

**ADVISORY BUDGET COMMITTEE
TOWN OF MADISON
February 11, 2025
MINUTES**

Members Present – Sharon Schilling; Joe Dame; Selectboard Rep Joy Gray; School Board Rep Sarah DeMartino; Rick Judkins by electronic participation; Alternate Ron Force

Others Present – Town Administrator Linda Shackford; MadTV Videographers, members of the public

Where and When Posted – Town Hall upper & lower bulletin boards and Madison & Silver Lake Post Offices on May 28, 2024.

Meeting Called to Order – By Schilling at 5:12 p.m.

Welcome and Introductions were made by Schilling.

Pledge of Allegiance – Dame led those in attendance in reciting the Pledge.

Motion by Gray, seconded by Force to allow member Judkins to attend the meeting by electronic means. The motion passed **5-0**.

Judkins stated he not in New Hampshire so it is not feasible for him to be present and there is no one in the room with him. Schilling noted that any votes taken tonight will be done by roll call.

School Board Warrant Article Votes – The Committee has the opportunity to revote on the school articles after having attended the Deliberative Session knowing that the votes will not be published in the School Report but will be shown on the ballot.

Schilling read aloud each article:

ARTICLE 2: Shall the School District raise and appropriate as an operating budget, not including appropriations by special warrant articles and other appropriations voted separately, the amounts set forth on the budget posted with the warrant or as amended by vote of the first session, for the purposes set forth therein, totaling **\$7,284,200**. Should this article be defeated, the default budget shall be **\$7,190,421** which is the same as last year, with certain adjustments required by previous action of the School District or by law or the governing body may hold one special meeting, in accordance with RSA 40:13, X and XVI, to take up the issue of a revised operating budget only. The Committee did not recommend this appropriation on 01/14/25 by a roll call vote of **2-4-0** with Gray and DeMartino recommending; Force, Schilling, Dame and Judkins not recommending.

The Committee voted 4-2-0 to revote Article 2 – Schilling – aye, Dame – aye, DeMartino – aye, Judkins – nay, Force – nay, Gray - aye.

Motion by Dame, seconded by DeMartino to recommend Article 2 failed by vote of **3-3-0** - Schilling – nay, Dame – aye, DeMartino – aye, Judkins – nay, Force – nay, Gray - aye.

ARTICLE 3: Shall the voters of the Madison School District adopt a school administrative unit budget of \$1,403,732 for the 2025-2026 school year in which \$442,499 is assigned to the school budget of this district? The Committee recommended this appropriation on 01/14/25 by a roll call vote of **4-1-1** with Gray, Dame, Force and DeMartino recommending; Judkins not recommending; and Schilling abstaining because she does not have enough information.

The Committee voted 2-4-0 to not revote Article 3 - Schilling – aye, Dame – nay, DeMartino – nay, Judkins – nay, Force – nay, Gray - aye.

ARTICLE 4: To see if the School District will vote to approve the cost items included in the collective bargaining agreement reached between the Madison School District and the Madison Employees Association which calls for the following increases in salaries and benefits at the current staffing level:

<u>Fiscal Year</u>	<u>Estimate Increase</u>
2026	\$123,585
2027	\$89,899
2028	\$90,236

The Committee recommended this appropriation on 01/14/25 by a roll call vote of **5-0-1** with Gray, Dame, Judkins, Schilling and DeMartino recommending; and Force abstaining because he needs a written analysis of the numbers.

The Committee voted 6-0-0 to revote Article 4 – Schilling – aye, Dame – aye, DeMartino – aye, Judkins – aye, Force – aye, Gray -aye.

Motion by Force, seconded by Gray to recommend Article 4 passed by vote of **6-0-0** - Schilling – aye, Dame – aye, DeMartino – aye, Judkins – aye, Force – aye, Gray -aye.

ARTICLE 5: To see if the School District will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of up to \$10,000 to be added to the Special Education Capital Reserve fund previously established. This sum to come from June 30 unreserved fund balance available for transfer on July 1. No amount to be raised from taxation. (The current Special Education CRF balance excluding interest earned since 6/30/24 is \$219,415.41.) The Committee recommended this appropriation on 01/14/25 by a roll call vote of **6-0-0** with Gray, Dame, Schilling, Judkins, Force and DeMartino recommending.

The Committee decided not to revote on Article 5.

ARTICLE 6: To see if the School District will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$175,000 to be placed in the previously established Building Maintenance Capital Reserve Fund. (The current Building Capital Maintenance CRF balance including obligation and excluding interest earned since 6/30/2024 is \$140,235.07). The Committee recommended this appropriation on 01/14/25 by a roll call vote of **6-0-0** with Gray, Dame, Schilling, Judkins, Force and DeMartino recommending.

The Committee decided to revote on Article 6 as amended.

Motion by Force, seconded by Gray to recommend Article 6 passed by vote of **3-1-2** - Schilling – aye, Dame – aye, DeMartino – aye, Judkins – aye, Force – aye, Gray -aye.

ARTICLE 7: To see if the School District will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of up to \$35,000 to be added to the Building Maintenance Capital Reserve Fund previously established. This sum to come from the June 30 unreserved fund balance available for transfer on July 1. No amount to be raised from taxation. (The current Building Capital Maintenance CRF balance including obligations and excluding interest

earned since 6/30/24 is \$140,235.07.) The Committee recommended this appropriation on 01/14/25 by a roll call vote of **6-0-0** with Gray, Dame, Schilling, Judkins, Force and DeMartino recommending.

The Committee decided not to revote on Article 7.

ARTICLE 8: To see if the School District will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$25,000** to be placed in the previously established Madison Corner Schoolhouse capital reserve fund. (The current Madison Corner School House CRD balance excluding interest earned since 6/30/24 is \$25,000.00.) The Committee recommended this appropriation on 01/14/25 by a roll call vote of **3-2-1** with Gray, Dame and DeMartino recommending; Judkins and Force not recommending; and Schilling abstaining because she wants to see more definition of what the funds will be used for.

The Committee decided not to revote on Article 8.

Motion by Force, seconded by Gray to adjourn. The motion passed **6-0** - Schilling – aye, Dame – aye, DeMartino – aye, Judkins – aye, Force – aye, Gray -aye.

The meeting adjourned at 5:57 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Linda Shackford,
Town Administrator/Recording Secretary

**These minutes were not approved by the Advisory Budget Committee.*