

**BOARD OF SELECTMEN**  
Francis A. Hegarty, Chairman  
Robert F. Brady, Jr., Clerk  
Steven P. Rose, Associate

Francis T. Crimmins, Jr.  
**TOWN ADMINISTRATOR**

# Town of Avon Massachusetts

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## **BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING THURSDAY, JANUARY 26, 2017 6:00 P.M.**

**Members present:**

Francis A. Hegarty, Chairman  
Robert F. Brady, Jr., Clerk  
Steven P. Rose, Associate

**Others present:**

Francis T. Crimmins, Jr., Town Administrator  
Shanna M. Faro, Executive Assistant to the Town Administrator  
Paul Zinni, Superintendent of Schools  
Kathleen McDonald, Coordinator of School Business

**School Committee:**

Sharon Marble, Secretary  
Tracy Sheehan, Vice Chair  
Rebecca Lundgren, Member

Chairman Hegarty called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

### **BUDGET WORKSHOP WITH THE SCHOOL COMMITTEE**

Mr. Zinni prefaced the conversation by summarizing the overall figures for the School Department's Proposed Budget for Fiscal Year 2018. At the December 12, 2016 meeting of the School Committee, it was determined that the Total Operating Budget for FY 2018 would be \$8,931,080.00. Mr. Zinni stated that from this amount, \$1,047,201.00 in funding would come from the FY 2018 Projected School Choice Funds. Therefore, Mr. Zinni stated in summary, that the School Committee's Total FY 2018 Request for Funding from the Town of Avon in support of its School Department Operating Budget to be \$7,883,879.00.

Mr. Zinni stated that the School Committee has requested more money from the General Fund this year as their choice student numbers have decreased. Mr. Zinni stated that overall, the School Committee has level serviced their budget this year. Any increases to the budget are to compensate for the lower number of choice students and less funding from the state for the Choice Program. Mr. Zinni stated that the School Committee is requesting money in the budget for the Social Worker at the Butler Elementary to change from a part-time position to a full-time position due to an increase in workload and the number of children with social and emotional issues needing assistance. Mr. Brady asked Mr. Zinni if the compensation for benefits was included in the Proposed Budget. Ms. McDonald replied that benefits are calculated through the General Government/Town side through the Town Treasurer.

Chairman Hegarty informed the School Committee that the Planning Board has recently seen several plans to develop large, residential units in the Town. Chairman Hegarty asked Mr. Zinni if the School Committee had a long range plan to consider how these plans, if they come to fruition, would impact the

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schools and its Operating Budget. Mr. Zinni stated that an additional 200 to 300 students would make a huge impact on the schools, in particular, the class sizes, which are currently capped at a maximum of 22 students for the older grade levels at the Butler Elementary. In addition, Mr. Zinni stated that it would also impact the amount of choice students that would be allowed to enter the Avon Public Schools. Mr. Zinni stated that as the development of these residential units' progress, they will need to be monitored closely, as it will be crucial to future budgets of the School Department. Chairman Hegarty agreed that the Selectmen and School Committee need to work collaboratively on addressing the long term goals of the Department moving forward.

Mr. Zinni advised the Board that out of the 5.4% increase that the School Department is requesting for the Proposed Budget, 87% of the budget is fixed based on salaries. Mr. Zinni stated that there are some variables such as the cost of utilities, the intent to add some elective and Advanced Placement classes and the purchase of new textbooks. Chairman Hegarty thanked Mr. Zinni and the School Committee for their Proposed FY 2018 Budget presentation. Chairman Hegarty informed the Committee that the Board will review their budget requests, and be as fair as possible in their recommendation to the Finance Committee.

### **Adjournment**

At 6:50 p.m., the Board and School Committee unanimously voted to conclude the Workshop Session.

Chairman Hegarty voted aye.

Mr. Rose voted aye.

Mr. Brady voted aye.

Ms. Marble voted aye.

Ms. Sheehan voted aye.

Ms. Lundgren voted aye.

Respectfully submitted,



Shanna M. Faro  
Executive Assistant to the Town Administrator