

**Oyster River Cooperative School District
Special Deliberative Session I
Oyster River High School
February 4, 2020 7:00 PM**

School Board Members:

Thomas Newkirk (chairperson)
Brian Cisneros
Denise Day
Allan Howland
Daniel Klein
Kenneth Rotner
Michael Williams

Moderator: Richard Laughton

Clerk: William Leslie

Legal Consultant: Diane Gorrow

Superintendent: Dr. James Morse

Business Administrator: Susan Caswell

Student Board Representative: not present

112 members of the public in attendance in the auditorium.

Moderator Laughton called meeting to order at 7:00pm and led in the Pledge of Allegiance.

School Board Member Denise Day presented the Distinguished Service Award to Jesse Morrell.

Moderator Laughton read the certification for posting of MS-26 as follows:

I, Wendy DiFruscio, certify that on January 24, 2020, I posted the MS-26, the default budget and the written warrant attested by the School Board of the Oyster River Cooperative School District: in the Town of Durham at Oyster River High School, the place of meeting; in the Town of Lee at the Mast Way School; and in the Town of Madbury at the Moharimet School.

Moderator Laughton read the School Warrant as follows:

You are hereby notified to meet at the Oyster River High School in said district on the 4th day of February 2020, at 7:00 o'clock in the evening for Session I of the Annual School District Meeting for discussion of Articles 3 through 5 and for any amendments thereto. Warrant articles whose wording is prescribed by law shall not be amended and no warrant article shall be amended to eliminate the subject matter of the article at Session I.

Official ballot voting for school district officers (articles 1 and 2) and on articles 3-5 will occur at town polling locations on Tuesday, March 10, 2020:

Town of Durham	Oyster River High School	7:00 am to 7:00 pm
Town of Lee	Lee Safety Complex	7:00 am to 7:00 pm
Town of Madbury	Madbury Town Hall	11:00 am to 7:30 pm

ARTICLE 1: To choose a Moderator for the coming year.

ARTICLE 2: To choose two At-Large School Board members for the ensuing three years.

Brian Cisneros read Article 3 as follows:

ARTICLE 3: Shall the District raise and appropriate the sum of \$49,847,732 (gross budget) to construct and equip a new middle school on the site of the current Oyster River Middle School, including new athletic fields and demolition of the Oyster River Middle School, (the "Project"); and authorize the issuance of up to \$49,847,732 of bonds or notes in accordance with the Municipal Finance Act (RSA 33); and authorize the School Board to issue and negotiate such bonds or notes and to determine the dates, maturities, interest rate, and other details of such bonds or notes; and raise and appropriate an additional sum of \$625,000 from taxation to pay debt service on such bonds or notes due in the 2020-2021 fiscal year; and authorize the School Board to accept on behalf of the District any federal, state, or private funds that may become available to fund the Project and use such funds to reduce the amount of bonds or notes issued for the Project and to take any other action necessary to carry out this vote. *The School Board recommends this appropriation. (3/5 Ballot vote required)*

Motion made by Brian Cisneros to accept Article 3 as written. Seconded by Tom Newkirk.

Brian Cisneros presented information on this article. The middle school building architect presented information on the project. Brian Cisneros continued presentation focusing on cost and the consequences of delaying the project.

Moderator Laughton called for discussion on Article 3. Discussion ensued including comments on LEED certification, solar panels, office space, furniture, capacity, athletic field without lights, parking, drop off/pick up, noise level.

Moderator Laughton called for further discussion on Article 3. There was none.

Moderator Laughton called for a vote on Article 3 as written. Article 3 passed.

Motion made by Tom Newkirk to restrict Article 4 from reconsideration. Seconded by Daniel Klein.

Moderator Laughton called for a vote to restrict Article 4 from reconsideration. Motion passed.

Tom Newkirk read Article 4 as follows:

ARTICLE 4: Shall the District raise and appropriate as an operating budget, not including appropriations by special warrant article and other appropriations voted separately, the amount 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 \$47,538,867. Should this article be defeated, the operating budget shall be \$48,221,487 (Default Budget) which is the same as last year with certain adjustments required by previous action of the District or by law; or the District may hold one special meeting in accordance with RSA 40:13, X, and XVI to take up the issue of the revised operating budget only. *The School Board recommends this appropriation. (Majority vote required)*

Note:

Fund 10 = \$ 46,073,817 (regular operating budget); Fund 21 = \$ 824,050 (expenditures from food service revenues); Fund 22 = \$ 600,000 (expenditures from federal/special revenues); Fund 23 = \$ 41,000 (expenditures from pass through funds).

Motion made by Tom Newkirk to accept Article 4 as written. Seconded by Brian Cisneros.

Tom Newkirk presented information on this article.

Moderator Laughton called for discussion on Article 4. Discussion ensued including comments on next year's budget impact.

Moderator Laughton called for further discussion on Article 4. There was none.

Moderator Laughton called for a vote on Article 4 as written. Article 4 passed.

Daniel Klein read Article 5 as follows:

ARTICLE 5: Shall the District vote to approve within the provisions of New Hampshire RSA 273-A:3 the cost items included in the collective bargaining agreement reached between the Oyster River Teachers Guild and the Oyster River School Board which calls for the following increases in salaries and benefits at the current staffing levels:

2020-2021	\$627,364
2021-2022	\$771,534
2022-2023	\$700,958
2023-2024	\$701,554
2024-2025	\$709,317

and further to raise and appropriate the sum of \$ 627,364 for the 2020-2021 fiscal year, such sum representing the additional costs attributable to the increases in salaries and benefits required by the new agreement over those that would be paid at current staffing levels? *The School Board recommends this appropriation. (Majority vote required)*

Motion made by Daniel Klein to accept Article 5 as written. Seconded by Brian Cisneros.

Daniel Klein presented information on this article.

Moderator Laughton called for discussion on Article 5. Discussion ensued.

Moderator Laughton called for further discussion on Article 5. There was none.

Moderator Laughton called for a vote on Article 5 as written. Article 5 passed.

Moderator Laughton reminded everyone of polling times and places on Tuesday, March 10, 2020.

John Parsons moved to adjourn. Ann Shump seconded the motion.

Moderator Laughton adjourned the meeting at 8:26 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

William R. Leslie, School Clerk,
Oyster River Cooperative School District