

Note: Per C.G.S. 10 – 218, Board of Education meeting minutes are provided in a draft format within 48 hours of the date the meeting was held. With the exception of motions and votes recorded, these minutes are unofficial until they have been read and approved by a majority vote of the Board. Should edits be necessary, they will be made at the next regularly scheduled meeting, noted in the meeting minutes, and voted upon.

**CHAPLIN, HAMPTON, SCOTLAND AND REGIONAL DISTRICT ELEVEN BOARD OF EDUCATION
CHAPLIN, CONNECTICUT 06235
TRI-TOWN ANNUAL BUDGET MEETING MINUTES
MONDAY, MAY 3, 2021
6:00 PM
Zoom Meeting**

- 1. Call to Order – Chairman Dennis LaBelle called the Tri-Town Annual Budget Meeting to order at 6:00PM. Present were Board members Stacy Foster, Joan Fox, Kathy Freed, Sally Ireland, Cassidy Martin and Michael Smardon. Administrators present were Superintendent Ken Henrici and Principal Brian Tedeschi.**
- 2. Election of Moderator – Stacy Foster moved to elect Chairman Dennis LaBelle as the moderator of the meeting. Michael Smardon seconded and the motion passed with the following vote:
Yes: Stacy Foster, Joan Fox, Kathy Freed, Sally Ireland, Cassidy Martin and Michael Smardon**
- 3. Presentation of 2021-2022 Budget –** Chairman and Moderator Dennis LaBelle presented the 2021-2022 Board Approved Budget to the Public. He invited Superintendent Ken Henrici to give a brief overview. Superintendent Henrici said this is a fiscally responsible budget, keeping the concerns of the taxpayers as well as the needs of our students in mind. The budget totals \$6,523,374.00, which is a 0.60% increase (\$38,000.00) over the 2020-2021 budget. This is due to contractual salary increases, increased health insurance costs and much needed buildings & grounds repairs. Given these factors, this is a reasonable budget. Superintendent Henrici then proceeded to review each page of the budget by function. Once all functions were reviewed, Chairman & Moderator Dennis LaBelle invited the Public to present their questions. Pat Bodlore (spelling?) asked about excess funds being used from the previous year, possible unused Athletics funds, the age of the school & future discussions of its needs and how the budget is apportioned to each town. Kathy Donahue asked about assessments, present and future grant funding and ESSER II expenditures. Dick Weingart expressed concern about Chaplin’s assessment. Chairman & Moderator Dennis LaBelle explained that the assessment is based on enrollment and is a legislative decision, not one of the Board. Mr. Weingart asked the Board to consider using the fund balance to offset assessments. He also thanked everyone for their efforts and thanked Deirdre Osypuk for the remarkable job in keeping Special Education costs down. Kathi Newcombe asked why are the assessments not voted on before the budget vote. Superintendent Henrici said we wait for the budget to pass first. Chairman & Moderator Dennis Labelle asked the Public if there were any other questions. There were none.
- 4. Adjourn to Referendum – Stacy Foster moved to adjourn to Referendum in all three Towns at the appropriate polling places from 12:00PM to 8:00PM on Tuesday, March 4, 2021. Michael Smardon seconded and the motion passed with the following vote:
Yes: Stacy Foster, Joan Fox, Kathy Freed, Sally Ireland, Dennis LaBelle, Cassidy Martin and Michael Smardon**

The meeting ended at 6:56PM.

Respectfully Submitted,
Diane Ritchotte
Recording Secretary