

**Hinsdale School Board Meeting  
Hinsdale School District  
SAU Conference Room  
Joint Meeting with Selectmen  
September 16, 2019  
6:00 PM**

Board Members Present: Holly Kennedy, Jeana Woodbury, Sean Leary, James O'Malley, and Kaylah Hemlow (arrived 6:08 pm)

Also present: Wayne Woolridge

Select Board Present: Mike Darcy, Steve Diorio, Bernie Rideout, Mike Carrier, and Megan Kondrat

Also Present: Kim Worden

H. Kennedy called the meeting to order at 6:02 pm

**Board Business**

M. Darcy and H. Kennedy reviewed the budget process for the perspective Boards. For the Selectmen budget packets were due last week. They will start their review at the end of the month. Town employees for the 2019-2020 received a 1.9% COLA raise and up to a 3% merit wage. The department heads have been advised to budget for the same amount in the 2020- 2021 budget. H. Kennedy explained for the 2019-2020 the school employees not under a collective bargaining unit received a 2% increase, to correspond with what the Selectmen had stated that the town employees would be receiving at the time of the 2019-2020 budget process.

Discussion was held regarding the tax rate and what could possibly be the unassigned fund balance. The school has returned \$252,059.58 to help reduce taxes. The selectmen indicated they would like to get back to a 5% unassigned fund balance and anything over that could be used to reduce taxes.

Discussion was held regarding holding a joint forum to discuss the budget with townspeople. The forum will be held in late January. Members of both boards will collaborate to plan this, members are Steve Diorio, Megan Kondrat, Holly Kennedy, and Kaylah Hemlow. They will start planning in December.

Discussion was held regarding the current budget discussion in Concord, hopefully by next week there will be some type of resolution.

W. Woolridge asked the selectmen if there was any new growth anticipated for the town. M. Darcy said nothing that would affect at least the next few years. Discussion was held regarding concerns over the rising poverty levels that are currently projected for Keene and Brattleboro.

S. Diorio heard from a resident recently questioning the 1% local sales tax in Brattleboro and whether we could do something similar. Discussion followed, the Tax Collector indicated that a similar bill was defeated on the state level that would enable a town to have that option. Until the State changes there is little the town can do.

K. Hemlow discussed the Welcome Wagon proposal. She will be meeting with Maryanne O'Malley and Inder Khalsa this week to discuss project. K. Hemlow will also get a hold of Jill to check to see if there are any grants that may help with this project,

S. Diorio reviewed the Picnic in the Park event held on Sunday. He felt there was great dialogue and discussion. He thought the Town Administrator, Highway Superintendent, and the Program Director should have been there. Kathryn Lynch will be giving a report to the Selectmen concerning this in the future.

Both Boards agreed that enforcement needs to happen on School Street to have people obey the traffic ordinances. The selectmen will discuss at their next meeting.

There being no other business the joint meeting concluded at 7:04 pm

**S. Leary MOVED to go into non-public session according to RSA 91 -A:3 II (c) at 7:04 pm; K. Hemlow SECONDED. Roll Call -S. Leary- yes, H. Kennedy- yes, K. Hemlow -yes, J. Woodbury- yes, and J. O'Malley- yes VOTE: 5-0-0, MOTION PASSED.**

**J. Woodbury MOVED to go out of non-public session at 7:22 PM. S. Leary SECONDED. Roll Call S. Leary-yes, H. Kennedy- yes, K. Hemlow- yes, J. Woodbury- yes, and J. O'Malley-yes VOTE: 5-0-0, MOTION PASSED.**

**J. Woodbury MOVED to adjourn the meeting at 7:23 PM. K. Hemlow SECONDED. VOTE: 5-0-0, MOTION PASSED.**

I attest that this is a true copy of the minutes:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Ann Marie Diorio

approved on \_\_\_\_\_