

TOWN OF GILL

MASSACHUSETTS



www.gillmass.org

SELECTBOARD MEETING MINUTES

April 24, 2012

Call to Order: The Selectboard meeting was called to order at 7:15pm., as part of a larger meeting with the Gill-Montague Regional School Committee, members of the Gill Finance Committee, and members of the Montague Selectboard and Finance Committee.

Present: Randy Crochier and John Ward, Selectboard members; Ray Purington, Admin. Assistant. Others Present: numerous members of the aforementioned public bodies, and approximately 15 people in the audience.

Compact for Funding Education & Table B: The joint meeting was held to allow for a broad discussion of the status of the Compact, and concerns with some of the underlying assumptions of the Table B plan for financial stability, especially those relating to increases to Chapter 70 State Aid.

The discussion stayed mostly on generalities, as it was felt that to properly discuss solutions to funding problems, it was critical that state legislators and DESE representatives needed to be present for the conversation.

With respects to the District-approved FY13 assessments to the towns, speaking only as the Administrative Assistant, Ray stated that while Gill is still early in its budget process, the assessment from the District feels reasonable and affordable. Gill's FY12 total assessment was \$1,390,263 and for FY13 is \$1,408,058 (\$17,795 increase, 1.28%)

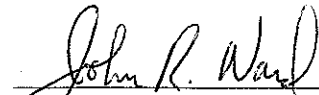
There was discussion that the State is considering combining Regional Transportation Aid in with Chapter 70 Aid, and that the District and towns should oppose that. It was felt that combining the forms of aid would only end up as a net loss.

There seemed to be agreement among all the bodies that the work of the Technical Panel has been important and valuable, and that the group should continue its efforts. There was some discussion of whether the panel should include a representative from The Management Solution (currently providing business office services to the District). The panel will discuss it further. It was also suggested that the Oversight Group should meet again to weigh in on best ways to proceed with advocating for changes to the Chapter 70 formula.

No votes were taken by the Selectboard.

Adjournment: The Selectboard meeting adjourned at 8:50 p.m.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Ray Purington, Administrative Assistant.



John R. Ward, Acting Selectboard Clerk