

# GARDNER PUBLIC SCHOOLS

70 Waterford Street  
Gardner, MA 01440

Finance Sub-Committee Meeting  
Monday, March 5<sup>th</sup>, 2020  
Superintendent's Office  
Minutes

Members Present: Mr. LaFreniere (Chair), Ms. Pelavin

Members Absent: Mr. Swartz

Others Present: Ms. Yu (Business Administrator), Mark J. Pellegrino (Superintendent),

The meeting was called to order at 9:30am by Mr. LaFreniere, the Chair.

Approval of the meeting minutes for February 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2020

Ms. Pelavin motioned and Mr. LaFreniere seconded, and the minutes was approved unanimously.

The Committee went over the Finance packet for the month of February. Ms. Pelavin raised a couple of questions regarding the encumbered total amounts of two budget line items. Ms. Yu will research and get back to the Committee. There are also a couple of questions on the transfer report too, and Ms. Yu will look into them and update the Committee.

Mr. Pellegrino and Ms. Yu gave the Sub-Committee an update on FY21 level services budget. Ms. Yu gave the Committee the FY21 Budget booklet, and the Committee reviewed the budget page by page. They concern is that the Governor's budget increase for the City of Gardner is not enough to cover the cost of living adjustment in salaries and expenditures. We have a budget deficit of \$205K. In order to move the district forward, the district needs about \$400K more in staffing and expenditures. The Superintendent will present the level services budget at the School Committee meeting on next Monday, March 9<sup>th</sup>.

There is a discussion on the Prospect St. School Building. The School Department intends to transfer the "care, custody, management, and control" of this property to the City. According to Mr. John Frick, this needs to be voted by the School Committee, the City Council, and signed by the Mayor. This item will be put on the June 1<sup>st</sup> Finance Sub Committee meeting agenda and June 8<sup>th</sup> School Committee agenda for votes.

## Adjournment

Ms. Pelavin made a motion, seconded by Mr. LaFreniere to adjourn. The motion passed unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 11:30am.