



RECEIVED

By Town Clerk's Office at 9:04 am, Apr 25, 2023

TOWN OF BURLINGTON

Meeting Minutes

Email minutes to meetings@burlington.org or Bring to the Clerk's Office. Thank you

Minutes need to be posted within 30 days or 2 meetings of the board – Draft minutes can be posted and revised at a later date

DEPT./BOARD: Ways & Means
DATE: April 12, 2023
TIME: 7:00
PLACE: Town Hall, Main Hearing Room

Present: John Iler, Chair

Brad Bond
Christopher Campbell
Christian Delaney
Frank Monaco
Steve Morin

Meghan Nawoichik
Rob Neufeld
Ed Parsons
Roger Riggs
Sonia Rollins

Absent: Doug Davison, Vice Chair
Shayan Bhattacherya
Michael Hardy
David Tait

Guests: Eric Conti, Superintendent – Burlington Public Schools
Tony McIntosh, Superintendent-Director – Shawsheen Valley Technical School
Jenna Lesko, Business Manager – Shawsheen Valley Technical School
Nichole Coscia, Business Manager – Burlington Public Schools
Robert Cunha, Director of Operations – Burlington Public Schools
Christine Monaco, School Committee
Katherine Bond, School Committee

Pledge of Allegiance

Public Participation N/A

Additional Comments N/A

Discussion and votes on the following FY24 budget items

3. Shawsheen school assessment [AA](Education)

The Shawsheen operating and capital budgets are funded through an assessment to each of the five member communities, largely driven by the number of students attending from each community. The total assessment to the town of Burlington for FY24 is \$2,976,385, an 11.6% increase. The major drivers include a new part-time English Language Learner teacher and board-certified analyst positions; columns and steps for the paraprofessional unions; COLA increases for clerical, cafeteria, and other non-union employees; inflation costs





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Vote: 11-0-0

4. Burlington Public Schools operations (Education)

This is a request for an operating budget of \$61,917,897.04, a 4% increase. Increases include a Newcomer Academy request that includes two new full-time employee positions. The Newcomer Academy is a program that addresses the needs of students who have experienced interruptions in their education and have come to Burlington both holding a full-time job and attending school. There are also eight new additional full-time positions: a social worker, adjustment counselor, math specialist, special education instruction aides and teachers, strength and condition coach, a board-certified behavioral analyst, and a systems and network analyst. Four positions are being converted from part-time to full-time: a team chair, a psychologist, a world language teacher, and a reading teacher. The non-salary budgets were mostly level-funded. There were increases in in-service training, libraries, the student information office, transportation, school committee legal costs and postage, and copiers. The subcommittee voted 3-0 in support. Due to a discrepancy in the budget, a vote on this item was deferred.

5. BPS Special Education [AA](Education)

This budget covers tuition expenses for the students who need special education. The district is required to provide these services to those who need them. For a variety of reasons, it is difficult to project the number of students who move in and out of the district on an annual basis. Students moving in can increase the cost of this budget. This accommodated account covers tuition, transportation, the LABBB program, and the Burlington Early Childhood Center. The total budget is \$14,202,037, an increase of 10.3%. Major drivers include two new residential placements and a new day placement in out-of-district programs, the state raised rates for out-of-district placements, and a position for the director of special education programs, and a new development skills teacher at Pine Glen Elementary. The subcommittee voted 3-0 in support. A motion to approve was made and seconded.

Vote: 11-0-0

6. BPS warrant articles (Education)

7-23: MSMS Security Cameras

This article is for \$45,111 for renovation of the MSMS security cameras. The subcommittee voted 3-0 in support. A motion to approve was made and seconded.

Vote: 11-0-0

7-24: Pine Glen Instructional Space

This article is for \$115,562 for additional instructional space at Pine Glen. The subcommittee voted 3-0 in support. A motion to approve was made and seconded.

Vote: 11-0-0





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7-25: High School Lightspeed Amplification System

This article is for \$154,980. This is to supplement spaces inside the High School that are currently lacking sound amplification or need replacement. The subcommittee voted 3-0 in support. A motion to approve was made and seconded.

Vote: 11-0-0

7-26: BECC Student Bathroom Renovations

This article is for \$82,770. The bathrooms at the Burlington Early Childhood Center are in need of repair and renovations to make the facilities age-appropriate and size-appropriate as the space was originally used for high school students and now serves children. The subcommittee voted 3-0 in support. A motion to approve was made and seconded.

Vote: 11-0-0

7-27: Francis Wyman Stairwell Resurfacing

This article is for \$42,049 to resurface stairwells at Francis Wyman. There are four stairways that have not been addressed since 1996 and the surface treads are worn and unsafe. The subcommittee voted 3-0 in support. A motion to approve was made and seconded.

Vote: 11-0-0

7-28: Pine Glen Siding and Soffit

This article is for \$150,403 to replace siding and soffit at Pine Glen. There are various places where soffit is deteriorating and cracking which can let animals or bees into the building and cause issues with heating and cooling. The subcommittee voted 3-0 in support. A motion to approve was made and seconded.

Vote: 11-0-0

7-29: Francis Wyman Cafeteria Grease Trap

This article is for \$39,393 to replace the grease trap in the cafeteria at Francis Wyman. The current grease trap is undersized and needs to be replaced to comply with code requirements. The subcommittee voted 3-0 in support. A motion to approve was made and seconded.

Vote: 11-0-0

7-30: Memorial Fire System Upgrades

This article is for \$41,190 to upgrade the Memorial fire system. There is a fire system that will no longer be supported by the manufacturer and needs to be replaced to pass certification. The system is in place to ensure emergency calls get through during emergency situations. The subcommittee voted 3-0 in support. A motion to approve was made and seconded.

Vote: 11-0-0

7-31: Francis Wyman Grass Field

This article is for \$700,000 for repairs to the Francis Wyman baseball field. The proposed work emerged from the final report of the athletic field use assessment, which identified the field as a priority and provided an





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Vote: 10-1-0

Yes: Brad Bond, Christopher Campbell, Christian Delaney, John Iler, Frank Monaco, Steve Morin, Meghan Nawoichik, Rob Neufeld, Ed Parsons, Sonia Rollins

No: Roger Riggs

7-32: Withdrawn

7-33: Withdrawn

Article 29 & Article 30: Repurposing May 22 Town Meeting Article 7-18, Music Floor Reconstruction to add it to the Burlington High School Feasibility Study; and Conducting the Burlington High School Feasibility Study
Article 29 & Article 30 were discussed together and voted on separately. BPS is looking to take the May 2022 Town Meeting warrant article to make the BHS music room accessible and repurpose the warrant of \$450,000 toward the feasibility study. These funds would be combined with \$1,050,000 of Article 30 for a total of \$1,500,000 toward the feasibility study. At last year's Town Meeting, there was some concern about why the music room floor was being prioritized over other items. As a result, they are looking to build and self-fund a complete feasibility study, similar to the program for new schools and Fox Hill, to aid in assessing which projects to fund at the High School.

Article 29: Repurposing the Music Floor Reconstruction

This article is to repurpose \$450,000 allotted to the Burlington High School music floor reconstruction project and put it toward the BHS feasibility study.

Vote: 11-0-0

Article 30: Burlington High School Feasibility Study

This article is for \$1,050,000 for a Burlington High School feasibility study.

Vote: 11-0-0

Article 31

This article was deferred to a later meeting.

7. Essex school assessment [AA](Education)

The subcommittee has not received this information yet so there was no number to vote on. This was deferred to a later date.

8. Minuteman school assessment [AA](Education)





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9. Approval of minutes – discussion, vote

There were two sets of minutes to approve: March 29, 2023 and April 5, 2023.

A motion to approve the minutes from March 29, 2023 was made and seconded.

Vote: **9-0-2**

Yes: Christopher Campbell, Christian Delaney, John Iler, Frank Monaco, Steve Morin, Meghan Nawoichik, Ed Parsons, Roger Riggs, Sonia Rollins

Abstain: Brad Bond, Rob Neufeld

A motion to approve the minutes from April 5, 2023 was made and seconded.

Vote:

Vote: **10-0-1**

Yes: Brad Bond, Christopher Campbell, Christian Delaney, John Iler, Frank Monaco, Steve Morin, Meghan Nawoichik, Ed Parsons, Roger Riggs, Sonia Rollins

Abstain: Rob Neufeld

10. Adjournment

MEETING ADJOURNED, 10:07PM

