



TOWN OF COLUMBIA
Fiscal Policy Board
December 11, 2013
Horace W. Porter School Conference Room
8:45 a.m.

Members Present: Bev Ciurylo-Finance Director, Kerry Hoffman-Board of Education Chairperson, Jonathan Luiz-Town Administrator, Earnest Sharpe-FiPAC Chairman, Carmen Vance-First Selectman, Mark Winzler-Interim Superintendent

Others Present: Judy Ortiz

1. Call to Order

Mrs. Ciurylo called the December 11, 2013 Fiscal Policy Board meeting to order at 8:49 a.m.

Change to the agenda:

J. Luiz **MOVED** and K. Hoffman **SECONDED** to add 4.E. Old Business - Library Construction Grant to the 12/11/2013 Fiscal Policy agenda.

MOTION CARRIES: 6-0

2. Approve Regular Meeting Minutes of November 13, 2013

E. Sharpe **MOVED** and J. Luiz **SECONDED** to approve the November 13, 2013 meeting minutes with the following addition: 5B. New Business – Paying for School Security Upgrades last sentence: The Board of Selectmen has waived ***bidding requirements for*** the capital funds for this project.

MOTION CARRIES: 5-0-1

B. Ciurylo, K. Hoffman, J. Luiz, E. Sharpe, M. Winzler **VOTED FOR THE MOTION**
C. Vance **ABSTAINED**

3. Correspondence – None

4. Old Business

A. **Security Grant Update** – Mrs. Ciurylo has contacted the State and been told that capital money used for infrastructure security projects will be reimbursed. Spending must be done on the original application requests with new requests approved by the State. The State has requested that districts submit their applications at the rate of 25% of project completion as there will be much paperwork generated by the amount of district participation in this grant. Columbia's application will be submitted in full after the project is completed. The project may cost less than the original estimated cost of \$248,000 and because of this; reimbursement may be lower than anticipated and may take up to 60 days. In addition, wiring for the additional cameras that were approved by the Board of Education on 12/9/2013 will be done while the contractor is already in the building.

B. **MBR Spending** – The Board of Education has approved spending \$45,000 to complete the security door project, \$11,000 for additional security cameras that were approved on 12/9/2013 and has asked the Porter administrators to research what it will cost to refresh the Porter School website. The Board is being conservative in spending MBR funds as magnet school tuition was not included in the 2013/14 budget. Mr. Sharpe suggests the BOE do some priority spending. He requested the October 1, 2013 enrollment numbers.

- C. **Roof Project Update** – Mr. Luiz reported that the architect is working on changes and that the project is on target and moving forward. It will go out to bid in February/March. The Town will need to move \$250,000 from the undesignated fund balance to the roof project account. Approximately 40-45% of the \$1.8 million project cost will be reimbursed to the Town.
- D. **Security Door Project** – Progress is being made and the doors and frames are being prepped for installation which should start the week between Christmas and New Years.
- E. **Library Construction Grant** – The Town of Columbia has been awarded a \$1 million library renovation grant. FiPAC will be discussing this.

5. **New Business**

- A. **Tri-Board Meeting 12/11/2013** – Mr. Winzler thanked FiPAC and the Board of Selectmen for changing the original date which allowed the Board of Education to conduct Superintendent interviews. Mr. Luiz reviewed the agenda items and discussion topics: Review of 2012/13 Revenues and Expenditures, Review of 2013/14 Revenues and Expenditures and Key Issues Impacting the FY 2014/15 Budget.
- B. **2014/2015 Budget Process** – Mr. Winzler explained the budget process has started and this year Porter’s Principal, Alyssa Gwinnell, will be included in the process. He feels it is important for the Building Principal to have a say in what is needed in her school. This is normal practice. Every line item has been analyzed and recreated. The only surprises may be in special education costs. Mr. Luiz thanked Mr. Winzler and Mrs. Ciurylo for their excellent work and collaboration effort.

The Columbia Teachers contract has been settled. The Board and Teachers union have negotiated a high deduction Health Savings Account (HAS).

- C. **Tuition Application to ECS Grant** – This was not requested. The Board of Education opted to pay tuition bills.

- 6. **Fiscal Department** - Mrs. Ciurylo reported the audit report draft is being reviewed, there will be no audit points as well as no MBR issues.

Fiscal Policy Board members acknowledged this is the last Fiscal Policy Board Meeting that Interim Superintendent Mr. Winzler will attend. He has set high standards for any incoming superintendent.

7. **Audience**

8. **Adjournment**

B. Ciurylo **MOVED** and K. Hoffman **SECONDED** to adjourn the meeting at 10:24 a.m.
MOTION CARRIES: 6-0

The next meeting will be January 8, 2014 @ 8:45 a.m. in the Horace W. Porter School Conference Room.