

May 19, 2018  
EMERGENCY JOINT MEETING  
SELECTBOARD/FINANCE COMMITTEE

Meeting called to order at: 8:00.

Present: Lance Fritz, Jeff Neipp, Bill Glabach, Michele Giarusso, Ginger Robinson, Barbara Francis, Nick Adamski, Michèle Higgins, Tracy Baronas, Bob Hardesty.

The discussion centered around the PVRSD budget issue and what recommendation to make at Annual Town Meeting: whether to proceed in the normal matter or to pick up at Article 12 and recess before Article 24. There is another issue, as well. Bill Harris of the Planning Board died earlier in the week, and the Planning Board has an article on the Warrant. This article is the last article on the warrant and would be included in that recess so that those who worked on that Article could attend his funeral.

Should the BOS recommend that ATM be recessed until June 18, 2018 when it is thought that there might be better and clearer budget figures available to the 2019 PVRSD budget? It is clear from the discussion at the School Board meeting on Thursday evening (May17) that the towns will owe more than what was requested.

Jeff pointed out that the Highway department cannot proceed with repairs to the truck without the ok from Town Meeting and that delaying a vote would impede that work. Lance suggested that Article then not be skipped.

The question was raised to whether the Town would be locked into a figure if the PVRSD budget were approved and whether we should wait to hear from the school.

Jeff said that the technology payment to PVRSD of \$10,285.30 on the warrant is the last installment. Michele disputed that figure and reminded all present that even more than one School Committee member voiced frustration at the lack of confidence in the budget numbers for the district.

Again the question of what happens if the Town votes the budget for PVRSD and it is determined after a State review that more money is needed. Again, Michele expressed frustration at the unconscionable neglect and incompetence of those who oversee that school budget.

Ginger and Michele urge that the Town Meeting pass over until there is accountability in the budget and only after real figures are given.

Lance asks again what the boards wish to propose at Town Meeting.

The Select Board unanimously voted to proceed with the Warrant as is.  
The Finance Committee voted unanimously to wait and invited discussion to follow at Town Meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 8:35 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Michèle Higgins  
Finance Committee