

LEXINGTON SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING
Wednesday, April 11, 2012
Town Offices Building, Selectmen's Meeting Room
1625 Massachusetts Avenue
5:45 PM

Present: School Committee Chair Mary Ann Stewart; Vice Chair Alessandro Alessandrini; and School Committee Members Bonnie Brodner, Margaret Coppe and Noah Coolidge, Student Representative and Dr. Paul B. Ash, Superintendent

The minutes were taken by School Committee Chair, Mary Ann Stewart.

The Chair called the Meeting of the Lexington School Committee to order.

1. Discuss Possible Use of Excess Health Care Funds

The Committee reviewed the Summit Meeting VII Agenda documents prepared by Town staff in advance of the Summit Meeting (at 6:00 PM) and discussed the use of the "savings" the Town anticipated realizing from joining the GIC. Based on the earlier Summit discussion and comments at Town Meeting, a revised proposal for consideration has been drafted, which includes a property tax relief component. The Committee discussed the fact that there are compelling, unmet needs across Town facilities and roads, and noted that we are not completely clear of the challenging economic environment of the past few years. Also, the campaign for the debt-exclusion vote in January educated residents about the increase in taxes and the vote passed with broad, overwhelming support. The tax relief would be approximately \$32.00 per household in FY13.

Motion that the health savings not go toward a "debt-exclusion offset"
(Alessandrini, Brodner).

Member Jessie Steigerwald arrived to the meeting at 5:56 PM, just after the motion had been moved and seconded, and she had not been part of the Committee's discussion on the matter.

The Motion passed (4-0-1, Steigerwald).

The Committee remained in session throughout the Summit Meeting discussion, recessing at 7:23 PM to relocate to Cary Hall for the purpose of discussing Annual Town Meeting Articles and adjourned at the end of Town Meeting.

Documents: Agenda; memo from Carl Valente, Town Manager, and Rob Addelson, Assistant Town Manager for Finance; Estimated Five-Year Health Insurance Savings for Transition to GIC; Version 2: Funding Budget Priorities; Option for \$3,200,000 in Tax Relief for Excluded Debt Service.

Voted by the School Committee _____ May 8, 2012 _____