

Benton School Board

August 23, 2023

Minutes

Attendance: Chair Boutin, Dwight Swauger

Public: None

Administration: Laurie Melanson, Katherine Ducharme, Janet Cole

Meeting called to order by Chair Boutin at 6:10 pm.

Lack of quorum for 6/14/23 meeting. Laurie Melanson provided notes to be posted on town website.

No public input.

Signed manifest for Treasurer.

Superintendent Report (Laurie Melanson): Hiring still in progress with many openings needing to be filled. Early estimate of additional state aid for Benton is \$5,182. To accept these funds a special meeting which will be done in conjunction with our regular meeting on 10/25/23 at 5:45 pm with moderator and clerk in attendance to approve funding which Members Boutin and Swauger are recommending depositing funds in the school trust fund. Choices for fund use are: A) Spend it. B) Put into trust fund. C) Return funds to reduce taxes. Received \$100,000 from Crotched Mountain Foundation (1st of 3) for French Pond School Additions. Next SAU 23 school board meeting is 9/6/23 at HCMS library at 6:30 pm. Need to have non-public session before adjournment. Proposed meeting dates for 2023-2024: 10/25/23, 1/3/24, Budget Hearing TBA, 3/13/24, 4/17/24, 6/12/24 (All meetings at 6:00 pm unless otherwise noted.)

Finance Report (Kathy Ducharme): Year Ending report for 2022-2023: general fund budget is \$677,746, revenue for the year was \$635,962 and expenditures were \$612,150. Resulting surplus of \$23,812. Unassigned fund balance \$65,144 placed in trust fund for schools.

Special Education Report (Janet Cole): 5 Benton students participated in summer tutoring and speech services during the month of July, 2023. Provide easy transition exercise for 4th graders getting familiar in a new building for them.

Non-public session 6:35 pm.

Next meeting date: October 25, 2023 @ 6:00 PM.

Meeting was adjourned 6:45 PM.

Dwight Swauger-Secretary, Benton School Board