

CITY OF LEWISTON

CITY COUNCIL

NOVEMBER 17, 1998

JOINT MEETING WITH THE SCHOOL COMMITTEE HELD IN THE COUNCIL ROOM AT 6:15 P.M.

THE HONORABLE KAILEIGH A. TARA, MAYOR OF LEWISTON PRESIDING.

PRESENT: Councilors Lynch, Kelly, Carignan, Albert, Samson, Bilodeau, City Administrator Robert J. Mulready.

ALSO PRESENT: School Committee Members Rotundo, Silva, Bernier, O'Brien, Handy, Shannon, Paradis, St. Pierre, and Superintendent of Schools Leon Levesque.

ABSENT: Councilor Putnam

Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Moment of Silence.

VOTE (1)

Motion by Councilor Carignan, seconded by Councilor Kelly:

To adopt the following protocol of agreement for City Council/School Committee decision-making:

I. COMMUNITY-SHARED ASSUMPTIONS AND PRINCIPLES

- A. The City Council has full authority and responsibility in law to set the municipal budget, including the school portion, and to establish the mill rate.
- B. The School Committee has full authority and responsibility in law to develop the school budget and to establish educational policy.
- C. Direct communication between the participants in these processes is preferable to relying on third party transmission.
- D. Budgets for the School Department and other municipal offices will be developed with full and complete communication between the City Council and the School Committee. In addition to the regular public sessions presented by the City Council and the School Committee, there will be an appropriate number of joint public work sessions consistent with the limitations prescribed by statute and the charter. The final budget will be presented to the public in a joint session.

- E. Public communication on the budgetary process will be open and extensive, and, wherever possible, be jointly made by the City Administrator and Superintendent or the Council and the School Committee.
- F. Budgetary development addresses not only the next fiscal year, but is also part of a strategic, long-range process and is viewed in that context.
- G. The City Council and the School Committee will cooperate in the development of a strategic, integrated, long-range plan which will involve the whole community.
- H. Broad-based, strategic, long-range community planning is vital to the process.

II. THE SUPERINTENDENT AND THE CITY ADMINISTRATOR

- A. There will be meetings on a regular basis throughout the year.
- B. Each will share budget information with as much detail as available at appropriate stages in the budgetary development process. Special emphasis will be given to sharing relevant factual information about personnel, program development, facilities support and strategic development.
- C. There will be annual joint "State of the (City), (Schools)" presentation at an appropriate event, e.g., a Chamber of Commerce breakfast.

III. CITY COUNCIL AND SCHOOL COMMITTEE

- A. The City Council and the School Committee agree to meet jointly prior to the budgetary season to discuss visions, goals and objectives for the coming year.
- B. Each will share budget information with as much detail as available at appropriate stages in the budgetary development process. Special emphasis will be given to sharing relevant factual information about personnel, program development, facilities support and strategic development.
- C. The City Council and the School Committee will have a regular agenda item at its meetings, "Report from the (City Council/School Committee)". This will be

facilitated by the City Council representative to the School Committee, thereby enhancing that role in the

collaborative process.

IV. The City Council and School Committee agree to form a committee appointed by the Mayor in collaboration with the Chair of the School Committee and the President of the City Council to study the impact of municipal spending limitations on this and other communities and to report to the community, council and School Committee its findings and recommendations by February 1, 1999.

Passed - Vote 6-0

VOTE (2)

Motion by Councilor Kelly, seconded by Councilor Samson:

To adjourn at 7:00 P.M. Passed - Vote 6-0

A true record, Attest:

Kelly J. Mercier
Deputy City Clerk
Lewiston, Maine