

Wednesday
March 28, 2018
6:45pm

AGENDA

Note: Public Hearing on Proposed 2018-2019 Final Operating and Maintenance Budget will be held in Old Colony's Cafetorium at 6:45pm.

A. CALL TO ORDER.

1. Pledge of Allegiance.
2. Public Participation.

B. RECOMMENDED ACTION.

1. **Routine Matters.**
 - a. Warrants available for review.
 - b. Other.
2. **Old Business.**
 - a.
3. **New Business.**
 - a. **Public Hearing 2018-2019 Fiscal Year Operating and Maintenance Budget.**

CH.71.S.38N. PUBLIC HEARING ON PROPOSED ANNUAL BUDGET.

The school committee of each city, town or regional school district shall hold a public hearing on its proposed annual budget not less than seven days after publication of a notice thereof in a newspaper having general circulation in such city, town, or district.

Prior to such public hearing, said committee shall make available to the public at least one copy of said proposed budget for a time period of not less than forty-eight hours either at the office of the superintendent of schools or at a place so designated by said committee. At the time and place so advertised or at anytime or place to which such hearing may from time to time be adjourned, all

interested persons shall be given an opportunity to be heard for or against the whole or any part of the proposed budget. Such hearing shall be conducted by a quorum of the school committee. For the purposes of this section, a quorum shall consist of a majority of the members of said school committee.

Added by St. 1972, c.136; amended by St. 1978, c.126; St. 1979, c.400.

The public hearing will be held at the Old Colony Regional Vocational Technical High School Cafetorium on Wednesday, March 28, 2018 at 6:45pm.

- b. Final Operating & Maintenance Budget – Mr. Sylvester Zienkiewicz
“The Committee shall adopt an annual operating and maintenance budget, including debt and interest charges and any other capital costs as separate items on any date between February 1st and March 31st, but no later than forty-five (45) days prior to the earliest date on which the business session of the annual town meeting of any member town is to be held.

Said Committee shall apportion the amounts necessary to be raised in order to meet the said budget in accordance with the provisions of Section IV. The amounts so apportioned to each member town shall be certified to the treasurer of the several towns within thirty (30) days from the date on which the annual budget is adopted and each such town shall, at the next town meeting, appropriate the amounts so certified.”

- c. School Choice.
Under the provision of the 1993 Education Reform Act, every city, town, or regional school district must enroll non-resident students beginning with the 1994-1995 school year (if seats are available) unless the school committee votes prior to June 1, following a public hearing, not to participate. The vote not to be a receiving district must be sent to the Department of Education accompanied by the reasons for the vote. The Department has no power to review the decision of the school committee. The exact wording of that section of the law is as follows:

“...this obligation to enroll non-resident students shall not apply to a district for a school year in which its school committee, prior to June 1st, at public hearing, adopts a resolution withdrawing from said obligation, for the school year beginning the following September. Any such resolution of a school committee shall state the reasons and shall be filed with the Department of Education; provided, however,

that said department shall have no power to review any such decision by a school committee...”

If a District does not wish to accept school choice students for September 2018 the Committee must comply with the provisions of the law prior to June 1, 2018. As a result, it will be necessary to adjourn the District Committee meeting for the purpose of conducting a Public Hearing on the matter of School Choice. After the Public Hearing, the District Committee meeting shall be continued for the purpose of voting on the matter of school choice.

Recommended Action:

Vote: To adopt a resolution withdrawing the Old Colony Regional Vocational Technical High School District from the obligation to enroll non-resident students under the provisions of School Choice for the 2018-2019 school year as allowed under the Education Reform Act of 1993. Said resolution being adopted due to the maximum choice tuition being less than the assessed pupil cost of our member towns.

The Old Colony Regional Vocational Technical High School District will continue to accept Chapter 74 Non-Resident students as allowed under M.G.L. Chapter 74, Section 7C, as amended by Section 129 of Chapter 110 of the Acts of 1993

C. INFORMATION & PROPOSALS.

1. **From the Chairman & School Committee.**
2. **From the Administration.**
3. **From Others.**
 - a. **Correspondence.**

D. FUTURE BUSINESS.

1. **Meeting Dates.**
 - a. **District Committee Meeting, Wednesday, May 16, 2018 - Cafetorium. The Annual Reorganizational Dinner (5:30 p.m.) precedes the meeting. Details to follow.**
2. **Review of Topics.**
 - a.

3. General Discussion.
 - a.
 4. Other.
 - a.
- E. ADJOURNMENT.