

Date: Thursday April 9, 2015
Time: 7:30 p.m.
Place: Killingly High School
Auditorium

TOWN OF KILLINGLY
PUBLIC HEARING
Thursday April 9, 2015

A PUBLIC HEARING of the Town Council was held, pursuant to Section 506 of the Killingly Town Charter, in the Auditorium of the Killingly High School, 226 Putnam Pike in Killingly, Connecticut, on Thursday April 9, 2015 at 7:30 p.m. at which time interested persons were heard upon the estimates of the revenues and expenditures of the Town of Killingly for fiscal year beginning July 1, 2015.

Chairman Hallbergh called the public hearing to order at 7:31 p.m.

All Council Members were present at the public hearing. Also present were Town Manager Hendricks, Council Secretary Buzalski, and members of the Board of Education.

Superintendent of Killingly Schools Farr reviewed the Board of Education's proposed budget, using a slide presentation and described various items that affected the budget. Mr. Farr reviewed the goal of the Board of Education.

Mr. Farr responded to questions concerning the proposed Grade Level Reconfiguration.

Monique Revellese, 14 Town Farm Rd, Dayville, asked about class size and how will the teachers handle the disruptions and behavior problems with bigger class sizes.

Board of Education Chair Rich commented on the bus ride lengths and anticipated a greater savings from the Grade Level Reconfiguration in year two.

Matt Sarankowski, 55 Laurel Drive, questioned what the average class size would be.

Assistant Superintendent Rioux responded that class size would increase by two to three students per class.

Gerry CinqMars of Dayville wanted clarification on the number of teachers cut verses the class size and how the age of the schools and maintenance issues affects the projections for the Reconfiguration.

Mr. Farr explained how the Reconfiguration would affect staffing.

Chris Flynn, 11 Hunt Rd, asked about line item 5120 Non-Certified Salaries.

Mr. Farr explained that these are positions that are not teachers and not union employees.

Dale Dauphnaïs, 204 Wright Rd, asked how many total teachers there were.

Laura Dunn, 29 East Franklin St, asked about state reimbursements.

Mr. Alemian asked what line item 5560 Local Placement Tuition was. Mr. Farr explained that is for students from Killingly who go to magnet schools.

A question was asked about the number of Killingly students attending Quinebaug Middle College.

Chris Flynn asked if the anticipated fuel savings is realistic.

Brian O'Connell remarked that we have three student at ACT and 32 at QMC.

Mr. Farr explained how the Alliance Grant affected the budget.

Monique Revellese asked about the cuts in the instructional supplies.

Mr. Farr responded that this reflects increases in that line item from last year.

Mr. Farr thanked his administrators for their input and spoke about funding security upgrades and technology upgrades.

A question was asked on how many administrators, teachers and staff have been cut in the last two years.

Matt Sarankowski asked about the anticipated reduction in students in the near future and commented that we need to be more proactive in attracting and keeping students in the local system.

Monique Revellese commented on individual student placement and not challenging students working at higher levels.

Laurie Leclere asked about unrestricted fund balances and whether that could be used for security improvements to the schools.

Bob Loiselle, Chestnut Hill Rd, Ballouville, does not think the Education Budget should be cut, instead cut the Resident Trooper budget.

Town Manager Hendricks reviewed the proposed General Government Budget for Fiscal Year 2015-16, using a slide presentation and explained various items.

Judy Kramer, Soap St, had some comments on Animal Control.

Chris Flynn asked what happens if this budget does not pass.

Hoween Flexer made a comment on signage for budget votes.

Gerry CinqMars commended both the Board of Education and the Town Council for a job well done.

The public hearing ended at 9:37 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Elizabeth Buzalski
Council Secretary
