

2024 DELIBERATIVE SESSION MINUTES

Gilford School District Deliberative Session “First Session” February 6, 2024

At 7:00 p.m. Sandra McGonagle, School District Moderator, opened the Deliberative Session. The Moderator led the Pledge of Allegiance. There were approximately 33 voters in attendance. Sandra McGonagle introduced the officials: Jeanin Onos, School Board Chair, Jessica Jacques, Vice-Chair; Robert McLean, School Board member; Nicole Hogan, School Board member; Lauren Huleatt, School Board member; Gordon Graham, Attorney for the SAU; Gaye Fedorchak, Budget Committee Chair; Kimberly Zyla Salanitro, School District Clerk. The Moderator thanked Scott Piddington, Technical Director, for his work and expertise.

The Moderator acknowledged the Gilford Budget Committee Members in attendance and introduced Superintendent Beitler who introduced the Gilford School District Administrative Team. The Moderator thanked the Supervisors of the Checklist, Miriam York and Mary Villaume. The Moderator explained the ground rules for the meeting.

The Moderator read Article I.

ARTICLE I Election of Officers

To choose the following school district officers:

School District Moderator	1-Year Term
School District Clerk	1-Year Term
School District Treasurer	1-Year Term
School Board Member	3-Year Term
School Board Member	3-Year Term

The Moderator read Article II.

Article 02 High School Locker Room and Roof Renovation

Shall the Gilford School District raise and appropriate the sum of Three Million Dollars (\$3,000,000) for the design and construction of repairs and improvements to the high school gym locker rooms, weight room, storage room and additional bathrooms and to replace the high school building roof; and to authorize the issuance of Three Million Dollars (\$3,000,000) of bonds or notes under and in compliance with the Municipal Finance Act, RSA 33:1 et. seq. as amended; to authorize the school board to apply for, obtain and accept federal, state, or other aid, if any, which maybe available for said project and to comply with all laws applicable to said project; to authorize the school board to issue, negotiate, sell and deliver said bonds and notes and determine the rate of interest thereon and the maturity and other terms thereof; to raise and appropriate the additional sum of Seventy-Five Thousand Dollars (\$75,000) for the first year's interest payment thereon; and to authorize the school board to take any other action necessary or to pass any other vote relevant thereto? 3/5 Ballot Vote Required

School Board Recommended 5 - 0

Budget Committee Recommended 9-0

Superintendent Kirk Beitler introduced Amie Leigh who presented a PowerPoint on the article.

David Horvath asked what the warranty is on the new roof and will there be multiple bid. Amie Leigh replied stating that there will be multiple bids and they will negotiate the warranty during the bid process.

There being no further discussion, the Moderator stated that Article 02 will appear on the ballot.

Article 03 GENERAL BUDGET FUNDS

Shall the Gilford School District raise and appropriate as an operating budget, not including appropriations by special warrant articles and other appropriations voted separately, the amounts set forth on the budget posted with the warrant or as amended by vote of the first session, for the purposes set forth therein, totaling, \$30,346,342? Should this article be defeated, the default budget shall be \$29,545,430, which is the same as last year, with certain adjustments required by previous action of the Gilford School District or by law; or the governing body may hold one special meeting, in accordance with RSA 40:13, X and XVI, to take up the issue of a revised operating budgeted only. Majority Vote Required

School Board Recommended 5 - 0

Budget Committee Recommended 9-0

Superintendent Kirk Beitler presented a PowerPoint on the 2024-2025 budget proposal.

David Horvath asked what the proposed support staff increases were. Amie Leigh replied between 3% - 6%.

David Horvath asked if the district shopped for health insurance plans. Amie Leigh stated that we did not this year as we are in the first year of the collective bargaining agreement but we are going to start the process along with the town.

There being no further discussion, the Moderator stated that Article 03 will appear on the ballot.

Article 04 SCHOOL BUILDINGS MAINTENANCE CAPITAL RESERVE

Shall the school district vote to raise and appropriate the sum of up to Four Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$400,000) to be added to the school Building Maintenance capital reserve fund established in 2017. This sum is to come from June 30 fund balance (surplus) available for transfer on July 1 of this year? No amount to be raised from additional taxation. Majority Vote Required

School Board Recommended 5 – 0

Budget Committee Recommended 9-0

David Horvath asked what the fund balance is on this account. Amie Leigh replied that as of July 1, 2023, the fund balance is \$832,201.74.

Dave Horvath motioned to add “balance as of July 1, 2023 is \$832,201.74” after “capital reserve fund established in 2017.” The motion was seconded by Dale Chan Eddy.

After discussion, the motion passed.

There being no further discussion, the Moderator stated that Article 04 will appear on the ballot.

Article 05 SCHOOL BUILDINGS AND ROOF MAINTENANCE CAPITAL RESERVE

Shall the school district vote to raise and appropriate the sum of up to Eighty-Two Thousand Five Hundred Dollars (\$82,500) to be added to the school buildings roof maintenance and improvement capital reserve fund established in 2017. This sum is to come from June 30 fund balance (surplus) available for transfer on July 1 of this year. No amount to be raised from additional taxation.

Majority Vote Required

School Board Recommended 5 - 0

Budget Committee Recommended 9-0

Dave Horvath motioned to add “balance as of July 1, 2023 is \$413,865.47” after “capital reserve fund established in 2017.” The motion was seconded by Dale Chan Eddy.

Kathy Dahll commented that when the Moderator read the article, the word “unrestricted” following “after June 30” was not included. Per legal counsel, the word “unrestricted” will be added to the Capital Reserve articles.

After discussion, the motion passed.

There being no further discussion, the Moderator stated that Article 05 will appear on the ballot.

Article 06 SCHOOL BUILDINGS TECHNOLOGY INFRASTRUCTURE CAPITAL RESERVE

Shall the school district vote to raise and appropriate the sum of up to Ten Thousand Dollars (\$10,000) to be added to the school buildings technology infrastructure capital reserve fund established in 2017, this sum is to come from June 30 fund balance (surplus) available for transfer on July 1 of this year.

No amount to be raised from additional taxation. Majority Vote Required

School Board Recommended 5 - 0

Budget Committee Recommended 9-0

Dave Horvath motioned to add “balance as of July 1, 2023 is \$52,944.00” after “capital reserve fund established in 2017.” The motion was seconded by Dale Chan Eddy.

After discussion, the motion passed.

There being no further discussion, the Moderator stated that Article 06 will appear on the ballot.

Article 07 MEADOWS PROPERTY – Phase 2

Shall the Gilford School District raise and appropriate the sum of Seventy-Five Thousand Dollars (\$75,000) for repairs and improvements at the Meadows property to include but not limited to; exterior siding, replacement windows, doors and overhead doors and electrical repairs. This is a special non-lapsing appropriation under RSA 32:7, VI and will not lapse until June 30, 2028 or the completion of the improvements whichever is sooner. Majority Vote Required

School Board Recommended 5 - 0

Budget Committee Recommended 9-0

There being no discussion, the Moderator stated that Article 07 will appear on the ballot.

At 8:09 p.m., there being no further business to come before the meeting, the Moderator adjourned the meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Kimberly Zyla Salanitro
School District Clerk