

PUBLIC HEARING MINUTES

**April 27, 2017
7:30 p.m.**

South Windsor Town Council

PURPOSE: To receive citizen input on the Proposed Board of Education Budget for Fiscal Year 2017/2018

Mayor Mirek called the Public Hearing to order at 7:31 p.m.; and requested that the Clerk of the Council read the call of the meeting (a copy of which is attached hereto, **Exhibit A**). The Public Hearing was then recessed at 7:32 p.m. in order to complete the General Government Public Hearing. The Public Hearing reconvened at 7:48 p.m. There were approximately twenty-eight (28) people present in the audience.

Chairman David Joy explained that the Board of Education had approved a request from the Superintendent for \$72,752,917 which represented an increase of \$1,000,847, or a 1.39% increase over Fiscal Year 2017. The budget contained several initiatives from the Board's three-year strategic plan. This budget also captured the reduction of 13.8 FTE's from the closing of Wapping School, which was the majority of the nearly \$1 million dollars in savings. This budget was sent to the Town Council and the Town Manager was requested to work with the Superintendent of Schools to come up with a joint recommendation to deal with the \$4.9 million dollar reduction in State funding to the Town. After meeting, it was recommended to reduce the Board of Education budget by \$1.5 million dollars which would result in a negative 0.76% decrease to the Board of Education's current budget. This proposal would require \$200,000 decrease in programs and \$1.3 million dollars decrease in personnel which would equal to 26.1 full time employees, representing both certified and non-certified staff. It is hopeful that the news from Hartford will be better and would lessen the impact to the Board of Education's budget.

Mayor Mirek asked if there was anyone from the public that would like to speak.

Mr. Don Gonsalves, 40 Bayberry Trail came forward and stated that South Windsor is choosing facilities over education. The taxpayers need to know what the cost will be for the construction of two new elementary schools versus one new elementary school.

Mrs. Daria Plummer, 235 Orchard Hill Drive came forward and stated that she is proud of this community and would choose to pay more taxes if it is needed. This a great place to live.

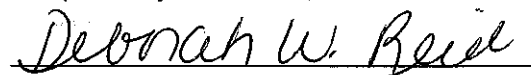
Mayor Mirek asked for a Straw Vote, the results of which were as follows:

Those supporting the proposed Board of Education Budget: 10

Those opposed to the proposed Board of Education Budget: 6

The public hearing was closed at 8:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Deborah W. Reid
Clerk of the Council



OFFICE
OF THE
TOWN COUNCIL

received April 21, 2017 @ 10:15 am
Annex L. Almaty, ATC
Town of South Windsor

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AREA CODE 860/644-2511
FAX 860/644-3781

TO BE PUBLISHED IN THE JOURNAL INQUIRER

April 20, 2017

LEGAL AD

TOWN OF SOUTH WINDSOR

Notice is hereby given that the South Windsor Town Council has set **Thursday, April 27, 2017, at 7:30 p.m.**, Timothy Edwards Middle School, Room Alt #6, 100 Arnold Way, South Windsor, Connecticut as the time and place for a Public Hearing to receive citizen input on the proposed **Board of Education Budget for Fiscal Year 2017/2018.**

Dated at South Windsor, Connecticut this 18th day of April 2017.

Attested to by:

Deborah W. Reid
Deborah W. Reid
Clerk of the Council

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Journal Inquirer
April 20, 2017