



Winthrop School Committee  
Winthrop, Massachusetts

A special meeting of the School Committee was held on Monday, January 15, 2025. The meeting was held in the Harvey Hearing Room, Town Hall, One Metcalf Square, Winthrop, MA, and via Zoom. The meeting was called to order by the Chair at 5:02pm.

**ROLL CALL**

Present: Ms. Leonard, Mr. Letterie, Mr. Martucci, Ms. Petrie, Mr. Purinton, Ms. Barry, Ms. Powell

Also meeting with Committee:

Lisa Howard, Superintendent of Schools

Dylan Cook, Chief Financial Officer/Business Manager

Patricia Hibbard, Executive Secretary to the Superintendent of Schools

Mr. Purinton led the committee in the Pledge of Allegiance.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

None

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

Language for the Override Ballot Question

**Ms. Petrie made Motion to propose a tiered question for the ballot with Question 1: Shall the Town of Winthrop be allowed to assess an additional \$3,500,000 in real estate and personal property taxes for the funding of FY26 Winthrop Public School's Operational Budget (\$3,500,000) for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2025 and Question 2: Shall the Town of Winthrop be allowed to assess an additional \$1,450,000 in real estate taxes and personal property taxes for the funding of School Stabilization Fund (\$1,450,000) for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2025? Ms. Barry seconded the Motion.**

**Ms. Leonard-yes, Mr. Letterie-yes, Mr. Martucci-yes, Ms. Petrie-yes, Mr. Purinton-yes, Ms. Barry-yes, Ms. Powell-yes. A unanimous vote.**

There was discussion regarding what the committee had previously brought forward, and it was agreed upon that the new language for the override questions gives more flexibility.

Mr. Martucci made an Amendment to the Motion to recommend the Town Council to include the additional language, pending approval from the State. Ms. Leonard seconded the Motion.

**Ms. Leonard-yes, Mr. Letterie-yes, Mr. Martucci-yes, Ms. Petrie-yes, Mr. Purinton-yes, Ms. Barry-yes, Ms. Powell-yes. A unanimous vote.**

**Ms. Leonard made a Motion to discuss the recommendation for timing and presentation to the Town Council.**

There was no second to the Motion, however there was discussion on the timing of the ballot, and it was suggested that someone from the School Committee attend the next Town Council meeting to present and explain why the School Committee would prefer to have their own ballot for an upcoming election. Ms. Leonard expressed a desire to place the School Committee on the agenda of the Town Council's meeting. It was agreed upon that Jennifer Powell would attend the meeting and be allowed to make a presentation at the Town Council meeting .

## **PUBLIC RELATIONS**

- Ms. Howard thanked the School Committee for their support and hard work
- Ms. Barry and other members of the School Committee commended Superintendent Howard for her hard work and support
- WHS Dinner Theatre is performing this week
- WMS Drama is performing The Lion King, Jr. at the end of this month.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

**At 5:33pm, Ms. Petrie made a Motion to adjourn. Ms. Barry seconded the Motion.**

**Ms. Leonard-yes, Mr. Letterie-yes, Mr. Martucci-yes, Ms. Petrie-yes, Mr. Purinton-yes, Ms. Barry-yes, Ms. Powell-yes. A unanimous vote.**

Respectfully submitted,

Paticia Hibbard

Executive Secretary to the Superintendent of Schools

Documents used in this meeting:

- Agenda
- Sub-committee Approved Questions and Add Voter Clarification Statements