

Joint Meeting of the School Board and Raymond Board of Selectmen
Monday, October 16, 2017
Raymond High School Media Center
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Approved November 1, 2017

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 7:04 PM. Present: School Board Members John Harmon, Joseph Saulnier, Michelle Couture, Jaclyn Serrine, and Janice Arsenault; Superintendent of Schools Tina McCoy; Town Manager Craig Wheeler; Selectmen Jonathan Wood, Jack Barnes, Greg Bemis, George Plante and Wayne Welch

Proof of Posting: It was noted that the meeting was properly posted.

Discussion of Potential Bond Items, Spending Items, and Town Five-Year Plan: Mr. Wheeler stated that the Town is not planning bonding this year. Mr. Harmon stated that the School Board has had no discussions on bonding. Mr. Wheeler stated that the plow truck is a spending item, and that there will be presentation of proposed budgets and warrant articles at tonight's meeting. It was noted that the district's spending items include the operating budget, the REA Collective Bargaining Agreement, the Capital Improvements Plan, and the intent to place \$50,000 into a capital reserve fund from the unreserved fund balance.

During discussion, Mr. Harmon stated that there has been no discussion at this time regarding the larger tank at LRES. The exact savings isn't know. The figure of 25 cents that is out there was an estimate by the Business Administrator. Mr. Saulnier stated that he had contacted a few places, with estimates at a minimum of \$35,000. It would be ten years to recoup the cost. Mr. Harmon stated that the District uses 40,000 gallons per year.

Mr. Wood asked if there is any discussion on the Town Five-Year Plan. He is concerned that there is no 5-10 year plan town-wide to level out expenses over time. He explained the five-year plan that was distributed earlier. He stated that they are looking for an estimated cost to build a new elementary school on the RHS campus, as well as the cost to the convert the current LRES to a police station and to budget to pay for school water.

Mr. Harmon stated that in August, the Board of Selectmen and the School Board had agreed to have a survey done to determine if the citizens are interested in construction a new elementary school and to have the Town use the current LRES for a police. He recommended waiting to hear from the citizens. After some discussion as to whether the Shared Resources Committee would complete the survey, it was agreed that representatives from the Board of Selectmen and the School Board would meet as a subcommittee to address the survey preparation. They will look at the 2003 and 2008 surveys that pertained to the Master Plan, and they will seek professional input to write questions for an impartial survey. Funding for the survey will be addressed at a later time.

There was some discussion about a non-binding warrant article to keep the tax increase limited to 2.5% or less of assessed value, for District and Town together. Mr. Harmon stated that the school budget is 1.6% above last year, that the District is very concerned about keeping the tax rate low, and inquired as to how a non-binding warrant article would help.

Adjournment: MOTION: Joseph Saulnier moved, seconded by Jaclyn Serrine, to adjourn the meeting. Voted unanimously in the affirmative. Meeting adjourned at 7:50 PM.

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Respectfully submitted,

Janice Arsenault,
Raymond School Board Secretary