Greenfield School Committee
Budget, Finance & Warrant Sub-Committee
Meeting Minutes
September 21, 2026

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1. Call to Order:
   The meeting was called to order at 11:30 a.m.

   AC read the Chair Statement relative to meeting recordings.

2. Roll Call of Members:
   Present: Ann Childs, Chair (AC), Melodie Goodwin (MG), M. Mckenzie Webb (MW) (via Zoom)

   Also present: Andy Paquette, Business Manager (AP)

3. Public Comment:
   There were no members of the public present for comment at this time.

4. Approval of September 2, 2026 draft sub-committee minutes:
   On a motion by MG, 2nd by AC, the minutes were approved as presented. The roll call vote was unanimous.

5. Post-mortem overview of last year's budget:
   AP reviewed the written overview of the budget, as shared with the sub-committee members:
   - Salary/Wages – Full-time, part-time, temporary, subs, transportation, etc.
   - Purchase of contracted services
   - Supplies and materials
   - Out-of-district tuition
   - Dues/Travel
   - Equipment
   - We will be turning back $86 to the City
   - Vacancy savings were used to offset the contracted services (Consultants were hired for special education positions that we were not able to fill)
   - Transportation – Staff has the potential to work full-time, so we budget full-time for them even though they may work less hours – As a result of the lesser worked hours, there was an approximate $250,000 surplus in the transportation salary line item
   - We were able to use local funds for special education tuitions due to the surplus in salaries/wages, which set us up for future years and eliminated our need to ask the City for anything additional at that time
   - We need to attract more candidates to fill our vacancies in the form of offering more competitive wages, especially for special education positions

6. Schedule Listening Sessions:
   MW provided a scheduling spreadsheet to the members of this sub-committee which included three (3) dates and times already populated into the document. (She is still waiting to hear from the remaining 3 building principals/PTOs.)

   Discussion ensued relative to member availability to attend scheduled PTO, ELPAC and SEPAC meetings. It was suggested to develop a rubric for these sessions so that all members are on the same page relative to what questions they will be asking and what information they will be bringing back to the sub-committee. This will be further discussed at the October 5 warrant meeting.

7. Staffing Update:
   AP noted we still have open posted positions that we are hoping to fill. Superintendent Kruser asked him to clarify that the newspaper misquoted her regarding the Health & Wellness Services position - The position is, in fact, posted as well. Some vacant positions include: IAs at each building, building subs, speech-language pathologist, special education teacher for Newton School, etc.

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Discussion also ensued relative to the following positions:

- Grade 7 science and social studies positions
- Sub-nurses
- Grade 4 band position
- Assistant Director of Special Education position from half-time to full-time status
- Health & Wellness Services position

AC summarized another discussion relative to the half-time to full-time special education assistant director position: "In light of our special education vacancies, is the .4 that we added to that position doing anything to alleviate the pressures caused by those vacancies?" (We should be able to obtain additional information on this topic from stakeholders at the upcoming SEPAC meeting.)

8. Call for future topics:

   October 5 Warrants meeting:

   - Rubrics and how to conduct the listening sessions
   - Warrants

   October 19 regular sub-committee meeting:

   - Curriculum update
   - Swimming for students (Grades 2-5?)
   - Course enrollment as a way of reflecting our budgetary priorities
   - We are currently spending $14,000 per pre-school child - Which is more cost effective: Funding our pre-school program vs. paying to have our pre-school students attend local pre-school programs?

9. Adjournment:

   On a motion by MG, 2nd by AC, the meeting adjourned at 12:27 p.m. The roll call vote was unanimous.

Approved:

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