

Town of Alton
Budget Committee Meeting
December 15, 2011
Approved March 12, 2012

1. Call to Order

2. Roll Call

M. DeCoff, Chair
L. Carr, Selectmen's Representative
B. Howard, Member
L. Tilly, Member
S. Miller, Vice Chair

Other Attendees:

K. Oblenes, Business Manager, Alton Central School
K. Holt, Superintendent
S. Leggett, Principal Alton Central School
P. Hawksley, Budget Committee Secretary

3. Pledge of Allegiance

4. Approval of Agenda

Motion by L. Carr to approve as presented
B. Howard
All in favor

5. Public Input

Steve Renner parent of 2 children at Alton Central School just wanted to state my opinion that it is a good time to move forward with the school renovation project and he is hopeful that the town is supportive of that project. I was reminded today, a friend of mine called looking for investment advice, we agreed it's not a great time of what you are gaining in your investments if you are able to do it, it's a good time to be able to make investments if you have a little extra it is a good time to buy low. I started thinking about it in reference to the school project doing it now, taking a little hit now to make the improvements that we need to make that investment in the future is going to be a really good idea. Not only cost effective in terms of labor costs for the actual renovation project, but obviously the important part is the investment in the children and the future we will be able to offer them and to this community as a whole. I just encourage you to consider those things when hearing the project proposal and making decisions from a budgetary standpoint, it is money, a lot of money but it is a good time to invest.

6. Minutes

Tabled

7. Old Business

Report from Prospect Mountain High School.

S. Miller spoke on the report from high school. The High School made a total amount of reductions of 127,416.00 with the recommendation for the High School, JMA, of 6,842,991.00 Spent approximately four meetings and went through the following reductions:

- From the 1100 account there were two reductions one for 1365 for a tuba, 270 for dues and fees. Before I go any further the Budget Committee was consistent in recommending the reduction of dues and fees from all amounts that were due to professional and association dues and fees and benefited the teachers directly, but essential did not direct a direct affect on the students or children.

- Technology and Equipment there was a reduction of new equipment which was for new computers for 27,300 and tech support for 1,000
- Special Education there was the elimination of the 2% raise, consistent through out the entire High School reduction recommendations.
- The Budget Committee recommended the elimination of the 2% merit raises throughout all accounts and through out all lines.
- Gifted and Talented remained unchanged
- Vocational Education remained unchanged
- Athletics remained unchanged
- Summer school remained unchanged.
- Guidance dues and fees there was a reduction 1070.00
- Health Services remained unchanged
- Improvement of Instruction remained unchanged.
- There was a reduction of Improvement Instruction for guest speaker, which was a motivational speak for 2,250.00
- Library and new equipment was reduced 7115.00, which was new equipment put off for the next year.
- Library dues and fees was reduced 220,000
- Library books was level funded and thereby reduced to 2500.00 but level funded at 7500.00
- Distance learning was reduced 6,000 which means that Latin was continued, Japanese was continued and other distance learning subject matter was continued with the only reduction in Mandarin Chinese for 6,000.00
- The Superintendent raises for 2% which is effectively the 2% merit raises for staff and administration was reduced by 23,300.00
- Superintendent Dues and Fees was reduced 875.00
- Under Principal acct the contingency of 5500.00 which is the amount of money used in addition to the current budget to hire a new assistant principal of an additional 5500.00 was reduced .
- Food from the Principal line was reduced by 2,000.00. This is not from the kids, from the food service. 2,000.00 was reduced from the principal use of food for things such as the senior banquet etc.
- Principal dues and fees reduced 1,795.00
- Business Services dues and fees was reduced 1,205.00
- Building and Maintenance Lawn Care reduced 13,000. Which was the amount requested to repair baseball field and it was felt that that could be put off until next year.
- Electricity was reduced by 15,000 because it was a contingency warrant proposed by the HS
- Repairs and Maintenance of the building was reduced by 1,185 to keep line level funded from previous year
- Transportation Athletics was reduced by 1300 to keep level fund from prior year and because we felt there was too much money there assumed for a maximum of post-season games.

Full reduction recommendation of 127,416.00 for the recommended budget of 6,842,991.00
Alton's percentage is 52%

L. Carr asked the Vice Principal is that a raise they want to give the new person coming in? M. DeCoff stated want to up the kitty to attract somebody they can keep. Instead of just using the high school, bring them in for a year and then move on. L. Carr asked if they gave a range. S. Miller stated that was the contingency. They needed the additional dollars to attract quality principal. We felt that there is a limited pool out there of qualified principals that somebody, quite frankly the school has a lot to offer and that we would be able to recruit with the current budget. By the way they have somebody, there is somebody taking that position from an internal promotion. They haven't recruited the next person yet, but they have indicated that that person has done a good job.

S. Miller continued, Warrant Articles for High School, there were 3 warrant articles that the exact wording has not been, completed down to the exact dollar, has not been finited yet. The first article is for Improvement of Instruction 30,000 to be divided by the proportion of 52% - 48%, approximately 15,000 each. Yhe exact amount set aside to retire that number eventually. In other words Improvement of Instruction runs around say 90,000 a year, the intention of High School board is to fund that article piece meal at a 30,000 rate so that there is 90,000 in that fund, fund exact amount of Instruction of Improvement used which is tuition money that teachers take advantage up to 2,000 a year for an individual course or seminar.

Articles for contingency fuel, which is 1%, of the operational budget, M. DeCoff stated it was Utilities. It was a 1% Utilities warrant article that would be something in the neighborhood of 68,000 and change depending of what is approved by the School Board that will be used for kerosene propane, gas and building fuel as needed. Which is somewhat like they have used before.

Article for general maintenance 50,000 to be split equally 25,000 between each town to grow the General Maintenance fund to be used for emergency situations.

M. DeCoff stated they believe they will use the entire fund this year for the fire suppression system, to fix it.

B. Howard asked how old the building was. 2004. It has cost us almost a million dollars to maintain it. We have a field that floods routinely that was never installed correctly, we have sump pumps that run 24/7 in the auditorium or else that would flood. The list goes on, I am not impressed.

L. Carr stated that comes out to 1.8% from what their proposal was. S. Miller stated we don't have the hard number, but that was approximate. According to the DRA you do not need to have a hard number only need a range for purposes of the public hearing. But for purposes of the special Warrant article it has to be exact.

M. DeCoff asked so there is no school board rep?

S. Miller asked should we be waiting for a school board rep? K. Holt stated she can't answer that. S. Miller stated it is not that important then.

Copy of warrants and architects review were handed out by K. Holt.

S. Miller asked Chairman, we have here a possible warrant article. It is our duty to look at possible warrant articles? M. DeCoff stated it contains money. S. Miller asked if it have been voted by the School board. K. Holt stated no, but I can explain.

Review of Budget Committee of architects review

S. Miller stated he would like to have it stated in the record that we are dealing with warrant articles for the school today including a very significant one and there is no single school board member in attendance to ask questions or to represent the school. For this committee, although we do have the School Superintendent and the school business manager is here. Also that the Principal is absent as well. K. Holt stated the principal is at another committee meeting. S. Miller noted it is not as important as this one. S. Miller asked is that a public committee that she is at. K. Holt responded yes. S. Miller asked the name of the public committee. K. Holt responded The Communications Committee for Buildings and Grounds. S. Miller stated it is a sub-committee for Buildings and Grounds.

M. DeCoff asked when we will be able to look at a contract.

K. Holt stated my goal is to have it before the 10th of January. If we don't you will not have a contract and it will not be on the warrant. That is the date it must be available for the public.

S. Miller stated I'm just curious, you would expect this budget committee, if you deliver on the 10th to make a quick decision at that time. Yea or Nay on the contract without notice. K. Holt stated that is the law. S. Miller stated he understands that, he is asking what you expect.

M. DeCoff we can make the recommendation after the public hearing, we don't have to make it during. So then the voters would not know which way we were leaning. K. Holt stated at the public hearing they would not know. That is the date the DRA has stated all contracts must be brought forward by that date. That is the date that is given and I can't change that date. We have up until that date to continue negotiations.

S. Miller in your professional estimation would we have a contract by that time. K. Holt stated I don't know and I don't know if I would be permitted to provide you with that information anyway.

K. Holt stated I just want to reference first, Virgil had asked why we had Article 2 on the warrant. It is an RSA it is required if there are any questions. When you get to the final vote, I know you are doing pre-votes, if you get to the final vote if that changes how anyone voted that's the information for that.

Article III

To see if the School District will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **EIGHTEEN MILLION EIGHT HUNDRED THOUSAND, SIX HUNDRED FIFTEEN DOLLARS AND NO CENTS (\$18,800,615.00)** for renovation, reconstruction, repairs and construction of an addition to the Alton Central School and for furnishing and equipping the school and to authorize the issuance of not more than **EIGHTEEN MILLION, FORTY-TWO THOUSAND DOLLARS AND NO CENTS (\$18,042,000.00)** of bonds or notes in accordance with the provisions of the Municipal Finance Act (RSA 33) and to authorize the School Board to issue and negotiate such bonds or notes and to determine the rate of interest thereon; furthermore, to authorize the withdrawal of \$19,832.20 from the Water Heater Capital Reserve Funds, \$239,011.33 from the First Suppression Capital Reserve Fund, 25,741.22 from the Security/Safety Expendable Trust fund, \$446.18 from the electrical Service Upgrade Expendable Trust Fund, \$1,839.23 from the Bathroom Refurbishment Expendable Trust fund, \$31,103.62 from the Window Replacement Expendable Trust Fund, \$440,666.06 from the Building and Grounds Expendable Trust Fund; with the balance of **EIGHTEEN MILLION, FORTY-TWO THOUSAND DOLLARS AND NO CENTS (\$18,042,000.00)** and further to raise and appropriate an additional sum of (\$410,956.67) for the first year's interest payment on the Bond.

S. Miller questions what if the balances from the expendable trust funds are not available, there was an emergency and those funds had to be used. K. Holt responded we cannot over expend what is voted. Simple as that. Whatever is voted on by the voters for the amount of the bond and not over expend. M. DeCoff noted you would have to adjust.

L. Tilly are these the current total balances, so you don't have a buffer. K. Oblenes stated the only buffer would be the interest earned until the end of June.

S. Miller stated I have only been here ten years and this is probably the second largest warrant article that the town or district certainly has ever seen and based on that every single school board member was busy and couldn't be here to discuss this warrant article. Which means it is not that important to them. That's a statement. I cannot fathom the school district would ask for 18 million dollars and not have a representative here to talk to us. I understand you are the representative. I don't have an issue with your competency one bit. I do have an issue with the school board not caring enough to be here and essentially telling me that they either have given up on this issue or they don't care about it that much. Because I don't believe, what there is there 5 people on that school board, everyone had an emergency situation that was more important than 18 million dollars to be put in front of the town?

B. Howard stated they might have an issue being forced into some transparency

S. Miller this is so wrong on so many levels that it is hard to comprehend.

L. Carr how come you didn't take away the 18,000? It is the balance but it is the same number on the second page as the first.

K. Holt because we are asking to authorize the issuance of the amount for the bond because we are also withdrawing the funds. L. Carr stated so should we subtract all of these. K. Holt stated from the gross appropriation in the first amount from the 18,800, 615.00 take out all of the trusts and capital

reserves and it drops it down to the 18,042,000. Those two numbers should subtract out. If you subtract all of the trusts and capital reserves from the first number they should balance. We must gross appropriate first and then talk about how much we are going to issue in bonds. Also tell you this is the additional year of the interest. M. DeCoff asked what was used as an interest rate for the first year?

K. Holt stated 4%

K. Oblenes stated the interest rate is 4% for the duration so long as the town people approve the vote and we sell the bond. K. Holt stated it is a 20-year bond. This will fit in with Prospect Mountain, 20-year bond vs. 10. But the tax payments will fit. The tax rate in year one will not be affected. I can't tell you what will happen over time because taxes will change, but this will not change what the tax is as a result of this bond compared to the 10 year. M. DeCoff stated but if we didn't approve this bond our tax rate would go down. K. Holt stated I'm not going to tell you there are no costs to this. There is an 18 million cost to this. There is a lot to it and Mr. Miller asked me to get some projections, which I did my best to and I can explain in detail about that, but I think the Buildings and Grounds Committee has done their best to make this a reasonable project to still address the needs of some other issues besides. I know the focus has been on the addition. If you read C. Krause's report.

S. Miller had a question on bond itself. What is the rating on the bond, AA, AAA AAA+? K. Oblenes stated it is through the NH Municipal Bond Bank. S. Miller asked do you know if the bond is insured or not insured. K. Oblenes I contacted 4 different districts in the state of NH in the past two weeks to find out where they go to get their bonds. School districts that have recently done large bond projects including Governor Wentworth all of them said they went through the NH Municipal Bond Bank because of the rates, because of the working relationship and because of the fact if they went anywhere else they wouldn't get the rate. The rate is phenomenal through them. I couldn't even go to a bank to ask them to give us a rate because I would have to go through the whole paperwork of the application. They won't give you a rate even on the fly. You have to go through the whole nine yards. S. Miller stated we don't know the rating, we don't know if it is insured or not, do you know what the administration costs on the bond, on the total bond would be. K. Oblenes stated she does have the information.

M. DeCoff asked the 18 million that we are going to spend is going to be for 20 years is this addition going to be sufficient enough for the next 20 years? K. Holt stated that is our plan this should take care of everything we need based on the projections that were done by NESDEQ. That's why we had the study done prior to doing our design process. M. DeCoff how much more sq ft will this added? Are we going to have to add staff? K. Holt stated no the only way that staff gets added is through the regular budgetary process. Even though the warrant article says for furnishings we are not planning on purchasing any furnishings.

L. Tilly asked will some of the extra room be used to bring the children in from the portables. K. Holt responded all portables will be gone and everything will be brought back into the building.

S. Miller asked was this bond put out to bid. K. Holt stated we haven't sold the bond yet. S. Miller again asked was this bond put out to bid to get the 4% interest rate. K. Oblenes stated she contacted the bond bank with the request for the type of schedule that was wanted and she gave me the most conservative rate there was. So between now and when, if, the voters approve and we sell the bond if the voters do approve in March I don't want there to be a jump. She stated the other day they sold a bond for 20 million dollars for 20 years for 3.1%. They are not going to low ball it and expect it to go up.

S. Miller my only concern is this, I don't agree with not putting a camera out for bid for 10,000; it is unconscionable not to put 18 million out for bid. For instance a Goldman Sachs, a UBS will buy the whole bond and re-sell it and will bid on 18 million dollars.

K. Oblenes stated the Municipal Bond Bank does that themselves they put it out to bid for us. We use them and they put it out to bid. They use Bank of America, Morgan, Chase, and JP Morgan.

S. Miller when it goes out to bid is it all or none, is it 18M or nothing?

K. Oblenes responded yes

S. Miller for instance when it is sold, and only 16 million of it can be sold. It is an all or nothing bid. The 18 million and some change stated here does it include all administration, all marketing,

insurance costs. So this is the total amount of the bond and there are no, zero additional costs. All costs are included in the 18 million and change.

K. Oblenes stated the credit rating through Mooney's investor services as of 2005 resolution it is rated as A1.

S. Miller commented this is somewhat of a low rating. This is only a suggestion but Standard & Poor's, Fitch, etc. there are other rating services. K. Oblenes stated she can ask if there are other ratings.

L. Carr we don't have enough land down there, how is this going to address the lack of land?

K. Holt responded it does not. The rules have changed we are not obligated to provide the additional land that we used to, we simply are required to bring this to the planning board. That is why it makes sense to build up vs. trying to build out further. We take the space we have, we maintain it and will utilize what space we have without adding to the floor plan. The site plan stays the same. The floor plan adds space. Gain space by taking modulars out.

B. Howard when did the rules change on that

K. Holt I will have to look it up, but maybe 2009

B. Howard in March of 2008 I had a discussion with the state board of education, Ed Murdo. At the time it wasn't a requirement but a recommendation from the state school board. All we had to do was apply for a waiver. Because the bigger communities don't have land to access for their schools.

K. Holt stated the rule was we apply for the waiver. We have had several waivers on that property already.

B. Howard my point is there never was a requirement, there was not a RSA, it was a recommendation. If you could get it fine, it was not a problem they way it was explained to me.

L. Carr stated it is like a recommendation for a parking spot. If the recommendation is to have a 10-foot wide parking spot, they say you can have anything you want. If you have an 8 foot wide parking spot. It's a situation that is not ideal. They have recommendations for the number of students because over the years that is what works best. We have fought this thing and fought this thing about the land.

B. Howard stated the land is for extra curricular activities correct. L. Carr that's right. The community and the people have said that's what they wanted as part of the education. B. Howard stated the thing is the town owns fields the students can access. Why wouldn't that be considered an extension of what's going on. It's for the kids whether it is at the school field or town field.

L. Carr transportation or having them walking. B. Howard would like to put out there a novel idea parents can drive their own children.

M. DeCoff asked obviously this will be able to bring in more kids; obviously Barnstead is outgrowing their building. Have we thought about tuitioning in their 7th and 8th graders?

K. Holt no intention of physically finishing off the complete top floor, however with the removal of the gym we need to expand cafeteria, we are pushing out cafeteria, taking out teachers room and the Family and Consumer Science room. We can no longer put the Gifted and Talented room where we were going to put it, so 3 out of the planned non-used space on the third floor, 3 class rooms spaces, need to be used on the third floor. The rest of the rooms will remain unfinished. rooms on third floor. You'll have 5 unused spaces on the third floor. It will be future development, if at some point the community decides to make that available.

K. Holt would like to address that Mr. Miller said he indicated he would support 625 students for 10 years. I did my best to look for projections, this plan is for 20 years not 10, and that's considered life of the bond, current building is 60 years old, given the changes in proposed facility, use a little more of the space, that drops what was going to be a facility for 800 drops to 725. K. Holt continued and informed the board of the results of her conversations with the NH Center of Policies and the Lakes Region Planning.

In 2007 there 42 building permits, 2008 56, 2009 24, 2010 13, 2011 24. Drop rapidly from 2008 and back up to where they were 2 years ago.

S. Miller how do you account for the decrease in enrollment trending down for the last 10 years. We're essentially the same or lower than 10 years ago, Just as easy to extrapolate the last 10 years. So nobody knows.

K. Holt stated they project this out from the census and the NH Energy and Planning. Alton in 2000 the population was 4,502 in 2010 it was 5,630, 2030 it is 7120. S. Miller stated there is no way of knowing the demographics if the increase is 100% of people not in child rearing years.

K. Holt stated correct. That is why they say to look at the median age.

L Tilly concerning the demographics, the way I understood when it was originally brought there was a separate gym; it was 3 floors with the 3rd floor being optional future growth. At this point when you remove gym, you reorganize the school; the 3rd floor is required to bring the current population in.

K. Hold stated correct and keep the rooms we need. L. Tilly future growth is empty space that has to be there on a floor that has to already be built. It is not as much a questionable item regarding the growth.

K. Holt stated I certainly understand Mr. Miller's concerns.

B. Howard asked M. DeCoff how many houses are under foreclosure right now?

S. Miller people are making decisions on should we pay mortgage, or should we use electricity, shall we use wood, and these are hard decisions. My best guess is on an average home on an annual basis will add approximate 175-200 to the tax bill. What you are doing is annualizing 960,000 a year on a 20-year bond. That is going to equate to an average 250,000 home to about 175-200 and I don't think this town is ready for that.

M. DeCoff noted that foreclosures information for 2009 was 22, 2010 was 22, 2011 was 26. S. Miller noted foreclosures are going up.

B. Howard at a recent Building and Grounds Meeting you said that poverty in Alton is not true. K. Holt stated she did would not say that poverty was not an issue. We provide free and reduced lunch.

B. Howard and you also just raised 2500 for families that can't afford Christmas presents; we give grants for ski programs.

L. Tilly stated as a parent, a large concern is safety and security at the school. In my opinion the portables at the school don't fall into that well. I believe the school has had to streamline this project quite a bit already. I think a very important part is bringing all of the children under the roofs and no longer having them in the portables. Right now if you have a child in one of the portables, they have to use the restroom in the winter time bad conditions having to come into the building through that, there are security issues because both portables are right out by the parking lots I know they are monitored but you don't have the staffing of adults walking children back and forth at all times. I imagine that there is not a lot of fat put in the project once you drop off the additional gym. I think a big part of it does need to be looked at to get all children into the same building under the same roof for their security and safety.

S. Miller asked has there been any issues with security and safety with the portables. L. Tilly stated do we need to wait for that. S. Miller asked how long have we had the portables for. K. Holt stated she did not know. B. Howard probably since the school board voted to have less than average class sizes. K. Holt stated we do have smaller class sizes. B. Howard stated that has never been looked at. K. Holt responded they are not smaller than the region in many respects. B. Howard stated the region isn't paying our taxes. S. Miller noted the average class size in the region is somewhere around 21. K. Holt responded around 19 depending on age. S. Miller so between 19 – 21. What is the average class size in Alton Central School? K. Holt stated does not have the data with us. Principal Leggett stated we break it out by grades which is what the state does. S. Miller asked in the modular, what grade is out there? Principal Leggett it is Grade 4. P. Leggett stated that is our smallest group. S. Miller stated I'm talking about, the reason it is small is because you have kids in the modular. K. Holt stated we have done our best to keep the modular at the lowest possible set up or least potential risk. P. Leggett stated the state average is 19.2, Alton currently has 16.5. In the modular we have 2 classes out there with 24 per class, 48 total right now we have 24 in a class the state recommendation for grades 3-8 is fewer than 30 students. The Alton district policy for Grades 3 and 4 is less than or equal to 22 students.

S. Miller what would it be if you were mandated to put take those kids out of the modular and put them in the school. P. Leggett I'm not sure how that would make a difference. I'm not sure I understand your question right now. M. DeCoff asked is there room to move them into the school. P. Leggett responded no, we don't have any space in the school, I wish we did. M. DeCoff stated there is no place to put them.

B. Howard I understand, at same time I don't understand, because the day after we moved out the entire high school and all of the staff we were overgrown in our elementary school. K. Holt stated we moved out some modulars, L. Tilly asked if there were any fire suppression systems out in the modulars. K. Holt stated there is no fire suppression in the buildings at all.

When we did the renovation in 2008 we put in the pipes for the fire suppression system for the future, but there are no heads.

K. Holt stated I understand very much the cost of this, I understand the economic times, I believe however that given the fact that we need to do something for this building and that we will be able to do it relatively inexpensively because of the cost of the bond and we can wait and wait and wait, but every time we wait we are doing things that are not in the best interest of the children. We don't have any fresh air unless we open a window, except in areas where some of the windows don't seem to do much anyway and we are losing energy in terms of heat. We are not able to can't keep out the heat because we don't have decent windows. We are losing other things we don't have proper day lighting we have a lot of glare we have some places that don't have any windows other than one very small little section. We are in need of a repair for this building, it has a lot of issues, it has a lot of good things to go with it. It has some structural character. I don't want to berate a building that been built and done some wonderful things. Like everything else it needs a little overhaul.no proper lighting.

L. Tilly do you happen to have any information of how many days last winter and the winter before you had delayed openings for roof shoveling. K. Holt no delay. People who shovel came out at 2:00 am. But that is part of my bargain with the people who shovel that they have to get there as soon as possible. Custodians need to be there at 4:00 am to make sure they call me if I need to know that.

S. Miller stated why isn't the School Board supporting this amendment, supporting this warrant article. K. Holt stated they do. S. Miller responded if the School Board supports the warrant article think they should be here to support it. K. Holt stated your putting me in a very awkward position Steve. S. Miller asked why not. K. Holt asked, Steve can you please not put me in that position? S. Miller stated there is nobody else here. K. Holt responded I understand that but that is not a position you need to put me in. S. Miller stated I have a real problem, I think they are not here and tell me If I'm wrong, is because one or two of them are up for election and they don't want to be put on the record as supporting this article right now. I think its politics that they are not here. Want to tell you I just always tell you like I see it. Okay, K. Holt stated you and I agreed that we had the same goal, S. Miller responded yes, K. Holt continued which is to do what is right in the best interest of the kids. What you are doing now does not help me nor help you and that's politics. B. Howard I would like to ask a question that is a little off task for this warrant article. I have a question about the co-payment for the support staff on their benefits. Is it 30% that they pay. K. Oblenes asked are you talking about their health insurance. They pay 36.1%. B. Howard stated in my notes of December 5th I asked the question and I was told 30%. I called Marc and asked him what he thought and he said 30% and then last year I had it in my notes 30%. K. Oblenes stated I know that fact off the top of my head in the middle of the night, if I was asked that question I would have said 36.1%. It's never changed since I started here. If I answered that question incorrectly it wasn't me because that is a question I know. B. Howard, just one other question Mrs. Holt we asked about the teachers that were at a training in Concord and your reply to me was no they were in Manchester. In the front page of the newspaper tonight you brought it before the School Board about teachers at the Christa McAuliffe Museum. K. Holt stated no, Christa McAuliffe Technology Conference. B. Howard stated that is in Manchester and K. Holt said yes. B. Howard stated the reason I brought those up, I have a sense that unless we ask the question in exactly the right way, sometimes I feel that we are not getting the full truth, by

omission on purpose and sometimes it feels like manipulation and so when I read this number what is really going through my mind is this accurate, what are we going to get hit with after the fact what aren't they telling us. K. Oblenes stated as far as your health insurance question. I believe Prospect Mountain has a different percentage and I think it is 30%.

K. Holt stated Barbara I promise you I have never tried to hide anything and the reason is I too am a taxpayer and I believe it is public information. My goal is to provide you with everything to make a decision. We may disagree, but that is your job. I would like to do it civilly. I could not say anything and just think what I am thinking. I prefer to get it out in the open and say it directly to the person I need to say it to. I have such concerns about the economy, who is watching out for the guy teetering on the brink of bankruptcy, and foreclosure. K. Holt stated and I do understand and I do believe that this slides in with the Prospect Mountain Bond. We retire that one we put this one in. I'm not going to try and tell anyone that this is isn't 18 million dollars. It is 18,800,000.00. Part of the reason that we do this now is that it doesn't change the tax burden and that it does mean that we get what we need and that it is at a time that the interest rate is lower and that we can do this. B. Howard stated I understand all that but on top of all of that the contract is under negotiation, I'm worried about that, because it has my experience that they never give up anything, there has never been a cut. A 9% co-pay on their health, they have the best benefits of the state. Why wouldn't they want to contribute to that, a little bit more to offset some of the taxes, especially since they are begging and screaming and whining that they want a new building for how many years. I don't understand that and we have an unsustainable retirement system this is one little fraction of what the taxpayers are looking at for impact for their taxes.

K. Holt stated that she understands and she is doing her best to get what I think is good timing in the best interest of the students for Alton, not just for this year or next year but for 20 years out at a time when you bond families who are going to be here in 20 years, the children who are going through Alton right now many of whom will be here will bear this burden as well.

M. DeCoff asked the board there is somebody in the public who wants to speak.

8. Public Input

Mr. Parker I'm with the Buildings and Grounds Committee and I would like to ask the Superintendent a question, maybe the principal. I think I'm with a much more friendlier group. At the Building and Grounds Committee where I am the only person who really isn't welcome, I was wondering is we keep talking about the fresh air problem at the K-8 school, why couldn't we put an attic fan in the ceiling and put a cut out in the side wall and circulate the air. Wouldn't that take care of a lot of the problem instead of going through this expense? M. DeCoff stated it probably wouldn't be to code. Mr. Parker stated it would do the job right? M. Decoff continued if is not to code and it's not doing the job. B. Howard stated you would have to find out what the code is on that. Mr. Parker continued isn't that a really simple solution put a ceiling fan in the ceiling and cut a hole in the side of the wall to bring in fresh air. L.Tilly for every classroom. Is that what you are suggesting. Mr. Parker stated for the class rooms that don't have fresh air. At all Buildings and Grounds meetings all I hear is fresh air, fresh air, fresh air. We always take the most expensive approach. L. Tilly state our family, we have some special meetings, we have to have at the school on a regular basis, we have a child that has a some special needs, the room where they hold the meetings, within 10 minutes of the door being closed it is well over 80 degrees in that room. Mr. Parker asked and what do you think the problem is. L.Tilly responded it is in the middle of the building no outside wall. The building has serious ventilation issues. I don't believe outside venting there are a limited number of rooms that it would help. Mr. Parker stated it was just a thought. Sometimes it is easier to talk in front of this group than in front of the group that I am associated with. It was just a suggestion.

K. Holt stated I'm no expert on ventilation but I can't imagine how much heat loss there would be with that system. M. DeCoff stated I put a ventilation system in my shop it cost 8,000 for an air heat exchanger and that is for 2000 square feet.

B. Howard stated the addition was not done properly. Single glazed windows, no ventilation, no storage.

Motion by L. Carr accept Article 3 as presented
L. Tilly seconds

Discussion. S. Miller does not believe the article is being supported by the School Board, which is critical. There is no full push to convince the Budget Committee of the positive nature of an 18 million plus bond right now. No architect here to answer the questions, there is no member of the School Board who thought that it was important enough to be here to defend that position. I think all this is, is a Trojan horse that was put here as a feeler to see what the appetite was this year just to get it out and make announcement and to work on it for the next year or two. I think to support this when there is zero state aid, where in the past we have gotten 40% in state aid, L. Carr stated it was 30%, S. Miller continued 30% to build a building. 30% of 18 million, that is 9 million that we are missing which is what we got the benefit of at the high school. Am I correct? L. Tilly stated the state aid only covers new construction and wouldn't cover renovations. K. Holt stated the state aid is not coming back to Alton. S. Miller stated what you do is build a new building for 26 take the 30% state aid and build it cheaper than renovating. K. Holt again stated state aid is not coming back to Alton.

B. Howard asked and why is that, because they can't afford it. I feel that the taxpayers can't bear the burden because it's not just the construction it's the maintenance afterwards that's incorporated. Now we have more classrooms so we'll need more teachers. K. Holt stated we are not hiring any more teachers. B. Howard continued look at all the issues with the high school. I can't believe the cost to maintain that building, a brand new building. At the meetings I asked what is going to be the increased cost to maintain it. K. Holt stated I can't address what happened at the high school I wasn't there nor was I a part of it. B. Howard continued, The Director of Maintenance at the time said there will be absolutely no impact because it will be a brand new building. That's a falsehood.

Principal Leggett addressed statement with regard to enrollment, that is something I do with the budget and I am very careful about looking at our enrollments and being very honest about how many teachers we need at any time and did recommend the cut of one teacher this year because of enrollment and ½ guidance counselor. I would want you to know that that would continue in the future because we do look carefully at the number of kids every year. We are not going to suddenly have classes of five and try and look at the state ratios and what we have had in the past

L. Tilly stated it is very disappointing there is no School Board representative here this evening. I absolutely agree with that, but at the same time keeping in mind that with the changes it is not growing the school its really re-locating and bringing under. There is also a lot of annual maintenance the building already needs and a lot that is getting put off in the hope of a renovation or a new building. That is not going to go away no matter how much we don't to do. Anything we want to do with the school it is going to get worse and worse every year because it is such an old building with many problems, lack of fire suppression, lack of ventilation, exterior portables that are not plumbed with current regulations, There is a lot of issues with that school and I think with the costs, yes the tax burden exists, but at the same time interest rates are still low, labor market, cheaper to build. Next year it might be different, but at the same time you don't know what your demographics are going to be, what the interest rate will be, get a new policy coming down from the federal government which could change the interest rate. B. Howard stated we also don't know how many taxpayers couldn't afford their tax bill.

K. Holt stated the architect was not available. This date was not in his calendar initially and he will definitely be there for the deliberative session, but I did ask.

S. Miller responded he is not a one-man firm is he? K. Holt responded he is not, but is not sure if anyone else knows the project like he does.

S. Miller stated the enrollment you are expecting in 2011-2012 is pretty close to 1987-1988 it has essentially gone up and down since them. What we are talking about is, was this satisfactory for 541

students in 1987-1988 and we had a high school in there and it is not satisfactory for 2011-2012 when we have no high school up there and it is only an elementary school which means that class rooms have obviously been turned into teachers rooms, storage facilities. We had a music room we had all the ancillary rooms we had a gym etc. so it has been the choice of the School Board to turn it into other areas. It you want to make it a storage room then you have to know the consequences, maybe you'll get more students and you are going to have a problem. Somewhere between 88 and 2012, in 24 years somebody made stupid decisions. I cannot possibly vote for this 18 million warrant article certainly without the support of your own School Board. That would be ludicrous and is certainly not fair to the voters of the town of Alton

Vote: L. Tilly Yes, M. DeCoff No, S. Miller No, B. Howard No, L. Carr No
Motion failed 1 in favor - 4 - against

L. Carr I hope people at home realize we have been doing this for an hour and a half and this is not an off the cuff decision, I think we are all trying to weigh, it is an important decision and we are all cognizant of the economy now. S. Miller noted many of us have attend meetings on the school, so it is not like we are not familiar with the situation.

Article IV

Should Article III be adopted, shall the Alton School District raise and appropriate the sum of **ONE MILLION, SEVEN HUNDRED FIFTY THOUSAND DOLLARS AND NO CENTS (\$1,750,000.00)** to add geothermal heating heating and cooling to Alton Central School, including equipment, installation, professional service fees, site development fees and any other items incidental to and/or necessary for said heating and cooling system; to authorize the issuance of not more than **ONE MILLION, SEVENT HUNDRED FIFTY THOUSAND DOLLARS AND NO CENTS (\$1,750,000.00)** of bonds and notes in accordance with the provisions of the Munitipal Finance Act and authorize the School Board to issue and negotiate such bonds or notes and to determine the rate of interest thereon; and further to raise and appropriate an additional sum of _____ **DOLLARS and NO CENTS (\$_____)** for the first year's interest payment on the Bond. This article is contingent upon approval of Article III. (The Alton School Board recommends \$_____ by a vote of _____. The Alton Budget Committee does/does not recommend \$_____ by a vote of _____.)

Motion by L. Carr to approve as presented
M. DeCoff Seconds

Discussion S. Miller do you have the data for the payback period for the investment what the ongoing costs are for over a 20-year period? What you are doing is you are showing us a warrant article and expecting us to vote on it with zero information on geo-thermal. Some of us might not even be able to spell geo-thermal.

K. Holt provided 2 articles on geothermal, The actual projections for this building have not been done straight out, the reason being, the initial projections were for the entire building, then we took off the gym. The other piece is that until we really know what we are going to save in the energy costs for the windows we can only guesstimate at what we would get for a total savings. However the other part to projecting out the costs and the savings would be looking at what you anticipate the cost for what heating fuel would be. However on the other side of this when studies have been done a 7-14 year payback, 7 years if fuel oil stays the way it has been going with the hefty increase each year, but that is the anticipated if the oil stays stagnant or drops then you can anticipate a little bit longer. I do have two articles if anybody is interested the difference of course is that we are not using a straight heat pump, we are using the compressor type exchange. It is straight from Wikipedia. I do have just how geothermal energy works. There are numerous systems and numerous ways you build wells and at the moment we are looking at the compressor system, it works the way your refrigerator does. You go in you take up the energy, store it, run a compressor and use that system afterwards. It's More efficient than the old heat pumps that used to be used probably 15 years ago and all I can say I live in an earth

berm house and I make use of that energy saved by kind of having space below ground it has worked very well for our heat bills and cooling bills.

S. Miller I am personally insulted with the lack of information on a 1.7 and a 1 and ¾ million dollar warrant article that we are being given to make that decision. When you talk about 7-14 year payback, you're talking about a co-efficient of determination that is outside any statistical probability, acceptability scope. There is zero information on cost other than it is 1 and ¾ million dollars zero information on the efficiency, other than a couple of generic articles, not written towards this specific unit that's going in here and I am insulted that you are asking me to vote on this, I think the voters should be insulted your asking them to vote on this without any information what so ever. If I was a voter I'd walk up to it would put an X through the whole thing when I got to the voting booth. I'd say what does this mean. You might as well say you need a 2 million dollar generator, I think we need it. Obviously the School board did not think enough of this warrant article to present enough evidence to try to convince us any other way unless they automatically assume that we weren't going to accept the 18 million in the first place so why care about the 1 ¾ million. That's how I feel about it.

B. Howard I had the opportunity to talk to a recent masters graduate from the architectural school in Boston and I asked him what do you think of school putting in geothermal. He said can they afford that? He said I studied geothermal that was one of his focuses in his studies. He said everything that he has read it is typically done by large corporations that have a lot of money to do that type of thing. I explained to him the other school in Wolfeboro had done it and again he was very surprised. We did talk a little bit he feels that it is a high cost up for the length of time take to recoup and benefit from it. K. Holt asked if he said what the recoup time was. B. Howards responded I couldn't give him any specifics on the size of the school, how many wells. He was asking me all kinds of questions and I said to him I can't give you that information. As a generalized thing his knee jerk reaction was oh my gosh how can you afford that. Again it's beating a dead horse but my first priority my concern is affordability to the taxpayers.

L. Tilly would be much easier to decide, 7 and 14 years is a very large range, other schools that used the system have any information they could provide how much they are saving a year. K. Holt responded Governor Wentworth is seeing a 40% savings in their energy costs. L. Tilly asked and that is directly to the geothermal.

S. Miller do you think their Budget Committee got more information than we did? That's a rhetorical question and doesn't require an answer.

Vote L. Tilly No, M. DeCoff No, S. Miller No, B. Howard No, L. Carr No
Motion failed – 5 – 0 Against

Article 10

In the event that Article III is defeated, to see if the School District will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **ONE HUNDRED FIFTY THOUSAND DOLLARS AND NO CENTS (\$150,000.00)** to be added to the existing Building and Grounds Expendable Trust created 3-11-08 under RSA 198:20-c for the purpose of building, repairing and maintaining school facilities. This warrant article to be void and have no effect if Article III is approved by the voters. **(The Alton School Board recommends \$150,000.00 by a vote of _____. The Alton Budget Committee does/does not recommend \$150,000.00 by a vote of _____.)**

L. Carr moves to accept article 10 as presented
M. DeCoff Seconds

S. Miller anybody speak to the article?

L. Tilly most of the follow up articles are for things required at the school if we don't move forward for the renovation/repair work. M. DeCoff articles that are always there to keep adding to the funds. There is no body from the school board to speak to it. L. Carr stated I have a problem with the building, repair and maintaining. I believe that is 3 different purposes. S. Miller and B. Howard agree.

B. Howard it blurs the understanding of where the money is going. Sometimes it is under building, repairs sometimes it is maintenance. If you're building and repairing, you're maintaining. S. Miller has a question to the representative, lets assume hypothetically speaking the 18 million dollar warrant article is defeated by the voters, what assurances do we have that this 150,000.00 will ever be spent until year after year after year keep on coming back for the 18 million dollar school. All you are doing is building this up to apply this against that big number. I would seriously consider voting yes to this 150,000 if the 18 million-bond issue was defeated and yes you will go ahead and do this. K. Holt stated the building needs work we were hoping to get the building renovation done. There's only so many times we can hope and then we have to do something. The problem is do certain things we don't won't to rip it apart later. Fixing the 1956 wing, putting on a new roof and getting a renovation in 3 years and then ripping off the roof is a waste of taxpayer's dollars, we don't want to do that. That is why we have on certain things and not have a trust that limited us from repairing or building so we if we had dollars left reduce the taxpayer's burden on a bond. We have used monies as you know to do work on the buildings. We have done the middle school bathrooms, we have replaced windows in the wing that we knew we weren't going to do any additional work. We are trying to do repairs and maintenance to that building in the most logical fashion so we are not wasting taxpayer's dollars. That is our goal. To do what is best for the students without doing things twice without spending money irrationally, foolishly against what would make sense for anybody's pockets. S. Miller stated I agree with you 100% there is no doubt that the work needs to be done we have warrant articles here that total about 360,000. A bond issue would be approximately 960,000 a year this is 30% of the bond issue. I'd be happy to vote for these items in a heartbeat but not if we are putting it off year after year after year we are only going to fix something when it explodes or entirely breaks for instance, because one day we are going to renovate the school. I don't know if it is this year, next year or 10 years from now. My idea of renovating the schools is not to build these 5 trusts up until they are equal to the bond issue. That is what you are asking us to do without an assurance that if the bond issue fails you are going to go forward and use this money.

K. Holt stated the roof over the ERC, the elementary section is going to need to be done soon. S. Miller asked what is soon next year or 5 years from now. K. Holt stated probably within the next 3 or 4 years. S. Miller stated it could be 4 years from now. K. Holt stated that has to be done that will not impact that section that needs to be ripped apart. The question is how much do we, if we don't do geothermal then there is ventilation that's going to be in that roof. Put on a roof later on you put holes in it which is different from putting holes in it ant then put the roof on. S. Miller stated I understand the conundrum, I understand. Unfortunately there is nobody here who votes on whether to expend this trust to tell me that if we put the money in here it is going to be used or are we just building up bank accounts. K. Holt stated no. The goal is to make sure we have enough money to do the repairs that we need to do. That is the issue. We have issues that have go be done. We have windows that really should be replaced and we have not replaced the windows in the Media Center because of the way we have been doing some planning. Look at the new revision the Media Center now we initially thought we have a different design, the Media Center now has a design that is a little bit different. Those windows can be replaced. Those are things that we now know we can do. S. Miller asked will you do it? K. Holt responded I can't answer that right now. S. Miller stated that is my only point there is nobody here to tell me with authority that is what the intent is. Because I will vote for this in a heart beat, If it was more money I would probably vote for that too as long as it was going to be expended, but if it is just going to be put into a kitty I'm not going ask the voters... K. Holt stated the windows are an energy saving thing that can be done without being ripped out. S. Miller stated can you tell me are you going to use it next year or 4 years from now. K. Holt stated we can't take the money out of the trust without a public hearing. S. Miller stated we are just putting money into the trust until the School Board, wherever they are, decides well should we do it in years 1, 2, 3 or 4 because I think in two years the economy is going to get better I think we can put the bond through. Or I think in 3 years the economy is going to get better I think we can put the bond through. If that is the calculus I don't want to listen to that. I want somebody to make a decision and take a stand. K. Holt stated and I haven't made that decision in terms of a recommendation to the board at this point.

B. Howard stated we've all been thrown under the bus.

M. DeCoff said these are the same articles that come up every year.

S. Miller stated it doesn't come up with an 18 million dollar bond issue attached to it.

K. Holt stated with the intent to insure the building has the appropriate funding to do what we need to do. S. Miller stated they don't spend it because they are waiting for the renovations. I don't know how long they are willing to wait. I need someone sitting in that chair where they belong to tell me that we are going to try and pass it this year, we are going to make a full push, full push next year or the year after.

L. Tilly stated the windows there's currently according to the 18 million article there is only about 31,000 in the window fund and we have another one here asking for 44. I agree that if it doesn't pass could we get a line drawn in the sand to find out based on what's now going to be on the renovation plan what will they move forward working on.

S. Miller it was there last year, 31 and they still didn't do it. They could have done it. They could have done more than 1 window last year. They chose not to do it. They are not spending the money because they want the renovation to go through and they are not here to support it. L. Tilly stated I understand some of it because they didn't have a plan, but now that they have a plan what is and isn't going to be touched we can hope and expect a more intelligent decision on what can be spent now. S. Miller stated I agree.

K. Holt stated I think I can give a little better idea. The plan for roof repairs and the repairs for the 6th grade wing and the 1988 peaked roofs we've got money set aside for that and our plan at this point is that the money gets set aside for 2012 and we'd like to do it again in 2013 the goal would then be to repair that roof if. We don't have a bond to repair that roof at the following year when that money is available. So we do have some of these plans.

S. Miller let's go over these one by one. The article that we are looking at right now. How much is in that trust right now? L. Carr stated 44,666.06 it is on Article 3. S. Miller stated he wants to hear it for the record. On Article 10 how much is in there at the moment? M. DeCoff stated existing Building and Ground Expendable Trust created on 3/11/08. S. Miller stated just for the record the reason I ask rhetorical questions is to get it into the record for people who are looking at the tape and reading the minutes understand the rationale behind it. K. Oblenes stated you said the Buildings and Grounds Expendable Trust, 440,666.06. S. Miller asked how much of that was expended last year. K. Oblenes responded 66,741.00. S. Miller stated my assumption is the balance was not expended because either 1. we didn't have anything to fix, which is probably not true or wait until we see if bond passes.

K. Oblenes stated last year we expended from other trust funds as well.

S. Miller stated no this one here. There are only two reasons why you don't fix something if you have the money, either it doesn't have to be fixed or in this particular case you're waiting whether or not the bond will pass. If the bond doesn't pass how much of that trust fund will be expended to fix the school this coming year.

K. Holt stated again we are trying not to do something that we would end up ripping out. S. Miller stated I understand you can't tell me.

M. DeCoff stated I think that's a good answer they are not going to spend money and then rip it out next year. I'm satisfied with that answer. K. Holt stated there are things we have done and will continue to do such as we can do. Certain roofs that will not be affected. But to do a roof that will be potentially ripped out in 4 or 5 years makes no sense to me. I am a fiscal conservative. I have been called cheap, but I don't want to do something twice. S. Miller stated that is the reason it doesn't make sense to put more money in there. K. Holt stated I don't know how you run your household, but right now I have a car that works, it drives beautifully. Some people wonder why I continue to drive a 7 year old car. In the mean time I put money aside every single paycheck to be available for my next car. Because I am going to buy my next car with cash. S. Miller stated that is called a bond. When you are buying your next car and it happens to be a school it is called a bond. K. Holt stated but you could put money aside. S. Miller stated we are not paying cash for the school. K. Holt responded there are many schools that pay money into trust funds so they have set aside and kept the tax rate level. So they have money set aside and reduce the cost of the bond.

B. Howard questioned the roof that is leaking now would that would be one of the roofs that could be repaired if the article 3 doesn't pass. K. Holt stated no, but we will repair that leak. It is right at the section where that will be. B. Howard, is it possible that it's leaking because they have been up there

shoveling? Principal Leggett stated no. It is an emergency repair and we are going to have to repair that no matter what happens. K. Holt stated we are repairing the leak. That section is going to be coming down. We'll do everything we need to make this the best learning environment for the kids at this point, but in the past the Library Media Center was going to be added on with a whole different section so those windows were going to come out as part of the renovation. Now that is now where the renovation is going to be. Those library Media windows can be proposed to put in new windows the way we have done before. So those are the kind of things that make sense to do over time. The bathrooms in the ERC have a lot of work to be done. The reason that we haven't done them is because the mechanicals that are going to go in when we do the renovations. Can we do them, yes. Does it make sense to do them until we have the whole plan in place, we are trying to do this in a logical fashion. The 6th grade wing and the 88 wing we have a plan for that.

L. Carr asked if there was a price for that. K. Holt stated we had a price for the roof. We set aside 135,000 last year and budgeted 40,000 the next 2 years and some money also for damaged roof rafters. Putting money aside for that section as well.

L. Carr don't you think 440,000 is enough. You have 440 in there now. L. Tilly asked I thought roof was separate. M. DeCoff stated it doesn't matter it is Building, Repair and Maintenance you can use that for anything. K. Holt stated we could also use it for the windows. L. Carr stated the first year this came up I had a problem with the building part. I asked the attorney if that could include plans, because Gilmanton went ahead with plans for the school and the voters turned it down and it never went anywhere. There was a lot of money spend on drawing up plans and everything else. The attorney said yes, so that is why I have always had a problem with this. I don't want the school board to hire an architect draw up all sorts of plans and then the voters turn it down. That is why I have always had a problem with the building part of the article. It does give them authority to do that. I've always been concerned about that.

Vote: L. Carr No, S. Miller No, M. DeCoff Yes, L. Tilly Yes, B. Howard No
Motion Fails 2 in favor - 3 Against

5 minute break 7:55 pm
Back in Session 8:00 pm

????Article 11

In the event that Article III is defeated to see if the School District will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **ONE HUNDRED THIRTY-FIVE THOUSAND DOLLARS AND NO CENTS (\$135,000.00)** to be added to the Roof Expendable Trust previously established in 3-8-11, under the provisions of RSA 35:1, for the purpose of repairing, replacing and maintaining roofs on school buildings. This warrant article to be void and have no effect if Article II is approved by the voters **(The Alton School Board recommends \$135,000.00 by a vote of _____). The Alton Budget Committee does/does not recommend \$135,000.00 by a vote of _____.)**

???????

440, 135 total of 575,0000 to pay for the roof if you have to.

Without it

Vote: L. Tilly Yes, M. DeCoff Yes, S. Miller No B. Howard No, L. Carr Yes
Motion Passed 3 in favor, 2 against

Article 12

In the event that Article III is defeated, to see if the School District will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **FORTY-FOUR THOUSAND DOLLARS AND NO CNETS (\$44,000.00)** to be added to the Windows Replacement Fund previously established in 3-8-05, under the provisions of RSA 35:1, for the purpose of replacing the windows at the Alton Central School This warrant article to be void and have not effect if Article III is approved by the voters. **(The Alton School Board**

recommends \$44,000.00 by a vote of _____. The Alton Budget Committee does/does not recommend \$44,000.00 by a vote of _____.)

L. Carr moves to approve article 12 as presented.
M. DeCoff seconds

L. Tilley gives us a total of 75,000 in that which could be used for windows other than in the renovated target zone. S. Miller stated if I add up what's been approved and what is in the 3 articles, there is 785,000 if this one is not approved, which is enough to take care of everything. K. Holt stated keep in mind the 135 can only be used for the roof and the windows can yes but the 440,000 can be used for either. In case the roof collapses again. S. Miller stated if you thought that was imminent you would have done it this year. So it is not imminent, as an emergency situation for the board.

L. Tilly a couple of years ago you had somebody come in that did the review and gave a waiver for how long. K. Holt stated it wasn't a waiver, the engineer stated that he believed with shoveling we could maintain the roof. He said the roof was acceptable with the shoveling. He understood that we were going to be re-building in two to three years. The engineer makes recommendation, unless he believes it is imminent does not have authority to do anything else. It is the Building inspector and Fire Department that would make any decisions. S. Miller asked how many years? L. Tilley stated it has been about two years. K. Holt stated it was October 2009. S. Miller stated he said as long as we shoveled it should not be an issue, correct? K. Holt it was his understanding that we were renovating in 2 to 3 years. S. Miller asked who told him we were renovating and when. K. Holt stated that was the discussion we had when he came. Because he was the engineer who came in when we had the roof rafter issue before and we asked him to come in and look at the rest of the roofs because of the mineral fiber issue we had. Discussion continued on engineer and roof.

S. Miller asked how much to put the band-aid on the two sections. K. Holt stated the band-aid? S. Miller asked how much to fix the two sections. S. Miller how much to fix. K. Holt you can't fix just those two you have to take down the whole rafter.

K. Holt basically half of what he looked at needed to be fixed. S. Miller asked how much to fix it. L. Holt stated she had no idea. S. Miller asked how do you know how much to put in the fund? K. Holt stated she is going by what we had last time and the square footage. S. Miller remarked so you may have enough in the fund to do it. You don't know. K. Holt that is correct. The issue is if we are going to build a three story addition tear down and build up, it makes no sense to do that because we also need a roof on that same section.

L. Carr asked are you expecting to spend 71,000 on windows on the next phase of window replacement.

School Rep Linda Goosums arrived 8:05pm

L. Carr stated I don't know if the next phase is 31,000, 77,000 or 44,000.

L. Tilly stated we don't want to just see this growing with intention of rolling into a larger project. K. Holt stated we anticipate they will be done in 2013. S. Miller and L. Carr asked how much. K. Holt stated the section we are doing 44,000 in this year and an additional 44,000, which will do the windows except for the middle school side.

S. Miller asked do you have a bid, a cost do that? K. Holt stated we did an estimate based on sq footage. K. Holt stated 115,000. L. Tilly stated that is for all windows except for the renovation target zone. K. Holt the ones that we need to do. At the moment we feel we can handle what is in the ERC we can leave them and take care of the rest of the middle school wing and the 6th grade wing and some sections of the ERC.

L. Carr was the plan to wait until it could be done all at one time? K. Holt stated it saves disruption to the school to do construction all at once. Disruption to the education process when you do piecemeal.

**Vote: L. Carr Yes, M. DeCoff Yes, L. Tilly Yes, S. Miller Yes, B. Howard Yes, L. Goosums Yes.
Motion approved 5 – 0 in favor**

S. Miller asked L. Goosums if she was the school board rep who was suppose to be here today?

L. Goosums responded she believed everyone was going to be here.

Article 13

In the event that Article III is defeated, to see if the School District will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **THIRTY THOUSAND DOLLARS AND NO CENTS (\$30,000.00)** to be added to the Bathroom Refurbishment Fund previously established in 3-8-05, under the provisions of RSA 35:1, for the purpose of refurbishing the bathrooms at the Alton Central School. This warrant article to be void and have no effect if Article III is approved by the voters. **(The Alton School Board recommends \$30,000.00 by a vote of _____. The Alton Budget Committee does/does not recommend \$30,000.00 by a vote of _____).**

L. Carr moves to accept Article 13 as presented

M. DeCoff Seconds

S. Miller how much is in there now? K. Oblenes stated there is 31,000 S. Miller asked how long has it been in there for? M. DeCoff stated article 3 is wrong. Article 3 states 183,923 from bathroom refurbishment and 31,000 from window replacement. K. Oblenes said the numbers were reversed. Still comes to the total dollar amount. S. Miller asked how long as the 31,000 been in there? K. Oblenes said it was established in 2005. We have withdrawn last year 2010 – 2011 to replace bathroom in the middle school wing, 69,302. There is currently 31,000 in bathrooms. S. Miller stated 31 has been going in there since 2005. K. Obelnes it was established in 2005. S. Miller asked how much? K. Oblenes stated her sheet does not go back that far. The Balance end of 2008-2009 was 69,302. S. Miller asked if you put money into it this year will it be expended next year? K. Holt said 2 years is the plan. S. Miller asked how much will you need in two years? K. Holt somewhere between 70-80,000. No drains in bathrooms. Need to address that. It would increase the cost. Figure out septic system that was planned for renovations as well. I won't guarantee we would do that. S. Miller you would expend the money not next year, but two years for sure if the bond issue doesn't go through . Part of the issue is the septic which is reaching the end of its time. We will not redo the bathrooms in the biggest need because it is in the oldest part of the building. S. Miller asked could you have spent the 31,000 and fixed up the bathrooms? K. Holt stated no because we still don't know where we are going to put the drain. We do recognize that as an issue.

Vote: L. Carr Yes, B. Howard Yes, S. Miller Yes, M. DeCoff Yes, L. Tilly Yes,

Motion approved 5 – 0 in favor

Article 14

In the event that Article III is defeated, to see if the School District will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **THIRTY THOUSAND DOLLARS AND NO CENTS (\$30,000.00)** to be added to the Capital Reserve Fund previously established in March 1998, under the provisions of RSA 35:1 for the purpose of installing a fire suppression system. This warrant article to be void and have no effect if Article III is approved by the voters. **(The Alton School Board recommends \$30,000.00 by a vote of _____. The Alton Budget Committee does/does not recommend \$30,000.00 by a vote of _____).**

M. DeCoff stated this article will keep building up until you get the addition. K. Holt stated yes. S. Miller stated that doesn't make sense until a bond is finally passed. Either we are going to pay for fire suppression system for the school or we are not. L. Gossums stated we have already put some in. M. DeCoff stated if you do the roofs are you going to put more in. K. Holt stated yes. S. Miller asked how much was in there now? K. Oblenes stated 239,011. S. Miller asked what is the bid for? M. DeCoff asked what was the cost of the one that you put in there? K. Holt stated we have not gone out to bid. S. Miller asked how much is it going to cost? K. Holt stated I don't know. S. Miller how did you come up with 30,000.00? K. Holt responded because we are going to put money aside to be able to have the cost be less against the tax rate when we do the full suppression system. S. Miller how do

you know how much to ask for? K. Holt we were given an estimate of 750-800,000. We have done a portion of that, part of that money was already taken out. S Miller asked how much was taken out? K. Oblenes stated 55,347.00. S. Miller stated there is ¾ of a million dollars and when you put in the fire suspension system at 30,000 a year. This is a forever deal. K. Holt stated the rest will be part of the bond. S. Miller stated what bond, the renovation? K. Holt stated yes. S. Miller if the bond were to pass. We are just using this as a fund, as a kitty, petty cash fund to work against the big bond issue. B. Howard asked are we required to have more fire extinguishes because we don't have the fire suppression. K. Holt stated the fire suppression is required at a particular point when the renovation reaches certain percentage.

L. Carr how much was it to fix the one at the high school? L. Goosum's stated between 180 and 200 to flush it and put the sprinkler heads.

S. Miller stated right now you have 239,000 in there. K. Holt stated that includes a generator. S. Miller you need 520,000 divided by 30,000 it is going to be 10 years before you can do it. That is crazy. K. Holt stated the rest would be bonded at the time of the renovation. L. Tilly if the renovation doesn't happen in the next 3-4 years. K. Holt stated we would take from this account to do what we did before and at least get the plumbing in there.

Vote: L. Tilly Yes, M. DeCoff Yes, S. Miller No, L. Carr Yes

B. Howard asked if you fix the roof you are going to put in more of the fire suppression. If you don't fix the roof it is going to fall under the bond. If the school passes. K. Holt stated it will reduce the cost of the bond the same way you saw the rest of the articles reduced. B. Howard if you fix the roof and put in more are they going to have to be torn out. K. Holt stated no.

B. Howard Yes

Motion Passed 4 in favor - 1 against

Article 16

In the event that Article II is defeated, to see if the School District will vote to create an expendable trust fund under the provisions of RSA 198:20-c, to be known as Parking Lot Paving Expendable Trust, for the purpose of repairing, replacing and maintaining parking lots on school properties. Furthermore, to raise and appropriate the sum of **TEN THOUSAND DOLLARS AND NO CENTS (\$10,000.00)** toward this purpose and to name the School Board as agents to expend from this fund. This warrant article to be void and have no effect if Article III is approved by the voters. **(The Alton School Board recommends \$10,000.00 by a vote of _____. The Alton Budget Committee does/does not recommend \$10,000.00 by a vote of _____.)**

K. Holt the intent is to wait to do this because of the amount of work to be done in the parking lot during a renovation. In any event we plan to do it by the end of 2014. M. DeCoff we don't have a trust now. K. Holt stated no. We want to put 30,000 aside by 2014.

??????

Motion By L. Carr to accept

M. DeCoff Seconds

Vote: L. Tilly Yes, M. DeCoff Yes, S. Miller No, B. Howard No, L. Goosums Yes

No vote heard by L. Carr

Article 17

To see if the School District will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **FIFTEEN THOUSAND DOLLARS AND NO CENTS (\$15,000.00)** to replace the current Facilities Truck with a used Truck without plow. **(The Alton School Board recommends \$15,000.00 by a vote of _____. The Alton Budget Committee does/does not recommend \$15,000.00 by a vote of _____.)**

M. DeCoff stated this article has been added. Shown as passed. Have Article 17 as the Alton Professional Development Fund. K. Holt stated we did have an article on the facilities trust. But the

board decided to just have it as a purchase. M. DeCoff last time we talked I do not have this article, so this is a brand new article coming before us.

S. Miller asked when did the school board vote on the article? When did the school board OK the article? S. Miller why do we need a truck today when we didn't need one for the past 30 years. L. Goosums stated because it is dying. It does not have a lot of miles but it is rotting. S. Miller asked what it was needed for?. K. Oblenes stated for plowing around the area of the school. Plow from old truck will be used on new truck. S. Miller asked why can't we use a 4 wheel utility vehicle. K. Oblenes stated we also transport skis to Gunstock, daily run between Alton Central School and the SAU office. B. Howard asked why the skis can't go on the bus with the kids. K. Oblenes stated it was a safety issue. Don't have capacity for it

M. DeCoff Motion to accept as read

L. Goosums Seconds

B. Howard stated there are parent chaperones. K. Oblenes said absolutely. B. Howard continued there is no reason we can't coordinate for parents to help transport them. We shouldn't have to buy a truck just to transport skis. L. Tilly stated the chaperones may not have vehicles that can transport the skis. Especially if they have small cars. Principal Leggett stated there are a lot of other uses for the truck through out the year. L. Carr did you see how much a truck from a state bid would be. K. Oblenes stated it was the board's pleasure not to buy new. It was not worth buying something new. L. Carr stated if it was only a couple thousand dollars more to buy new it is something worth looking at. It is unbelievable how much cheaper it is. Discussion on buying new truck through the state.

Change wording to new or used without plow

Motion by M. Decoff to accept as read

L. Tilly Seconds

Discussion: L. Goosums asked L. Carr how it should be worded. L. Carr responded change wording to new or used truck without plow. Either way you can only spend 15,000. L. Goosums should we talk to R. Bailey to see if maybe it would be 18, if it were 18 would it be better to get a new one at 18 instead of a used one at 15. K. Holt stated all we have to do it take out the word "used". L. Goosums we have to find a price. Would you recommend a new one over a used one. L. Carr if was 2,000 more yes.

Vote L. Carr Yes, B. Howard Yes, S. Miller Yes, M. D Coff Yes, L. Tilly Yes, L. Goosums Yes

Motion approved 6 – 0 in favor

Article 18

S. Miller asked question to school board this was the most important Budget Committee hearing because of the 18 million dollar bond issue in the last 10 years, why wasn't a School Board rep here to defend the position and thank you for coming Linda, what we are seeing is that there is no support from the school board for the article. If that is the assumption, I just want it on the record. L. Goosums responded last I heard everyone was coming. So that's why I didn't feel the need to be here.

Article 22

K. Holt the telephones are waiting final wording the reason being once we get the wording. M. DeCoff asked if this system is going to have the same problem as the high school, it wouldn't work. K. Holt stated No. Theirs is voice over Internet ours is an Internet protocol that is different. The reason we are waiting for the language the attorney is trying to write it so that we get the correct wording for applying 2 years in a way that the voters understand what is happening. Receiving E-Rate funding, E-Rate gives us monies back because we are a rural school district. Make sure rural school district gets Internet access. We are reimbursed a certain amount for our Internet and telephone systems and the ability to have interconnectivity. Received 20,000 already, we will get a second payment this year, next year an additional amount of money. The issue is School Districts are not allowed to carry money over. Trying to write the article so that we can carry the money revenue over.

Do we establish a capital reserve or ask to have this be as a surplus. The way this can work is the E-Rate reimbursement will fully pay for the phone system. The annual cost of the phone system will be reduced, the current cost of 31,395 and the estimated new cost of the system is between 18,567 and 21567. Estimated savings per year of between 9828 and 12828 dollars. E-Rate will give us at thru reimbursement over 2 years the full cost of the system. Article as it is written does not allow us to deal carry over.

Article 22 tabled

Possible Warrant Article

K. Holt we had a request that was brought to the Buildings and grounds committee and then brought to the board, because the individual had said I realized you pulled the gymnasium out but there are people who would like the whole package. So would you be willing to write an Article to allow voters to have an opportunity to allow the voters to vote on that cost. This is what the article read. The board said we are not going to take any action on it yet because we had agreed with the Buildings and Grounds Committee that we were going to take out the gymnasium to lower the cost to the taxpayer. This was a request to have us consider to have this on the ballot. So at the moment the board has not taken action whether or not to put this on the warrant, but I wanted you to see it at this point. Just to let you know the board may at there meeting decide to put it on.

L. Tilly concern if the gym went back in it would significantly change the change the interior work back to the original and that would change the 18 million. Should 3 pass at 18 million do this but if you do this your not going to have the 18 million anymore. K. Holt stated Chip took all of that into consideration. I sent off numerous questions. This includes geothermal considerations, but not the full geothermal. .This is just so you know about it.

Budget

- S. Miller there was some requests from the last meeting on the Building and Grounds, K. Oblenes confirmed that the retirement number might be an error. K. Oblenes stated it was an error and it was corrected – down.
- Under new equipment there was 5,000 for tools request for tool inventory because the statement was we have some small tools and a drill with no battery. S. Miller asked for the inventory. KO we do not have a list complete at this time. Principal Leggett stated we have asked the new director to do a complete tool inventory and supply. S. Miller I can assume that the statement that we have a few small tools, a drill without a battery means that either we have lost our tool inventory or was stolen. Correct or there is another reason? K. Oblenes stated misplacement within the building or broken and not replaced. S. Miller has anybody told you they have found all the tools. K. Oblenes stated they don't know how many tools there were to start with that's why building the inventory list is a good way to start. Pricipal Leggett stated he is working on that.
- S. Miller the School Board was to validate the 2,000 for the right to know. Going to tell us how many hours that was based on and what was the cost was over the last 12 months.
- Under the request for itemization of list of supplies that you provided for 82,000 there were huge amounts of money, multiple entries for future purchases under the heading. That's exactly what our concern was that there was a significant amount of purchases done for way out in the future. Not only does it help our budgeting process today but we want to know for the future whether something could be double budgeted or not. You were going to provide... K. Oblenes stated the name of the company is called Future Supplies it is not a heading that we put under a PO. K. Oblenes stated she provided the purchase orders, there were 3 of them. S. Miller will match up the purchase orders. K. Oblenes stated that you didn't want to think we would be adding additional supplies like we had done. I am carefully watching those lines.
- Under Library and Media you were get back on how many books were purchased over the last year. What can we use as an average cost for the book. Pricipal Leggett stated she got that all and gave it at the last meeting.

- B. Howard we had asked for the prior year's job description and current year Technology Assistant job descriptions. S. Miller stated I have these I had picked them up and will provided them
- B. Howard and did we get the nursing numbers for our nursing visits and the visits to the nurse.
- B. Howard we had a question regarding the camp. Principal Leggett stated it should be 23,000.00
- Request under health services what the liability was for having one nurse. K. Oblenes she did contact them and they stated they will get back to me and they haven't gotten back to me.

• S. Miller has a number of items he wants to take action on.

As a member of PMH committee took a position and it was a unanimous position of the budget committee members from Alton and Barnstead not including the 2 school reps it was always unanimous any dues and fees that were for the benefits of the students should remain, any dues and fees that were the benefit of the teachers should be paid by the teachers because that benefits that teachers career. It is the teacher's choice. Personally my only exception to that is when the Principal would mandate that a individual attend a specific conference and to mandate to attend would mean that you would have to pay dues for that conference, therefore it made sense unfounded mandate that would be OK. So to be consistent I would like the Budget Committee to consider eliminating dues and fees that are for the professional development of the individual teachers. Principal Leggett stated I can speak to that because we don't do that. We only have dues and fees that benefit the school and students somehow. For instance the Principal would joining the NH Institute of School Principals but get a school subscription. For dues and fees for music.... S. Miller stated that was turned down at the high school because that is for the principal. S. Miller for instance in the business world the individual pays for their own professional dues and fees. We're talking about the dues and fees, we have to be accredited therefore you have to go to this meeting in order to be accredited. M. DeCoff stated under Special Ed dues and fees the NHASEA. S, Miller continued you can make a case for instance for every item in dues and fees that it is for the ultimate benefit of the child, I understand that, be we have to form a distinction which are actually professionally dues and fees. Each individual one is not a lot of money 50.00 here 150.00 there before you know it, adds up to real money by the end of the year it ends up to thousands of dollars. B. Howard stated at the end of the day if you leave, what's on your resume participation in all of things that have been paid for. You take that with you on your resume as your work experience. K. Holt I certainly agree if the benefit is to that individual to that. I am going to speak to the NH School Administrators. I receive no personal benefit, I get no discount at any conference, I don't get any discount in any part of that the benefit of my participation is a district thing in that the information comes back as far as legislation updates on what's going on state wide, what's going on nationally is provided to me and what's going on in the retirement system. All of that is provided in two ways. That includes weekly updates and monthly updates at the commissioners meeting. That information I would have to spend hours getting. The other part to that is the association piece of the sharing that the superintendent's do. I like the principal to have access to a list serve if I have a question about what's going on, I access the list serve of all of the superintendents who are members and simply say can you tell me what you are doing about this, I can break it out by region, just hit Lakes Region or break it out by state and that information goes through a filtered list serve and that comes back and I get that information. I realize that it is a lot of money but if it provides information to the district. I have not benefited from that. B. Howard stated technically you do benefit from that because that is part of doing your job. You are able to charge what you charge to do your job. S. Miller an independent contractor. As an independent contractor that is a tax write off for you. K. Holt stated the district benefits I do not. If she were asked to pay for it she would not. The district loses not me.

S. Miller at the next meeting I will go over there is a whole litany of dues and fees and I have to be sure before we go over each and every one what I'm sure of. With your permission the ones I'm not sure off I would like to call Principal Leggett if they are all for the benefit of the kids, I'm fine if there is one or two I would like to discuss them.

S. Miller another thing, it is a matter of being consistent. We have to go to the voters and they ask you did this for the high school why not for central school. We have to give them an honest answer. The superintendent's office, the 2% raises was turned down at the High School by unanimous vote. The

reason was Barnstead is having record foreclosure and short sales. Alton is in the process of having record foreclosure and short sales and it is purely economic issue. It has nothing to do with whether or not the staff deserves a 2% raise a raise. I'm sure most of them deserve that or a good part of that. This is a financial decision. Another thing this board will take a hard look at.

S. Miller opens it for discussion

S. Miller motions to reduce the superintendents line salary for 2% raises

M. DeCoff stated 2320 reduce from 46,763.00. S. Miller to 0. That is absolutely to be consistent.

L. Carr asked who would this cover. M. DeCoff responded this covers the admin 18,719 and support staff.

K. Holt stated it is 100% of the staff not including those covered by the master agreement.

M. DeCoff noted 28,044.00

S. Miller Barnstead did the same thing with the elementary school as well.

K. Holt stated they have a negotiated contract with their support staff . They did that in an effort to keep their health insurance at the same rate.

S. Miller asked M. DeCoff you were there when they said that. M. DeCoff responded it was 0 percent for the next 2 years.

L. Goosums asked does that mean if we come forward with a contract from Prospect and ACS that you're not going to accept anything unless it's at 0 percent. L. Goosums again asked when and if we come forward with anything for Prospect and ACS is your position going to be 0 percent.

B. Howard asked increase for the teacher's salary. I would like to see a decrease or a higher contribution to their health benefits. S. Miller I would welcome an amendment to that, to the motion to 0 that line out, but I understand your point of view. If you want to generate an amendment. I would be open to it. L. Goosums stated I'm just wondering if we are going to be doing what we do for Prospect. We have two possible contract negotiations coming forward and I was just wondering if your answer to that was going to be 0%. S. Miller stated it all depends on the whole package. B. Howard stated she would like to see the Support Staff get a decrease in a their co-pay for their insurance 36.1% for what they make is ridiculous. You have certain few gaining, gaining, gaining and these poor people are just working away and they're on a merit based. There is no guarantee they are even going to get a dime. They work really hard. M. DeCoff stated no they're not going to because we are taking the merit away.

B. Howard it is unfortunate we have to do that to them in order to make cuts in administration.

Vote: LC N, LT N, MD Y, SM Y, LG N BH Y

Vote: L. Carr No, L. Tilly No, M. DeCoff Yes, S. Miller Yes, L. Goosums No, B. Howard Yes
Motion failed 2 in favor - 3 against

M. DeCoff makes a motion to take out of the admin of 18,719.00 out of it, leaving the support staff of 28,044.

S. Miller Seconds

Vote: M. DeCoff Yes, S. Miller Yes, B. Howard Yes, L. Goosums No, L. Tilly No, L. Carr No
Motion failed 3 in favor – 3 against

S. Miller Make motion to reduce line by 10,000

M. Decoff Seconds

Amend to motion to reduce the admin by 10,000

S. Miller seconds

Discussion: reduce from 46,763 to 36,000. L. Goosums asked who does admin cover. K. Holt responded, Principal, Vice Principal , Director of Instruction, Special Ed Instructor, Building and Grounds Director, Business Manager, 2 ½ Guidance

Vote: M. DeCoff Yes, B. Howard Yes, S. Miller Yes, L. Goosums, No, L. Tilly No, L. Carr No
Motion failed 3 in favor – 3 against

Technology
Line 57380 –

M. DeCoff Motion to reduce line to 0

S. Miller Seconds

S. Miller reason when the plan was originally initiated the economics of the community was exactly the same everybody was trucking along regular raises, regular bonuses, etc. we are not saying we are going to do it next year again or the year after that pushing it from a 4 year cycle to a 5 year cycle is not critical that is the rational. L. Goosums asked about server space. M. DeCoff stated that's a new server right. You've gone a year without it what's another year? L. Goosums that's what I would say would be the critical piece. Doing without some computers. I believe the servers would be more important. S. Miller asked how much is the server? K. Oblenes estimates about 5,000 for a server.

M. DeCoff amends motion to reduce 23,300 leave 10,000 for the 2 servers

S. Miller seconds

L. Goosums asked could you survive without the computers or the servers. Principal Leggett said she would have to speak to P McCloud. Principal Leggett said she would have to say a server. Continued discussion on computers vs. servers. Server is more crucial than computers. L. Goosums would like to get P. McCloud's opinion.

Vote: L. Tilly Yes, M. DeCoff Yes, B. Howard Yes, S. Miller Yes, L. Carr Yes. L. Goosums No
Motion approved 5 in favor – 1 against
Line is now 10,000

K. Holt would like to mention that the Smart boards that are in the budget are going to be used for the new math program.

S. Miller would like to bring something up for discussion.

S. Miller motion to eliminate the Director of curriculum position

B. Howard seconds

S. Miller the amount of money allocated, part of the salary line.

The high school does not have a director of curriculum. K. Holt stated they have department heads. S. Miller asked you don't have anybody handling math department. K. Holt stated the Director of Instruction handles everything. Our Director is our Title I director, took position and expanded it to look big picture at entire curriculum so we could assure we had alignment across the curriculum and interrelated within the curriculum. It also still does the Title 1 and coordinates PreK – 8 hopefully works with Barnstead and with Prospect Mountain, subjects, grade levels. Team leaders look at what the teams do and how they work with the Principal. S. Miller stated you have a team leader of the Math Department? K. Holt stated no. Grade level Their jobs is to do more communication of team needs with Principal Leggett not as much focused on the curriculum as much as they are with student needs, issues in that way. The director of Instruction deals with curriculum instruction and classroom environment

S. Miller what is the pay premium that a Director of Curriculum gets over a teacher with the same experience? How much more for that title? It was less per diem than being made as a teacher. Is the Director of curriculum making more or less than Principal Leggett made when she was Director? Principal Leggett responded less. S. Miller would it be cheaper to pay a Dept Head a 1500 2,000 stipend which they do at the High School as opposed to pay a director of curriculum. And therefore you have more teachers with skin in the game that way. K. Holt stated the difference is you can release a person from a class to do that for each subject. We don't have the ability to do that, need teachers teaching all of the time. At the high school you have a small group. You have 9-12 teaching so there is a consistency of instruction. Our Direction of instruction deals with PreK-8. A classroom teacher will not get the time to get out of their instructional area.

B. Howard I thought the teachers all got 1 free period a day. K. Holt stated that free period is for planning and coordination.

S. Miller I am going to guess is the job pays 100,000 with insurance. From an economics standpoint instead of 100,000 the Dept Manager is already on the books for benefits and because you can probably pay 5 people 5,000 a piece or 8 people 30,000 that is a 70,000 savings from the school. L. Goosum stated you still need the Title 1 person

K. Holt you end up with a mis-match of people who have turf wars over what the instruction is, who is most important, who do I talk to. S. Miller stated that is a management issue.

K. Holt stated it's a management issue but it is eliminated by having a person who deals with it as a big picture.

S. Miller stated sure 100,000 can eliminate a lot of management issues.

Principal Leggett stated it is very important after having been in the position to have it. Incredibly important to have somebody oversee the big picture of curriculum instruction assessment professional development, Title 1 entitlement grants. The days are extremely full. K. Holt one person for the K-3 teachers to run to when they have big issue items.

S. Miller withdraws motion

B. Howard stated I can't believe what you just said about turf wars and all that. These are our teachers who teach our children and they behave like that. These are the professionals with Masters degrees who are so dedicated to our children and they can't even behave to coordinate and cooperate to teach.

K. Holt if they have a focus on math they will focus on math.

S. Miller makes a recommendation to cut Summer school line to 0 and tuition summer school. My belief is that if we charge parents that will be incentive enough that they won't have to go to summer school. If kids with special circumstances I have no problem setting up a scholarship program. L. Goosums noted they are mandated to have summer school. Discussion on summer school and extended programs. S. Miller if it is known that your kid fails and he has to go to summer school and there is tuition involved that will be incentive enough. That will entice the parent to start owning that situation themselves. I don't think it should be dismissed out of hand because the cost is not huge on an individual child basis. I am a firm believer there should be a fund in case a needy person just has to go and there is no money there. Principal Leggett my biggest concern is that if we do that we won't get the population of students that we need in summer school because of the parents. If we don't qualify for a scholarship why would I pay that money anyway. It is not the same as the HS where they have to have a certain number of credits to graduate. The same rules don't apply for elementary, K-8. It does not apply to K-8 we would not get them if we asked them to pay. S. Miller asked how much was in there, 16,769.00

S. Miller makes motion to reduce summer school line by 6,769.00 Opportunity to charge tuition to get them in there

Leaves balance of 10,000

L. Carr noted you have to gross budget. You are talking about gross revenue. You can't collect the tuition without the revenue.

S. Miller takes back motion.

L. Carr stated the only way to do it is to make a petition warrant article for summer school. A non-lapsing fund. Needs to have petition article S. Miller stated he will have by next meeting.

L. Goosums asked if the 16,000 included transportation. M. DeCoff stated no that is on a separate line.

L. Tilly more inclined to worry about the children that would go to summer school because they need the catch up work but as soon as the parent has to pay out of pocket especially in these economic conditions. If my child has a C and I have to pay for transportation and tuition, a C would be good enough. We can't force people to go.

K. Holt the draw back is low-test scores.

Superintendents' line under advertising.

The HS spends 2400.00 a year and the Central School pays 9500.00 a year.

K. Oblenes contacted C. Stewart. They very rarely advertise. They use Edjobs.

K. Oblenes stated we feel it is in the best interest of the district to advertise in other outside papers. S. Miller noted the best interest of the district is to take that 9500 less 2400 take 7,000 and hire a recruiter to go after good people instead of just collecting resumes. K. Oblenes it doesn't do just resumes also includes bids, notices, legal requirements, which Prospect Mountain doesn't have to do. We have to post legally.

S. Miller Make motion to reduce advertisement line by 2500 to 7,000

B. Howard seconds

L. Goosums asked how much was spent last year.

L. Carr was 2011 an oddball year because you got 9500.00

S. Miller believes it is still too much for advertising

**Vote; S. Miller Yes, B. Howard yes, L. Tilly Yes, M. DeCoff Yes, L. Carr Y, L. Goosums No
Motion Approved 5 in favor – 1 against**

L. Carr stated they spent 9500.00 how can we reduce it.

S. Miller we pay at the high school 3200 for Saturday detention. I know we don't have detention here. Principal Leggett stated Saturday remediation is 2400.00

S. Miller motion to reduce Saturday Intervention Detention from 2400.00 to 0

Reason there is a myriad of ways to use discipline and the carrot stick approach. Forcing somebody to come in on a Saturday or coming in early or staying late during the week is worth the extra money. Look at replacing it with some other tool. There are a lot of schools that don't have Saturday detention and they handle it different ways. Is there any other cost associated with that benefits or anything like that? K. Holt said there would be some FICA. S. Miller what about transportation? K., Holt stated no. S. Miller stated what made me think about it was an article in the paper that said it is not working at the HS.

BH Seconds

Discussion: L. Tilly what is done during that time? Principal Leggett they are given either a 1, 2, 3 or 4 hour Saturday remediation. Teachers submit work for them to do. S. Miller they could take that work home and it be demanded that they return it.

Come out of the salary line and the associated costs

L. Carr asked Principal Leggett if she thought Saturday detention worked. It is a school board decision, I do not have the data to back up whether or not it works but do agree there could be alternative ways for the students to have disciplinary measures. L. Goosums added I do know that on some of those Saturday's mornings it is for re-takes. Principal Leggett stated that is for re-takes that is different. That is the teacher's own time. It is a school board decision. She does not

S. Miller added you have my respect for that answer.

**Vote; L. Tilly Yes, M. DeCoff Yes, S. Miller Yes, B. Howard Yes, L. Carr Yes, L. Goosums Yes
Motion approved 6 – 0 in favor**

8. New Business

School and Town Budget Review/Warrant Article Review

Discussion on when we can see the contract. M. DeCoff would like to see it a week before and noted if we don't get to see the contract until the day of, you are not going to have our opinion until after the final vote on the budget you will do after the hearing. K. Oblenes how do you want to handle that? S. Miller stated he can have dues and fees ready tomorrow.

K. Oblenes do you want another meeting or do you want to get together about the approved cuts that were already made and then I can figure what the bottom line for each function turns into by doing that summary sheet. M. Decoff we are going to need a meeting for the dues and fees. Principal

Leggett stated do you want to meet tomorrow about the dues and fees? L. Tilly regarding the dues and fees we do have some that we pay out of pocket and some that we are reimbursed on one there is a fine line and difficult to draw is there a way to break out the acronyms and can somebody justify Two different things you are going to see in dues and fees. One is subscription, what you are talking about are the professional dues and fees. Principal Leggett we have been very strict in not allowing those for personal use. I have tried and K. Holt has turned me down and the district wouldn't pay for it.

S. Miller asked Principal Leggett to go over the list and give us your recommendations let us know what ones you would find appropriate. So we can be consistent with both schools.

Discussion regarding dues and fees.

S. Miller is comfortable that the line is under control.

Discussion continued about dues and fees.

S. Miller for the record, unemployment rate is high but not for IT specialists. M. Decoff the article is saying it is a very competitive market.

Break 9:40

Back to order 9:45

Article 16

Previously voted to recommend

R. Bailey, There has been a change. L. Carr you can't spend the DEA money by eliminating a police vehicle, you have to increase the fleet. Issue regarding police details, flagging, Taking one of the old vehicles for traffic control the fleet will be increased and use a DEA model. B. Howard asked how much do we have for the DEA money. R. Bailey said close to 33. M. DeCoff asked if every town was getting this? R. Bailey explained it is only when your police department is involved in a drug bust.

Vote: M. DeCoff Yes, L. Tilly Yes, B. Howard Yes, L. Carr Yes, S. Miller Yes

Motion Approved 5 in favor

Article 23

L. Carr asked what numbers was the board talking about. S. Miller 10,000.00, S. Miller 15,000.

S. Miller Make motion to recommend 15,000 for Article 23

M. Decoff Seconds

All in favor

L. Carr will bring amount back to board at 15,000

Article 26 - Adjusted wording

Motion by S. Miller to recommend article 26 for 10,000

M. DeCoff seconds

Vote: L. Tilly Yes, M. Decoff Yes, S. Miller Yes, B. Howard Yes, L. Carr Yes

Motion approved 5 – 0 in favor

Article 31

Should read 2012

Adjusted wording, to read taken out of fund balance

S. Miller motions to recommend 36,000 for Fire Department command vehicle

B. Howard Seconds

Vote: L. Tilly Yes, M. DeCoff abstains, S. Miller Yes, B. Howard Yes, L. Carr Yes

Motion Approved 4 in Favor – 1 abstain

Non-profits, board has agreed to break them up.

Article 36

Motion by S. Miller recommends Article 36 as recommended.

L. Carr seconds

Vote: L. Tilly Yes, M. DeCoff Yes, S. Miller Yes, B. Howard Yes, L. Carr Yes

Article 37

L Carr so moved

M. DeCoff seconds

Vote: All in Favor

Motion approved 5 – 0

Article 38

L. Carr so moved

M. DeCoff seconds

Discussion: American Red Cross has not picked up their check yet

Vote: L. Tilly No, M. DeCoff Yes, S. Miller No, B. Howard No, L. Carr Yes

Not Recommended 3 - 2

Article 39

L. Carr so moved

M. DeCoff Seconds

S. Miller would like to offer an amendment to add 2215.00 for Alton Community Services

B. Howard Seconds

L. Carr you can either yea or nay. S. Miller asked L. Carr to go back to the board. L. Carr stated this is a request from the organization. This is the amount they requested.

S. Miller Withdraws motion

B. Howard Withdraws second

R. Bailey suggested voting on it. B. Howard what if it passes then we are 2,215 in addition. L. Tilly thinks it better to not apply the tax burden if people don't want to vote for the Red Cross. B. Howard, leave it as is.

Motion by M. DeCoff approve at 15,000

L. Tilly seconds

Vote: L. Tilly Yes, M. DeCoff Yes, S. Miller yes, B. Howard Yes, L. Carr Yes

Article 40

LC Moved as read

M.DeCoff Seconds

Vote M. DeCoff Yes, S. Miller Yes, B. Howad Yes, L. Carr Yes, L. Tilly Yes

Article 41

L. Carr Moved as read

M. DeCoff Seconds

Discussion: L. Tilly next year ask the organizations to provide what percentage of their budget is for administrative overhead? Already been done. S. Miller we already have the information.

Vote: L. Tilly Yes, M. DeCoff Yes, S. Miller Yes, B. Howard Yes, L. Carr Yes

Approved 5 – 0

Article 42

L. Carr moves as read

M. DeCoff Seconds

S. Miller states it reads that it is not recommended by the Budget Committee. R. Bailey stated it is a typo from last year. B. Howard we had a discussion regarding this. They have multiple funding sources and only serve a certain few and are in our schools and are getting paid to be in our school and I feel it is a duplication of services.

Vote: M. DeCoff Yes, B. Howard No, L. Carr Yes, S. Miller No, L. Tilly Yes
Approved 3-2

Article 43

L. Carr moved as read

M. DeCoff Seconds

Discussion: B. Howard if you are a Medicaid recipient you can get pay for transportation to your doctors appointments 20 times a year. Community Action for free rides include hair cuts, shopping, doctors appointments, visiting family. This is a volunteer program where the drivers get reimbursed their mileage. R. Bailey stated this is just the mileage

Vote: M. DeCoff Yes, S. Miller Yes, L. Tilly Yes, B. Howard Yes, L. Carr Yes
Approved 5 – 0

Article 44

L. Carr moved as read

M. DeCoff Seconds

Vote: S. Miller Yes, M. DeCoff Yes, L. Tilly Yes, L. Carr Yes, B. Howard Yes

Article 45

Should read 2012

L. Carr moved as corrected

MD Seconds

Discussion: L. Tilly asked we had 8 children in that program last year? R. Bailey responded yes

Vote: L. Tilly Yes, M. DeCoff Yes, L. Carr Yes, B. Howard No, S. Miller Yes

Approved 4 in favor – 1 against

Article 46

L. Carr Moved as read

M. DeCoff Seconds

Vote: S. Miller Yes, M. DeCoff Yes, B. Howard No, L. Carr Yes, L. Tilly Yes

Approved 4 in favor – 1 against

Article 47

L. Carr moved as read

M. DeCoff Seconds

Discussion: B. Howard, how much money can we spend on kids. This is redundant, repetitive, repeat of services, a niche where people are justifying their jobs. It is a lovely thing for the children but not a necessity and if they want to get together for children to have play groups, let the parents do it.

Vote: M. DeCoff No, B. Howard No, S. Miller No, L. Carr No, L. Tilly No
Note Recommended vote 1 for 4 against.

R. Bailey review of final numbers of Operating Budget

R. Bailey what Budget Committee have recommended is actually less than last year.
Less than 2011 budget, by almost 18,000.

7,692.00 than we have voted. State locked in on a bid for gasoline. Went in and decreased 7 of the
gasoline buys.

Decreased 7 of the gas lines.

M Decoff Motion to support reduction of 7,692 in fuel line

L. Carr seconds

Vote: M. DeCoff Yes, M. DeCoff Yes, L. Tilly Yes, S. Miller Yes, L. Carr, B. Howard Yes,
R. Bailey this will be the budget unless I hear from you

10. Adjournment

Motion to Adjourn

S. Miller would like it part of the record thanking recorder for great job being done.

11. Public Input

No Public Input

12 Adjournment

M. DeCoff Motion to Adjourn

L. Tilly Seconds

All in favor

Adjournment 10:10 pm

Approved

March 12, 2012

Respectfully submitted,

