

Southern Berkshire Regional School Committee
Mt. Everett Regional School
Sheffield, MA
March 19, 2014
Special Meeting

School Committee Members: Mr. Stewart, Ms. Silvers, Mr. Valentini, Mr. Batacchi, Ms. Sahn, Mr. Sears, Ms. Sparhawk, Mr. Flynn, Ms. Rundle

Absent: Ms. Fields

Administration: Mr. Hastings, Mr. Turner

Press: John Sakata, Berkshire Eagle; Julie Ruth, Berkshire Record

Student Representatives: Erica Sullivan

Others: Ms. Alice Tortoriello, Ms. Danielle Melino, Mr. Will Conklin, Mr. James Siket, Ms. Sarah Siket, Ms. Connie Broggi, Ms. Amy Murray, Ms. JoAnn Gavrity, Ms. Michelle Raczkowski, several community members, Ms. Karen Frighetto

1. Chairman Stewart called the meeting to order at 6:38 p.m.
2. Ms. Silvers moved, seconded by Mr. Flynn, to approve adding an amendment to the agenda. It was so voted, with 7 members voting in favor and 1 member voting in opposition. (Mr. Valentini voted no.)

Mt. Everett Biology Teacher Danielle Melino then presented a request for an overnight field trip during the April vacation. Following discussion, Mr. Flynn moved, seconded by Ms. Silvers, to approve the trip, as requested. It was so voted.

Mr. Stewart then turned the meeting over to Mr. Valentini, Mr. Hastings, and Mr. Turner.

3. **Adoption of FY'15 Operating, Transportation, and Capital Budgets:** Mr. Valentini moved to approve the FY'15 Operating, Transportation and Capital budgets, as presented. Mr. Flynn seconded the motion.

Mr. Valentini reported that there had been a meeting during the week that had included the administration, several School Committee members and Teachers' Association members concerning the approximately \$159,000 that had been cut from the FY 2015 budget. He said that there had been a great deal of cooperation between all those present, and subsequently, the teachers had voted to take a furlough day in 2014-15. Additionally, Mr. Turner had re-evaluated estimated receipts and now anticipates a slight increase in income in FY'15. With these two adjustments, approximately \$90,000 has been freed up, without increasing the towns' assessments.

Superintendent Hastings commented on the wonderful relationship with the Association thus far, and said he would like to reinforce that relationship.

Mr. Valentini reported that the Finance Subcommittee had met and voted to support the budget, as presented.

Mr. Valentini then moved, seconded by Mr. Flynn, to approve the FY 2015 Operating, Transportation, and Capital Budgets and Assessments, as follows:

• Operating Expenditure Budget	\$13,344,083
• Transportation Expenditure Budget	1,179,250
• Capital Expenditure Budget	<u>402,500</u>
• Total Expenditure Budget	\$14,925,833
• Operating Assessment:	\$10,897,187
• Transportation Assessment:	750,750
• Capital Assessment:	<u>402,500</u>
• Total to be Assessed:	\$12,050,437

Mr. Stewart took a roll call vote:

Mr. Valentini	yes	Mr. Flynn	yes
Mr. Sears	yes	Ms. Rundle	yes
Ms. Silvers	yes	Mr. Batacchi	yes
Ms. Sparhawk	yes	Ms. Sahn	yes

On a motion by Mr. Sears, seconded by Ms. Sparhawk, the meeting adjourned at 6:50 p.m.

Documents presented at this meeting:

- *Agenda, Special School Committee Meeting of March 19, 2014*
- *March 19, 2014 Vote to Approve the FY'15 Operating, Transportation and Capital Budgets and Assessments*
- *Request for Overnight Field Trip for FFA Horse Judging Members, April 24-25, 2014*