

POMFRET
SCHOOL DISTRICT ANNUAL MEETING

March 5, 2013

The School District Meeting was called to order at 1:00 pm by Kevin Geiger, Moderator.

Articles:

1. Kevin Geiger was elected Moderator. He was given the oath of office by the Town Clerk, Lynne A. Leavitt.
2. Mark Warner moved to accept reports submitted. Anne Bower Seconded. Passed unanimously.
Kevin Geiger hand out a replacement for Page 51 (for the Pomfret School) "Comparative Data for Cost-Effectiveness" in the Town Report it was for the Bridgewater School.
There was a lengthy discussion on declining enrollment, consolidation, tuitioned students and the increase in costs. Geoffrey Klingstein asked "What is the capacity of the school and the cost for tuitioned students?"
Greg Greene said the capacity is 140 students and the tuition cost per student is \$9,000.00.

There was a grant released in October 2012 for \$5,000.00. It is an ACT 156 research grant to study options for school boards, it is quite wide open, we plan to use it to hire a consultant to look at the 4 schools (Barnard, Bridgewater, Pomfret and Woodstock) and make recommendations to reduce the cost and improve the education of the students.

Greg Greene gave the results of the NECAP (New England Common Assessment Program) this is used by Vermont, New Hampshire, Rhode Island and Maine. Reading and math are administered in Grades 3-8 and 11, each measuring performance on the grade level expectations for the pervious year.

In Reading – 100% of Pomfret School students received proficient or above – only 1 school in Vermont achieved this level.

In Math – 90% of Pomfret School students received proficient or above – Pomfret ranked 5th in State, State average is 65%

In Writing – 100% of Pomfret School students received proficient or above – State average is 51%

Frederick Staples asked "Why there wasn't a warned article for a Woodstock Union High School Director?" It was not on the Pomfret School District Warning for Tuesday, March 5, 2013. that needs to be fixed.

3. Edward (Greg) Greene was elected Town School Director for a 3 year term. Passed unanimously.
4. Andrew Mann moved that the voters of the Pomfret School District appropriate \$1,193,505 (One Million One Hundred Ninety Three Thousand Five Hundred Five Dollars) as the amount necessary for the support of its school for the year beginning July 1, 2013. Seconded by Anne Bower. Passed unanimously.
Douglas Tuthill wanted to know why the Librarian salary was so much. Greg Greene explained this position is important this person wears a lot of hats. The responsibilities of this position are more than it use to be, this job includes updated 50+ computers, we feel it will save the school money.
We have a very good and experienced teachers and staff.
5. Kevin Rice moved that the voters authorize the Board of School Directors to borrow money, if necessary, for payment of current expenses of the district, pending receipts of payment of taxes. Seconded Andrew Mann Passed unanimously
6. Other business:

Sarah Woodhead thanked the School Board Members for their very hard work. She stated that the Principle does more than he is contracted to do and she really wants to keep the school open.

Scott Milne asked "Is School choice on the Agenda and is the Pomfret School going out of the Supervisory Union? He also thanked the School Board Members.

Greg Greene - School choice it has been talked about with the High School, but it is not getting a lot of traction. Supervisory Union it is almost impossible (extremely difficult) to get of the Supervisory Union.

Elaine Chase said that The Historical Society has David Graff's writings are on display at the front door of the Town Hall.

Elaine Chase moved to adjourn and Mark Warner seconded. The meeting was adjourned at 2:32 p.m.

Results of Pomfret vote for WUHS Budget Article 4 - \$11,322,305: Yes – 59 / No – 28

Respectfully submitted,
Lynne A. Leavitt, Town Clerk

Minutes approved by:

Date:

