motion passed with or without the additional language requested by the school board.

DECLARATION OF OFFICIAL INTENT OF SOUTH BURLINGTON SCHOOL DISTRICT TO REIMBURSE CERTAIN EXPENDITURES FROM PROCEEDS OF INDEBTEDNESS

Alex McHenry read the Declaration of Official Intent of South Burlington School District to Reimburse Certain Expenditures from Proceeds of Indebtedness.

Bridget Burkhardt motioned to approve the Declaration of Official Intent of South Burlington School District to Reimburse Certain Expenditures from Proceeds of Indebtedness. Alex McHenry seconded the motion. All were in favor. The motion passed.

CONSIDER SCHOOL DISTRICT BUDGET FOR FY 2021

Martin LaLonde motioned to approve the FY 2021 school district budget in the amount of \$55,865,686.00, which will result in education spending of \$17,477.92 per equalized pupil which is 9.59% more than spending for FY 2020. Alex McHenry seconded the motion. All were in favor. The motion passed.

CONSIDER ANNUAL SCHOOL DISTRICT MEETING WARNING

Bridget Burkhardt read the Annual Meeting Warning.

Alex McHenry motioned to approved the Annual School District Meeting Warning as presented with or without the following language in Article III, "Exclusive of Bond Interest." Brian Minier seconded the motion. All were in favor. The motion passed.

SPECIAL MEETING ADJOURNMENT

Elizabeth Fitzgerald called for a motion to adjourn the special meeting. Martin LaLonde motioned to adjourn the special meeting. Brian Minier seconded the motion. All were in favor. The motion passed.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Bridget Burkhardt made a motion to enter executive session at 9:35 p.m. to discuss labor negotiations with Administrators, Teachers, and Support Staff and added that it would be significantly disadvantageous to the district not to do so in executive session. The Board requested that David Young attend executive session. Brian Minier seconded the motion. All were in favor. The motion passed.

PRESENT

Elizabeth Fitzgerald, Bridget Burkhardt, Martin LaLonde, Alex McHenry, Brian Minier

ADMINISTRATION/STAFF

David Young

GUESTS

No guests

Discussion Regarding Labor negotiations with Administrators, Teachers, and Support Staff

In: 9:36 p.m.

Out: 10:06 p.m.

No Action

The executive session was closed at 10:06 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

Martin LaLonde motioned to adjourn the meeting. Alex McHenry seconded the motion. All were in favor. The motion passed.

The meeting adjourned at 10:07 p.m.

Elizabeth Fitzgerald, Chair

Bridget Burkhardt, Clerk