

Town Council Meeting
April 25, 2013 – 6 p.m.
1670 Flat River Road, Coventry, RI

PUBLIC HEARINGS
FY 2013/2014
MUNICIPAL, CAPITAL, AND SCHOOL DEPARTMENT BUDGETS

Present: Councilwoman Carlson, Councilman Laboissonniere, Vice-President McGee, Councilman Jendzejec, President Cote, Town Manager Hoover, Town Solicitor Tobin

School Superintendent Michael Almeida, School Finance Director Robyn Pelletier

Motion was made by Councilman Jendzejec seconded by Vice-President McGee to open public hearings. All voted aye.

School Committee Vice-Chairwoman Judith Liner raised a question pertaining to the school budget, as it has been presented. She questioned if the School Committee were to come up with an alternative plan with regard to allocation of funds for opening Oak Haven School, whether that would be something that Council would be amendable to, for instance, if it were decided to use Oak Haven as an elementary school or even something else.

President Cote indicated that the Town Manager's resolution is to approve the \$400,000 increase that the school requested, with only \$300,000 included in maintenance of effort. The additional \$100,000 for Oak Haven would be a onetime payment. That is what the Town Manager has recommended and I believe will continue to be recommended. As far as whether the school is opened as an early learning center, once the budget is approved, what the school department does with that money is not up to the Town Council.

Dr. Almeida inquired if Manager Hoover spoke to Council about the additional \$100,000 being included in maintenance of effort. Manager Hoover replied that although he understands Dr. Almeida's position and the need for the \$100,000 each year to sustain Oak Haven, my recommendation remains the same and I believe that from previous Town Council comments that they are asking you to find it in your budget. Dr. Almeida remarked that he is just putting it out there, because the lack of funding may cause Oak Haven not to open.

No further public comment.

Motion was made by Councilman Jendzejec seconded by Vice-President McGee to close public hearings. All voted Aye.

Motion was made by Councilman Jendzejec seconded by Councilwoman Carlson to adjourn meeting. All voted Aye.

Town Clerk