

Berlin Board of Education
Finance and Operations Committee Meeting
March 28, 2022
MINUTES

In Attendance: Timothy Oakes, Chair
Julia Dennis, President, Board of Education
Adam Salina
Matthew Tencza

Also in attendance: Brian Benigni, Superintendent of Schools
Jeffery Cugno, Director of Operations
Ashley Dorsey, Director of Finance

I. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Mr. Oakes at 7:05am.

II. 2022-2023 Budget Discussion

Superintendent Benigni and Ms. Dorsey discussed revisions to the Board of Education's (BOE) Adopted Budget for the fiscal year 2023 (FY23). Modifications were necessary per the directive of the Town's Board of Finance (BOF), which proposed an increase of 2.50% instead of the 4.67% increase adopted by the BOE. Total reductions from the BOE totaled \$1,040,000.

Ms. Dorsey presented anticipated cuts or reallocation of funds to grant accounts. All salary lines, benefits, contracted services, transportation, supplies, equipment, and due & fees categories have been reduced from the BOE Adopted Budget. The group discussed their concerns about using ESSER funds to supplant the budget for FY23 and its impact on fiscal year 2024. The group also briefly discussed the Town's new housing projects and their impact on future budgets.

Mr. Cugno provided an update on FY23's Capital Plan. Mr. Cugno informed the group that the projects initially included in FY23's Capital Plan were removed; however, the Town intends to allocate the current year's surplus funds to those projects.

III. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 7:55am.

Respectfully submitted,

Ashley L. Dorsey
Director of Finance