

Select Board Meeting with West Brookfield and the Quaboag Regional School District  
September 19, 2021, 6:30PM at the Regional Junior/Senior High School

In attendance: David Dufresne, Chair; Rich Eichacker, Vice Chair; Derick Veliz, Clerk; James Ferrera, Town Administrator; Karen Dusty, Administrative Assistant

**1. Call the meeting to order: 6:40PM**

**2. Discussion of a request made by the Board of Selectmen to vote to have the State Auditor review the Quaboag Regional School District's last three fiscal year budgets:**

The agenda is attached. They went down the agenda just like it was outlined. The meeting minutes are for the Select Boards (Warren & West Warren) participation in the meeting not the meeting in its entirety:

Mr. Schwenker turned the time over to Mr. Ferrera in turn he deferred to the two Select Boards Chairmen. Mr. Dufresne stated we asked for this meeting because we had some concerns about the overall budget and what was going on. When we had Mr. Kustigian at some of our meeting it brought up even more concerns because the questions we asked where not answered. So, as we looked over your budget even more concerns came up and we asked him about it, and he couldn't answer the question. Mr. Schwenker stopped Mr. Dufresne and said that he wanted to make something clear, that the School Committee job is two-fold to oversee the budget and oversee the buildings for the district.

Mr. Schwenker when on to say that as far as he knows no one from either Boards requested to come to Budget Committee or the School Board Meeting.

Mr. Dufresne stated that no we did not request to come here but we did request your budget committee to come to one of our meetings. We are trying to work together to satisfy our questions, to understand where the money is going and that it is going to where it is earmarked to go. We all must answer to the residents. You do a wonderful job in running the school we just want to make sure that the money is going where it should be. West Brookfield, and Warren had a meeting in which I believe that you or the budget committee was invited to the meeting but did not come. We discussed this with them that we wanted to do a forensic audit. We understand that you just had an audit, but it doesn't go deep enough, it doesn't get into the nitty gritty and find out where the money is going and account for the money. We would like to work with you on this matter and to make sure that the money is being spent properly. Mr. Schwenker stated that it was his understanding that a Forensic Audit is basically claiming waste, fraud, or abuse. Mr. Dufresne stated that we are just trying to make sure that it is not happening. We are asking for your support because we feel that is the best way to make sure that it has not and will not happen. In the interest that the money is being spent properly. We must come to you and ask for your support. We can all work together to make this happen.

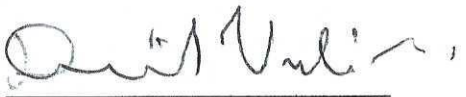
After much discussion it was decided that the Forensic Audit was taken off the floor and that the Budget Committee would send us the last 3 years audits and we would send them copies of the meetings where Mr. Kustigian was in attendance and the line items that the Board was concern with. The third thing that was agreed on was that we would need to have a meeting that was a separate meeting then our meeting and you meeting. It would be our meeting. Held in different locations and if we can't work this out then do the forensic audit.

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Both Select Boards agreed to this and want to meet at next month's meeting.

**Adjourn:** 9:22PM

Respectfully submitted by:  
Karen Dusty, Administrative Assistant

  
Derik Veliz, Clerk