

MARTHA'S VINEYARD REGIONAL HIGH SCHOOL COMMITTEE
Monday, February 11, 2019, 6:30PM
Martha's Vineyard Regional High School
Library Conference Room

Present: Chair – Kris O’Brien, Roxanne Ackerman, Megan Anderson, Amy Houghton, Kimberly Kirk, Robert Lionette, Skipper Manter, Janet Packer, Kathryn Shertzer,

Others:

Staff: Principal – Sarah Dingley, CTE Director – Barbarajean Chauvin, Finance Manager – Mark Friedman, Facilities Director – Mike Taus, Special Ed Director – Hope MacLeod,

Supt.'s Of: Superintendent - Matt D’Andrea, Asst. Supt. – Richie Smith, Business Affairs - Amy Tierney,

Fin. Com. Oak Bluffs – Chair Bill Vrooman, Maura McGroarty, Tisbury – Chair Jeff Kristal, Jynell Kristal,

Press: Vineyard Gazette – Holly Pretsky MVTV – Michelle Vivian,

Secretary: Marni Lipke *Late arrivals or early departures (see * in text)

Call to Order

(Agenda Item #I)

The meeting of the Martha’s Vineyard Regional High School Committee (MVRHSC) was called to order at 6:13PM. Everyone was urged to attend this week’s MVRHS musical As You Like It.

Re-Certification of the Fiscal Year 2020 (FY20) Budget

(Agenda Item #II)

- MVRHS Budget Version #9 (see documents on file) comprised three main alterations.
 - Health/dental insurance projected 10% raise was reduced to 0% by the Cape Cod Municipal Health Group (CCMHG). Health insurance would show a modest increase due to the three new English Language Learners (ELL) positions (see 11/5/18 Minutes p.3-4 #C).
 - The MVRHS share of the Superintendent’s Shared Services budget increased by \$2,542.47 (see 1/2/19 AISC Minutes p.2 #III).
 - A duplication error was corrected on the distribution proportion of elementary-middle school runs (see 12/18/18 Minutes p.3-4) which should be \$3,700 per run raising the MVRHS transportation \$98,790.
- Administration attended the Oak Bluffs, Tisbury, Edgartown and Chilmark Finance and Advisory Committees (FinComs) and/or Selectmen meetings. The Towns expressed their appreciation that the MVRHSC was addressing the Other Post Employment Benefits (OPEB) liability but a couple towns asked for reconsideration of the aggressiveness of the contributions, to allow more manageable Town budgeting. Financial Manager Mark Friedman noted Lines #329 (pay-as-you-go) and #330 contributions to the Dukes County OPEB Trust. As a point of reference, the District contributing \$1,400,000 annually was far ahead of other municipalities. He had figures for a seven-year pay-down (reducing Line #330 by ~\$90,000) as an alternative to the current five-year plan (see Minutes: 12/2/18 p.1-2 #VI A, 1/2/19 p.1-2 #VI A).
- Ms. Amy Houghton recounted Tisbury’s concern and questions on whether OPEB liability affected the MVRHSD bond rating—in anticipation of the upcoming large project. The MVRHSD bond rating was the six Town’s ratings. Ms. Janet Packer had also heard from the Tisbury FinCom regarding the high OPEB increase including the possibility of defeating the budget on Town Meeting floor.

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- Mr. Skipper Manter had not come prepared to revisit OPEB, which had already been through lengthy discussion. He spoke to the \$32,000,000 liability, comparing it to neglecting building maintenance, could not in good faith lower the amount, on the contrary he felt the health/dental reduction was an opportunity to commit more funds.
- Ms. Roxanne Ackerman spoke to Aquinnah's large school budgets and the importance of being in touch with day-to-day resident needs.
- MVRHS Principal Sarah Dingley, in consideration of the continuing, time and energy consuming debate and the upcoming MVRHS project debt that could overlap with the OPEB debt increases advocated for the five-year plan.
- Tisbury FinCom Chair Jeff Kristal objected to comparing the rate of debt payment to building maintenance, as the facility was currently well supported by the MVRHSC and Administration. He noted that Tisbury was also trying to address OPEB but had to reduce their contribution due to stress from other budgets such as this one, and asked for an entire MVRHS budget reduction.
- Oak Bluffs FinCom Chair Bill Vrooman resentfully reported that Oak Bluffs could only afford \$30,000 contribution to their \$30,000,000 OPEB debt. He noted the recent failed Town Hall reconstruction vote and emphasized Oak Bluffs taxpayer pressures. Oak Bluffs FinCom member Maura McGroarty advocated for addressing OPEB to relieve the burden on the next two generations.
- Supt. Matt D'Andrea pointed out that without OPEB, Residential Placement, and Health Insurance increases the MVRHS was very reasonably budgeted at only 1.5% operating and 2.1% assessed increases.
- Asst. Supt. Richie Smith, reviewed the situation, praising the MVRHSD as the largest All Island organization keeping eyes on the OPEB liability, but also noting the need to be sensitive to two Towns reporting that the pace was impeding their ability to operate.
- *MS. HOUGHTON MOVED TO RECONSIDER THE CERTIFICATION OF THE MARTHA'S VINEYARD REGIONAL HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT FISCAL YEAR 2020 BUDGET; MS. JANET PACKER SECONDED; MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY: 9 AYES, 0 NAYS, 0 ABSTENTIONS.*
- *MR. MANTER MOVED TO RECERTIFY THE HEALTH/DENTAL INSURANCE LINES AS DESCRIBED BY FINANCE MANAGER MARK FRIEDMAN AT \$223,511.05; MR. ROBERT LIONETTE SECONDED; MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY: 9 AYES, 0 NAYS, 0 ABSTENTIONS.*
- *MR. MANTER MOVED TO RECERTIFY THE SUPERINTENDENT'S SHARED SERVICES OFFICE LINES BY A REDUCTION OF \$2,542.47; MR. ROBERT LIONETTE SECONDED; MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY: 8 AYES, 0 NAYS, 0 ABSTENTIONS.*
- *MR. MANTER MOVED TO RECERTIFY THE TRANSPORTATION REIMBURSEMENT LINES BY \$57,390.22 SHOWING A BOTTOM LINE TRANSPORTATION INCREASE AS DESCRIBED BY FINANCE MANAGER MARK FRIEDMAN; MR. ROBERT LIONETTE SECONDED; MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY: 9 AYES, 0 NAYS, 0 ABSTENTIONS.*
- Overall the Budget was now reduced \$168,000 or 5.43% assessed.

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• *MS. HOUGHTON MOVED TO REDUCE THE OPEB CONTRIBUTION LINE BY \$91,469 TO REFLECT A PRACTICE CHANGE TO REACHING ACTUARIALLY DETERMINED EMPLOYER CONTRIBUTION (ADEC) IN SEVEN YEARS; MS. PACKER SECONDED; MOTION PASSED: 7 AYES, 2 NAYS—MR. ROBERT LIONETTE, MR. MANTER, 0 ABSTENTIONS.*

- The overall Budget was now reduced \$242,000 or 4.93% assessed.

• *MR. MANTER MOVED TO CERTIFY THE MARTHA'S VINEYARD REGIONAL HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT FISCAL YEAR 2020 BUDGET:*

- *AT \$22,003,178.41 TOTAL OPERATING EXPENSES AND*

- *\$19,298,992.82 ASSESSED BUDGET;*

MS. JANET PACKER SECONDED; MOTION PASSED: 7 AYES, 2 NAYS—MR. LIONETTE, MR. MANTER; 0 ABSTENTIONS.

Adjournment

(Agenda Item #XII)

• *MR. MANTER MOVED TO ADJOURN 7:01PM; MS. HOUGHTON AND MS. PACKER SECONDED; MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY: 9 AYES, 0 NAYS, 0 ABSTENTIONS*

Appendix A - Meetings

• Transportation Subcommittee – 1:00PM, Tuesday, February 19, - MVRHS LCR

• MVRHSC - 5:00PM, Monday, March 4, 2019 at the MVRHS LCR

• AISC - 5:00PM, Monday, March 25, 2019 at the MVRHS LCR

Appendix B - Agreed Upon Tasks - None

Appendix C - Documents on File:

• Agenda 2/11/19

• Sign In Sheet 2/11/19

• Martha's Vineyard Regional High School District Budget for Fiscal Year'2020 Proposed Recertification (9 p.) 2/11/2019

Respectfully submitted,

Marni Lipke – Recorder

Date

Kris O'Brien – MVRHSC Chair

Date

Matt D'Andrea – MVRHSD Superintendent

Date

Minutes approved 4/1/19