

Gorham Randolph Shelburne Cooperative School Board  
Budget Hearing and Meeting  
February 15, 2006  
Gorham Middle/High School Gym

**Board Members Present:** Kathleen Kelley; Angela Brown; Karen Cloutier; Jean Tremblay; Donna Goodrich; Michelle Cormier; Jo Carpenter; Alice Evankow; Jay Holmes

**Board Members Absent:** Mike Waddell; Wendy Niskanen

**Student Representatives:** Nick Wolff (absent); Jen Cloutier (absent)

**Administrators:** Patrick Low, Superintendent SAU #20; Pauline Plourde, Business Administrator SAU #20; Keith Parent, Principal GMHS; Paul Bousquet, Principal EFS; Dave Goyette

**Press:** Gail Scott, Berlin Daily Sun; Sarah Young-Knox, Berlin Reporter

**Others:** Ben Mayerson, Building Committee Chair; John Carpenter, Building Committee; Reed Leberman, Building Committee; Bob Demers, Building Committee; Conrad Deutsch, Building Committee; various members of the public

## Budget Hearing

### I. Call to Order

Jo Carpenter called the hearing to order at 7:10 p.m.

### II. Presentation of Budget

Patrick Low presented an overview of the budget process.

Michelle Cormier presented an overview of the Finance Committee process.

Pauline Plourde presented an overview of the Cooperative Budget.

Ben Mayerson, Chair of Building Committee, shared a presentation regarding the Building Committee's request for funding.

Pauline concluded the budget presentation with a discussion of the tax impact of the budget as well as a reading of the warrants for the individual towns. A member of the public requested that the wording on the warrant be changed to state "who resides in" (Gorham, Randolph, Shelburne) to reduce confusion of who should vote where.

A brief question and answer period followed.

Budget hearing was adjourned at 8:25 p.m.

Meeting of the Board of the GRS Cooperative School Board reconvened in the library of the GMHS.

**Board Members present:** Angela Brown; Karen Cloutier; Jean Tremblay; Donna Goodrich; Kathleen Kelley; Jo Carpenter; Jay Holmes; Michelle Cormier

**Board Members absent:** Alice Evankow; Mike Waddell; Wendy Niskanen

**Administration:** Patrick Low, Pauline Plourde, Keith Parent

**Press:** Sara Young-Knox, Gail Scott

**Others:** Conrad Deutsch, Building Committee

I. Call to Order: Jo Carpenter called the meeting to order at 8:40 p.m.

II. Approval of Minutes: No minutes were presented to be approved at this meeting.

III. Public Comments: Jo read a letter she had received regarding a DOT meeting on February 23 at the Gorham Fire Station regarding work on Rt 16. It is recommended that someone be in attendance to find out how the refurbishing of the road will affect bus routes, i.e., timing and detours.

IV. Signatures for Budget and Warrant Documents

**Motion by Jay Holmes to add Article 7 as written to the warrant.**

**Second by Michelle Cormier.**

Discussion: Jean Tremblay would like to go on record as being opposed to removing money from a reserve fund. Other Board members voiced concerns that without a smaller jump this year, the potential future bond payment is a larger jump in tax payments. However, it was suggested that Gorham voters need to at least have the option of using that money. It is important to point out that we (the Board) are looking at other project's issues (Kennett HS, Gorham Town Hall) so that we can avoid making similar mistakes.

**Vote: 6 in favor, Jean Tremblay opposed, motion passes**

**Motion by Kathleen Kelley to accept the budget as presented**

**Second by Donna Goodrich**

**Vote: all in favor, motion passes**

**Motion by Kathleen Kelley to accept Article 3 as written**

**Seconded by Michelle Cormier.**

Discussion: the Board discussed whether or not to include "recommended by the school board" wording on articles not involving money.

**Motion by Kathleen Kelley to amend Article 3 to remove "recommend by the school board"**

**Seconded by Michelle Cormier**

**Vote: all in favor, motion passes**

**Kathleen changed her motion to “accept article 3 as amended”  
Seconded by Michelle  
Vote: all in favor, motion passes**

**Motion by Jay Holmes to accept the warrant as amended  
Seconded by Kathleen Kelley  
Vote: all in favor, motion passes**

#### V. Other

The Board discussed concerns over statements presented in an SAU withdrawal pamphlet mailed by the Milan School Board. It was made clear to the members of the press that the statements contained in the pamphlet were not made by the Cooperative Board. The Board requests that this item be put on the agenda for the next meeting of the SAU Board on February 23.

Patrick shared that a finalist for the new part-time SAU #20 SPED director position will be at the Milan Village School on Tuesday February 21 from 2:45 to 3:45 if Board members would like to meet the candidate. The candidate will also attend the SAU meeting on the 23<sup>rd</sup>.

The Board also discussed leadership positions on the board and potential orientation for new members, including a possible retreat.

Questions were also raised to Patrick and Pauline regarding the “changing of the guard” with Gorham in July and how this will be accomplished.

Copies of the draft annual report have been distributed to all board members. Please contact Jo by Thursday to approve/not approve the report.

VI. Next Meeting: The next meeting is scheduled for February 22 at 6:30 p.m. in Shelburne. The Board members concurred that they would prefer to keep the regular schedule of meetings.

#### VII. Adjourn

**Motion by Karen Cloutier to adjourn at 9:51 p.m.  
Seconded by Katie  
Vote: all in favor**

Respectfully submitted,

Angela Brown, Secretary