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DATE: June 12, 2023
TIME: 9:46 AM

Warrant Committee Education Subcommittee
April 24, 2023 7:00 PM
Town Hall, Conference Room #4, First Floor

Meeting Minutes

Members in Attendance

Warrant Committee Education Subcommittee: Bill Anderson, Anne Helgen, Laurie Slap, Matt Taylor

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 7:02 PM.

Discussion of FY2024 School Department Budget

- There was little discussion of the budget. The focus of this meeting was to share feedback on the draft of the Warrant Committee Report chapter and begin to brainstorm about recommendations to include at the end of the chapter.

Discussion of Ed Subcommittee Chapter of Warrant Committee Report

- Members discussed how best to format the chapter. Bill volunteered to outline the chart format to indicate total adds, total cuts, and the “net net” so all would be clear to readers. There was consensus that both number of FTEs and \$\$ spent should be included as possible, and show change from prior years.
- There was discussion about how to keep the chapter to a reasonable length for Town Meeting Member readers. Some suggested deleting detailed sections about town demographics and enrollment trends – or including as an appendix to the report.
- Subcommittee members raised ideas for the ‘Recommendations’ section of the chapter:
 - OOD: bring in-district as much as possible
 - Increased transparency: need to build out School Department Finance team to take on additional work
 - Caution with increases to staff: these recurring expenses will increase more than 2.5% given union contracts
 - Look beyond FY24; preserving services in FY 24 adds budget pressure in FY 25 and beyond
- Proposed deadlines
 - By Fri 4/28: (a) all comments to authors about most recent draft; (b) draft 3-5 suggested “Recommendations” and send to Jack
 - By Tues 5/2: send revised “Draft3” to Jack
 - Thurs 5/4: meeting to discuss Recommendations section and hopefully ok final Draft3 content (final copy editing to follow)

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 8:42 PM.

Submitted by Laurie Slap