

**Monday, February 4, 2019
Select Board Meeting**

Historical Commission - Emily Dowling - appointment, new term to expire March, 31, 2020
Town Manager Wong asked Emily Dowling to come up and introduce herself for an opening on the Historic Commission. Ms. Dowling said she had an opportunity to interact with the Historic Commission a few years ago when a nearby house was torn down and a large house built in its place. Another house was also slated to be torn down, but was subject to the demo delay and in the 12 months it was sold to a family who rehabbed it and kept the look and feel of the neighborhood. Ever since then, she has felt the Historic Commission has an important role in the town. Selectman Welch asked about her personal background. Ms. Dowling said she grew up in Virginia and she moved to the Northeast with her husband 6 years ago. They have 2 children and are invested in the community. No action is needed as this is a Town Manager's appointment.

Ms. Wong said the first newsletter is up and posted on the Town Manager website. The town will be collecting emails if people are interested in signing up and will also send to existing lists.

The town is also putting together a records management committee and there is a need given the space and in today's day and age. Town is looking for volunteers that have expertise to help with this efforts. Selectman Welch asked where people can go for newsletter and Ms. Wong gave the townmanager@winchester.us email.

MATTERS FROM THE AUDIENCE

COMPTROLLER 'S REPORT

LICENSES

Common Victualler's License - Caffé Nero, 547 Main Street - Christine Anderson, Director of Operations for Caffé Nero, and Megan Hayward, the store manager, introduced themselves.

Chairman Grenzeback asked to describe their scope of operations. Ms. Anderson talked about the food and beverages they serve and have about 46 seats plus 3 people, so 49 person occupancy. Hours will be 5:30am to 10pm. We have a store manager, an assistant store manager, and 2 shift leaders as part of the leadership team within the cafe.

Chairman Grenzeback asked for questions from the board. Selectman Welch thanked them for investing in Winchester and appreciate the commitment to the town. Says they should find collegiality from the consumer base here. She asked what they are contemplating for service over the counter. Christine said they will serve European style, so a 1 to 1 service, ordering with a barista behind the bar. So it's not a table service. Selectman Welch asked if it is unique for the locations. Ms. Anderson said we don't have any cafes that are the same, downtown Boston to Arlington are different but have the same vibe. Selectman Bettencourt said we always appreciate businesses willing to invest in our community and make the connection and

He knows that you do carry a lot of food products. Is there anything that you source locally? Ms. Anderson said yes they use Nashoba bakery, Arcardi for food vendor out of Medford, and then use Casa Rubis out of Boston. We bring in very local pastry chefs, and always try to keep our hands in the community and look at farm to table things that benefit community around us and comes into our procurement. Bettencourt said we do have the Wright-Locke farm here that have products they make available and Mamadou's Artisan is one of my favorite bakery. I encourage you to look locally. Selectman Welch asked if they knew where those places are and Ms. Hayward says she is local and from Arlington and familiar with the area. Ms. Anderson says the head of food and procurement lives in the North Shore and makes sure he knows about the farm. Bettencourt asked if there will be outdoor seating. Ms. Anderson said she does not believe it was applied for at this

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time, but enjoy the outdoor patios and as long as the zoning allows for it, it would be something they would be interested in. Chairman Grenzeback asked about when they will open. Ms. Anderson says she hopes it will be handed over to operations April 22 or so, give or take a couple of weeks if everything is on time with construction.

*Motion: That the Select Board approve a Common Victualler's license to **Caffé Nero** to operate at 547 Main Street, the license to expire December 31, 2019.
Goluboff - Welch All in favor VOTED

HEARINGS

BUSINESS

1. Committee Appointments and Reappointments -

Capital Planning - Mike Beauvais rescheduled to February 25, 2019 meeting. Interviewed incumbent James Johnson

Chairman Grenzeback said that one of the two Capital Planning candidates is not here so we will only have one interview and make a decision in the future when we interview the other person. We have a position open on the Capital Planning. The incumbent, James Johnson is here tonight. Chairman Grenzeback asked Mr. Johnson to make a statement about his qualifications and tenure. Mr. Johnson said he was active on committees including the finance committee in the late 80s, EFPBC when they looked at McCall, instrumental in flood mitigation, and made a decision as Selectman to go on Capital and knows the demands and prioritizes public safety. Has the history, knowledge and cares and asks to be reappointed. Chairman Grenzeback says that the board does not have to make a decision tonight because the other candidate is not here. Selectman Welch thanked Mr. Johnson for all that has given to the town, and his experience, including as Board of Selectman. Mr. Johnson says he has learned a lot about the financial history and why things are the way they are.

Committee on Names -Interview John McConnell

Chairman Grenzeback said the other position open is for the Committee on Names and asked John McConnell to introduce himself. Selectman Welch thanked him for all the different hats he has worn. Chairman Grenzeback explained that one of the duties of the Committee on Names is to name buildings and edifices and that Mr. McConnell as an architect is qualified. Selectman Welch said his architectural history degree is impressive and relevant to a town like ours. Chairman Grenzeback thanked Mr. Johnson and Mr. McConnell and said they will vote for this at a future meeting.

2. Master Plan - Chairman Grenzeback invited the consultant, Jennifer M Goldson for the Master Plan to give an update on the process. Chairman Grenzeback said the town started to develop master plans in the early 1900s and the last full update was in the 1950s and there was a partial update since then.

Ms. Goldson handed out the executive summary of the existing conditions report, which is Phase I. Ms. Goldson introduced herself and the team of other consultants. We are on schedule. Phase I is looking at Winchester yesterday and today, and that ran from September to December. We are launching Phase II now, which is about visioning and goals, what could Winchester's future be like. And then, through the summer and winter, Phase III will be focused on strategies, so how should Winchester achieve its vision and goals that we will be defining in this current phase. And then going through January and February of next year 2020, adopting the plan. Ms. Goldson described the executive summary and encouraged people to go to the link and download the full document,

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which has gone through one round of edits by the Master Plan Steering committee. We are in the beginning of a public comment period of the existing conditions report that will last until February 22nd, which is right before we hold the first public workshop. Ms. Goldson reviewed a timeline of where Winchester has come from, back to the 1600s and says it is important to look at strengths and opportunities. The Master Plan consists of 7 core elements, around land use, housing, transportation, public facilities, economic development, open space and recreation and historic resources. Ms. Goldson went over a few key challenges and opportunities. They went over a series of focus groups for every element in October in the middle of data collection to talk to stakeholders about what the issues are around each element, how the community has changes and what they see as opportunities. They came up with 8 key challenges and discussed each one.

1. Finding an appropriate balance between preservation and development - Identifying strategic redevelopment opportunities.
2. Creating stronger protection for historic resources to more effectively protect the historic, architectural, and visual character of Winchester's neighborhoods.
3. Development of appropriately-scaled and designed housing options to help maintain and support socioeconomic diversity of the town's population and increase the economic vitality of local commercial and industrial businesses.
4. Focusing commercial and /or mixed-use redevelopment and revitalization efforts along North Main Street, in Town Center, and within the town's industrial districts.
5. Preserving and improving the quality of the Town's current open space inventory.
6. Creating circulation network changes that allow for less reliance on vehicles and provide safe, pleasant, non-motorized mobility options to enhance connections.
7. Integrating transportation improvements with new developments, regulatory changes in land use, and increased density.
8. Providing adequate funding for capital costs of public facilities, including schools, other town properties, streets, sidewalks, and other infrastructure to ensure the level of facilities and services that residents expect.

Ms. Goldson once again encouraged people to download the full document at <https://courbanize.com/projects/winchestermasterplan>.

Ms. Goldson talked about Phase II Visioning and Goals. This is not about facts and figures and constraints but to imagine what the community could be like at its very best. Part of the vision is to come up with measurable goals in all of the categories and Phase III is strategies tied to an action plan including funding, priorities, timeframe and responsible parties. Ms. Goldson talked about using community conversations, providing information, and structuring opportunities for engagement to hit multiple segments of community including an interactive public forum, tabling events at Town Day, creating a Do-It-Yourself Meeting kit and using the coUrbanize platform. Ms. Goldson went over the engagement strategy including events from February to June. Ms. Goldson went over the coUrbanize platform and showed the map and comments, and how they can use it to collect feedback and do analysis on what's great and what is missing.

Selectman Welch thanked Ms. Goldson and Planning Board members and steering committee and that they struck a nice balance between the appreciation for historic buildings and atmosphere and the interests of economic stability. She commented about open space in wheel and why the Fells was not listed, or the Town Forest, and that they go towards the quality of life here. Selectman Welch referenced idea to reduce speed limit to 25 miles per hour and that people cutting through the town who don't live here is a variable to consider when thinking of traffic issues. Selectman Welch also referenced the 6 story structure that the consultant used is in a buffered area that minimizes the effect of the height, and that putting up that picture did not mean that Winchester

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could have 6 story buildings everywhere, but appreciate that architecture matters and can soften and ameliorate the scale of a taller building.

Selectman Bettencourt wanted to know if the plan could be made available online. Says housing is a big issue and the town has been working on Housing Production Plan and asked how a municipal affordable housing trust could fit in. Ms. Goldson says she worked for community preservation committee and funding for trusts about 12-13 years ago. She says it is not right for every community but town needs to consider how it would be funded since we don't have the community preservation act, which is not the only source but a primary source. Is there a funding stream that could create a trust that could be effective? Also want to think about structure, most are relatively independent, some don't need any additional approval and others add an additional layer of approval. The other consideration is who sits on trust and representation. There are a lot of trusts that have been created and don't have the capital and are ineffective. Or they have a funding source but the layers of approval are such that they can't get anything done. It's important to think of the role of the trust and how it would operate.

Chairman Grenzeback stated that at some point the Select Board will try to hold a meeting with the planning board in the near future. Chairman Grenzeback mentioned the plan references funding capacity, and balancing that with the future vision of how the town wants to grow. Given that 4% of property tax comes from commercial, plan should be more than a classic land use plan.

3. Senior Tax Relief Program - Chairman Grenzeback invited State Sen. Jason Lewis to talk about senior tax relief programs and some broader issues. Selectman Bettencourt thanked the Senator for his work and asked him to comment on what other communities are doing as Winchester is considering an operating override and there is a rise in cost of living and school enrollment. We are looking for suggestions to help the most vulnerable communities.

Sen. Lewis thanked the members for inviting him. Said the challenge of providing the level of services that residents expect, that the rising property taxes is a challenge for members of the community, especially those on fixed incomes. There are a variety of programs that the state and the town offers to help particularly seniors, but also veterans, with their property tax bills. We share a concern that the tools available are still not enough, particularly for our most vulnerable seniors. There are two reasons why we want to help seniors. One is that these are individuals who have lived here for a long time, some grew up here and we want them to stay and age in the community they know and love and not force them to leave. There is another reason and as those properties turn over, they often lead to more young families with young children that lead to growing enrollment. If you can slow down turnover, that can have a positive impact on enrollment growth. As a result, a number of years ago, two communities, Sudbury and Wayland, took the lead and came up with proposals that could work to provide extra property tax relief to low income seniors. There isn't a current provision in state law to allow cities and towns to do this on their own, so is was done as home rule petitions. Sen. Lewis recently worked with the Town of Reading in 2016 and was in similar situation in terms of having some fiscal challenges and needing to pass an override and to offset impact. Reading is Chapter 343 of the Acts of 2016 and based on the existing Circuit Breaker program. So seniors who qualify for the Circuit Breaker who are also a ten year resident of the town can apply for an additional exemption off their property taxes and gives the town flexibility to determine if the additional relief is 50% to 200% of their current Circuit Breaker. Reading's Select Board makes that decision of the % each year. It was drafted as 3 year because it was a home rule and there were concerns about making it permanent. It expires in a year and the town is already having discussions to renew it. The town of Wakefield saw what Reading did and wants to do the same thing. They passed a home rule through their Town Meeting and it is pending before the State Legislature. The one big difference is they wanted to take the decision out of the hands of the Select Board and instead put it in the hands of the Board of Assessors to make the

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determination. The option is still the same, 50-200%. The offset for the benefit is shifted to other residential taxpayers. Reading had roughly 500 individuals qualify in the first year and shifted about \$20 on average to other taxpayers. I have filed legislation SD (Senate Docket) 715, an Act Authorizing the Establishment of a Means Test Senior Citizen Property Tax Exemption, similar to the Wakefield and Reading legislation. If enacted, it would create a local option so any community could implement a program like this through local option. Since this is not yet the law, Winchester would need to go to Town Meeting and file a home rule petition. In Winchester, the most recent 2016 numbers, 279 qualify for the Circuit Breaker, and average credit is \$984 for a total of \$274,000 tax credit. So a range of 50-200% would be about \$500-2000 benefit.

Chairman Grenzeback asked for clarification on number and Sen. Lewis said these were people that actually received it, and discussed income limits, property values and age. State law requires that the resident be a homeowner or renter, and some towns stipulate only homeowners qualify.

Selectman Errico asked about home values and whether in a home rule petition, we have the ability to set up our own parameters. Sen. Lewis says you can and not base it on the Circuit Breaker, but it would require more complicated program administration and paperwork. You may be able to help more seniors, but the administration is more significant.

Selectman Goluboff thanked the Senator for his work and asked about the ten year residency requirement and whether it is 10 years in the town or in the same property and would be concerned if a resident was penalized for wanting to downsize. Sen. Lewis says it is 10 years in the town, not the property. He also said there is flexibility for Winchester to decide if there is no residency requirement or a shorter period like 5 years.

Selectman Welch thanked the Senator for coming and his efforts. She asked for primer on Circuit Breaker to ensure that those watching understand. Sen. Lewis explained that the Circuit Breaker is a program created to provide tax relief to low income seniors. When they file their state income tax returns, if they meet qualifying criteria, they receive a credit against their income taxes. It is through state and not affect local. Selectman Welch asked if this was to take that model and apply it to local taxes. Sen. Lewis responded that is does. Selectman Welch says the Board is sensitive to the cost of living to every age group and it's an issue that is always there. There are many ways to structure and curious about how much the town invests in this currently. Based on information provided by Sen. Lewis to look at existing conditions and demographics to think about this. Chairman Grenzeback mentioned this might have been looked at. Selectman Bettencourt said this was looked at and wants to bring to Spring Town Meeting. Sen. Lewis added that there is also an income requirement besides the \$56,000 for single individual and \$80,000 for a couple and the assessed value of the home at \$778,000. The requirement is that the tax bill has to be relatively high compared. The big issues is the one raised by Selectman Errico where people are house rich and cash poor. Sen. Lewis said Winchester should stay relatively close in structure to other communities as those have already have received approval.

Selectman Goluboff says that with the Circuit Breaker, its automatic and if we stray away, it puts a burden on residents to bring in documents and apply. Selectman Welch noted that Circuit Breaker is pegged to earned income and asked if there are models based on overall assets such as interest and dividends. Sen. Lewis said that the Reading requirements that the board may deny an applicant if they have other assets and are not part of the intended group of recipients. Selectman Bettencourt said the Reading assessor noted the ease of access of using Circuit Breaker was helpful. The stigma of accessing a program like this exists and the closer we it is better to keep it to existing department. Selectman Errico asked the Senator to consider striking the asset value and tweaking the formula to allow the limit to be related to the average home value in the community and provides a buffer for a town like Winchester, rather than a single home value across the state.

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Chairman Grenzeback asked about timing if we want to do something for spring town meeting. Sen. Lewis said if it went to Spring Town meeting, it would come to the state legislature as a home rule petition in May and in move in a few months. Selectman Welch noted it needs approval by AG's office. Sen. Lewis is fairly optimistic that the legislation will go through to not require a home rule but not there just yet.

Chairman Grenzeback asked about background on where we are with state budget outlook. Sen. Lewis said Chapter 70 numbers have seen a healthy increase over the last four years. Four years ago, Chapter 70 was \$7.6 million and in the current FY19, it is \$9 million. Winchester has seen larger increases due to growing enrollment, a 19% increase. The Governor came out with FY20 budget proposal and his Chapter 70 would add \$300,000 to \$9.3 million and to grow unrestricted local aid by 2.7%. The number for Chapter is linked to uncertainties, as the state is in the middle of restructuring the formula. The House, Senate and Governor agree it needs to happen. He is optimistic that it could get done in the next 6 months and being done in parallel with state budget process. It will impact FY20 funding and in years to come. Hopefully it will mean that the Chapter 70 number will go up for Winchester. There has been a softening of state revenues. Had been doing well for a year or so and exceeded forecasts but last 30 days or so have seen a drop. Watching closely to see why and whether a downturn is coming. Selectman Goluboff thanked Sen. Lewis for helping with a one-time payment to pay for full day kindergarten. Selectman Bettencourt asked about special education circuit breaker. Sen. Lewis says it is close to fully funded and state had increased through a supplemental budget. It tends to be a high priority.

4. FY2020 Budget/Special Town Meeting - Chairman Grenzeback informed the audience that there have been continuous discussions over the last few weeks and the good news is that the range is beginning to narrow. Chairman Grenzeback noted that the health care costs have gone down about \$450,000 since the original estimate. He asked Ms. Wong to walk through the budget and noted that the out years are still being worked on.

Town Manager Wong went over the various items passed out including portions of the draft budget Fiscal Year 2020 document and the projections worksheet, and noted the two budgets to be developed - the Manager's budget and the override budget. She also pointed out a "level service" budget on one of the sheets. There is also a one page staffing sheet corresponding to the budget document. She noted that this is similar to previous presentations with some exceptions, including an additional 10 hours to Human Resources in order to shift some duties from the Town Manager's office to Human Resources while adding procurement capabilities within the Town Manager's office to accommodate the past request for a Chief Procurement officer without adding staff. The current proposed override budget has 4 additional officers, and 1.5 dispatcher. The document helps determine the override number by providing projections that highlight the deficit. Deficit is \$6.9 million in override and there is \$900,000 in free cash use linked to historical reversions that would bring number down to \$6 million. Some of the reversions can be explained by vacancies or delays in hiring so it cannot correspond to a permanent decrease and pointed out some examples.

Chairman Grenzeback stated that in a no action budget, revenues are going up by 1.5% but the expenditures are going up almost 3% which leaves us with a \$2.3 million budget and the austerity budget deals with that by making cuts. Ms. Wong said by reducing the use of one time revenue the budget deficit would actually be \$4.3 million. Chairman Grenzeback confirmed the use of \$2 million in reserves brings the number to \$2.3. Contrary if we get the override budget, overall expenditures increase by 5.5% and require 6 million from operating and \$2 million in capital to bring it up to \$129 million. The growth pattern is consistent. If we do nothing, no action, we are looking at a \$2, \$2.5 million shortfall and need to make cuts and in an override, we begin to catch up with some growth and needs.

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Selectman Bettencourt noted we have used reserves in the last few budgets and we get to the point where it catches up to us and they are going to be gone at some point and very quickly below what our policy would be. Chairman Grenzeback said if we took the \$2 million out of reserve, we would be down to about the 6% level. Selectman Bettencourt said the problem is there would be nothing to take out for the following year. Chairman Grenzeback confirmed.

Selectman Errico talked about the fire department. Since the early 1980s there were always 44/45 combination of firefighters, captains, lieutenants, and then FY18 it went to 47. The fire department did come to the Selectmen to seek additional firefighters and we had several times said no. For whatever reason, they went to FinCom and got two additional firemen, which I don't think is the appropriate process. Now he sees that for FY20 we have 49 combination firefighters, lieutenants and captains, my position is for 30 or 40 years we had 45 men, went to 47 not going through the proper channels and now that he sees it going to 49, he would like to look in to the necessity of going over and above what we've had for 30 to 40 years. As it relates to the schools, there has been data that he'd like clarification on enrollment data from last year 2017-2018 to 2018-2019. He's hearing that enrollment went down in K-5 and middle school and he's like to know what the exact numbers are. We've heard tremendous growth and enrollment in other presentations. If the override does go through, he'd like to know how many teachers will be hired.

Chairman Grenzeback asked Ms. Wong to respond to questions. Ms. Wong said in response to fire, when looking at historic levels of 44 the overtime is sometimes excessive and sometimes not, and not sure if there is a correlation between staffing and overtime. She gave the example of whether overtime is due to vacancies in certain shifts due to short term or long term injuries and whether one can easily shift personnel from one shift to another. Ms. Wong needs to dive into overtime figures more to determine causes. She pointed out the budget shows overtime costs going down at a larger rate than personnel increases with the hiring of the two additional firefighters in 2018.

Selectman Goluboff noted link between population growth and increase in personnel. Chairman Grenzeback asked Aaron Kutylo, FinCom chair to comment on firefighters. Mr. Kutylo pulled up and read the write-up from FY18 budget. FinCom agreed with recommendations of Fire Chief to add the two firefighters. Selectman Goluboff asked if this was based on national standards and Mr. Kutylo responded that it was described as such by the chief. The notes also highlighted the change in building code and materials. Selectman Errico asked for clarification on the comment about building materials. Mr. Kutylo responded that things like spray foam insulation burning more quickly and the increase in electronics in the home makes the fire spread faster. Chairman Grenzeback said the other big impact is that the requirements for detectors means that the fire department is alerted more quickly and can suppress more quickly so there are relatively few fires and the growth has been on the EMT side. There have been a lot more people taking advantages of that service. Mr. Kutylo said that FinCom had discussed this with the former Town Manager and was not done unilaterally. Selectman Bettencourt asked if the assumption was to be a permanent line item and Mr. Kutylo confirmed that it was meant to be cost neutral by taking from overtime and adding to personnel.

Selectman Welch asked about difference in overtime request and Ms. Wong confirmed that there is an \$85,000 increase in overtime with less firefighters. Ms. Wong mentioned that there was an analysis done when the current fire chief was hired and recommends we do a similar comprehensive review in this year's hiring process for another new chief, especially when there is conflicting data related to need to fire/EMT service and would like expertise. Selectman Welch said another good question is whether EMTs fees are helpful. Ms. Wong said that is theoretically what should happen but that there has been a downward trend in reimbursement rates. Selectman Welch noted that in her practice she is seeing an increase in the amounts being charged but that does not necessarily mean that Winchester gets more. Ms. Wong noted that the billing company Comstar reports shows the shift in insurances leads to lower reimbursements. Selectman Welch

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reiterated that some money is coming back. Selectman Errico restated that he stands by that we have had 44 firefighters for 40 years and that construction standards have made it safer. He has spoken with Ms. Wong and believes she will look into efficiencies. Chairman Grenzeback says we leave numbers as is but reviews community needs soon. There was discussion that the detailed decisions will be coming on February 15th and questions about what is happening in the next 4-5 years.

Chairman Grenzeback invited Winchester School Committee members, Chris Nixon, Michelle Bergstrom and Susan Verdicchio, to the table to answer questions about enrollment: 1) What is the recent trend in enrollment 2) What numbers are we using for the school budget projections, and 3) What numbers are we using for longer term growth if we get new housing development. Mr. Nixon said he would answer the last question first and referenced the Master Plan and says it can take 4-5 years to fund the space needs for development. The Master Plan has 5 and 10 year predictions, but the Superintendent does not use those projections. Dr. Evans uses a tool that looks at current kindergarten class (317 as of October 1) and looks at the 3 year trend of those kids. She predicts that we will have 330 kids in kindergarten next year. The 330 number is also shown for out years and is used as a “plugged” number by the Superintendent in the model. Mr. Nixon said we are a growing district but have seen some declines since the Master Plan was approved in elementary and the middle school, but higher increases in the high school. Net, the district is growing, with the high school growing from 1268 to 1363 with further growth projected. Mr. Nixon talked about some typos in some sheets and that the consequence of overstating enrollment in one grade in one year is to make the subsequent enrollment year look smaller as a % increase. By correcting it, it actually makes enrollment go up by almost a classroom size at McCall. Ms. Verdicchio said that the numbers move during the year, for example, kindergarten is now at 320.

Selectman Goluboff asked how many classes at the middle and high school have over 25 kids, and how many have 30 and more? There was discussion that there was over 100. Selectman Goluboff wanted to know how this compares to other districts. Ms. Verdicchio says she heard that Belmont and Lexington class sizes are creeping upwards and around 24 in middle and high school. Selectman Goluboff says his son has 35 kids in his math class and Mr. Nixon says it is similar for his son. Ms. Bergstrom said it is hard to know that data unless calling each district because it is not shared data among districts. Selectman Bettencourt noted if FY20 budget is based on existing needs and not future enrollment and planning, and that some of the class sizes exceed what school committee sees as targets. Ms. Verdicchio says schools are targeting one increase at the elementary school but there is no space for that class to go. Looking to add 8-10 FTEs. It would be better to have kids in electives rather than in a study hall of 40 kids. Selectman Welch asked how many of the 8-10 FTEs would be at McCall as opposed to the High School. School Committee members noted the .6 FTE gym teacher at McCall, 1 divided between middle and high school to do performing arts, world language expansion to start at 6th grade instead of 7th. Selectman Welch asked if it would be required at 6th grade and School Committee members said it would be, that it would be consistent with peer districts. There was further discussion about the impact on the language classes on other class sizes and unstructured time, and what the proposed FTEs are. Chairman Grenzeback summarized by saying the decreases in some grade levels balance with increases in others and had asked Dr. Evans and the School Committee to break out projections using current enrollment and projections with growth with new housing, but noted that the current enrollment figures is what is being used. Mr. Nixon noted the Forest Ridge development is the kind of development captured by a 5 year projection in the Master Plan but could happen in year 4 or so.

Selectman Errico asked if there is a document that shows the true numbers of enrollment for this year and last year and the growth predictions. School Committee members shared a document that was recently given to the Finance Committee. Chairman Grenzeback noted that there has been

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pressure to spread out and decrease the school committee numbers, some of which is reflected in Ms. Wong's budget and school committee discussions.

Selectman Welch asked what a summary of the \$6 million is for. Mr. Nixon said we need to work on elevator speech and discussed the informational website that is being created. There was further discussion about making sure the number is nailed down. Chairman Grenzeback mentioned themes from Dr. Evans in planning for growth, making sure courses are competitive and comparable, and social, mental and health well-being and to keep a cap on fees. There was further discussion about the need for technology items and a position, and the need to maintain quality schools when cost per student is fairly low. There was also discussion about teacher salary, and how it is factored into the budget, and the impact of special education and transportation. Selectman Goluboff mentioned that enrollment has gone up every year and we have not addressed it, it is not level services and there have been declines in services. There was further discussion about balancing budgets with free cash, and past requests to start thinking about the override. Mr. Nixon circled back to question about class sizes and talked about the pressure of having many classes over 30 students and being in rooms designed for 24 students. There was further discussion about class size.

There was discussion about needing to finalize the number, such as 9-10 million for 3-4 years and adding 2 million to capital budget, and that the numbers are still being worked on and some fine-tuning for the meeting on Thursday and at Town Meeting. There was discussion that school portion of funding is roughly 2/3 of the budget even though line items like health insurance are not redistributed. There was discussion about the levy limit and estimates of how much is needed to draw down the budget each year. It was noted that we won't draw down the total in the first year.

CONSENT AGE NDA

One Day Alcoholic Beverage License(s)

1. Diana Kenosian for Boston's Best Bartending - March 9, 2019 - Town Hall Auditorium

*Motion: That the Select Board approve One Day Alcoholic Beverage Licenses for -
Diana Kenosian for Boston's Best Bartending - March 9, 2019 - Town Hall
Auditorium

Goluboff - Welch

All in favor

VOTED

Other

1. Approval for the Winchester Foundation for Educational Excellence / Highlander's Running Club Annual 2.5 Mile Town Day Road Race to be held June 1, 2019 with registration taking place on Manchester Field starting at 7:00 am.

*Motion: That the Select Board approve the Winchester Foundation for Educational
Excellence/Highlander's Running Club Annual 2.5 Mile Town Day Road
Race to be held June 1, 2019 with registration taking place on Manchester
Field starting at 7:00 am.

Goluboff - Bettencourt

All in favor

VOTED

COMMUNICATIONS AND WORKING GROUP REPORTS

MEETING SCHEDULE AND AGENDA TOPICS

ADJOURNMENT : 10:50 PM

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*Motion: That the Select Board adjourn for the evening.
Goluboff - Bettencourt
Roll Call: Goluboff, Errico, Bettencourt, Grenzeback

VOTED

Respectfully submitted,
Lisa Wong, Town Manager