J.P. Pontbriand called the Deliberative Session of the Hampton Falls School District to order at 7:01 p.m. and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

The Moderator welcomed the audience of approximately 35 registered voters who observed the session, and introduced himself, School Board members and the Administration.

Moderator indicated a copy of the rules were available in the room then Lauren Belliveau motioned to waive the reading of the rules and Tracy Beattie seconded the motion.

The warrant for this meeting has been properly posted and signed.

The Moderator introduced Article 01 Operating Budget.

Shall the School District raise and appropriate as an operating budget, not including appropriations by special warrant articles and other appropriations voted separately, the amounts set forth on the budget posted with the warrant or as amended by vote of the first session, for the purposes set forth therein, totaling $6,963,012? Should this article be defeated, the default budget shall be $7,021,109 which is the same as last year, with certain adjustments required by previous action of the School District or by law; or the governing body may hold one special meeting, in accordance with RSA 40:13, X and XVI, to take up the issue of a revised operating budget only. (Majority vote required.)

NOTE: Warrant Article #1 (operating budget) does not include appropriations in any other warrant articles.

The School Board recommends this article. Vote: 5-0

Moderator introduced Matthew Ferreira who presented the Operating Budget. He started by thanking the School Board for all their efforts in compiling the budget. Matt reviewed his powerpoint presentation.
Matt then continues to speak through all the specific lines items in the budget. The details are presented in the Hampton Falls Deliberation Session presentation as well as the Hampton Falls Budget Summary which have been posted to the SAU 21 website: https://www.sau21.org

The moderator thanks Matt for his presentation and opens the floor for public comment.

Diane Martin from Linden Rd asked questions regarding the gifted and talented programs and policies. Superintendent Nadeau responded to the questions.

John Shaw from Exeter Rd asked if there are any parents taking any action with State or Federal regarding the level of services provided for special needs students. Superintendent Nadeau responded that they have not received any complaints or have any due process hearing for at least last 2 years.

Jason Farias also commented that the preschool program will contribute to those special services at an earlier age from LAS.

Rep Susan Porcelli from Taylor River Farm Rd stated that she wanted to thank everyone for working with a variety of decisions and a lot of effort. She questioned what at the State and Federal levels is the special education and transportation funding and are they meeting their obligations. Superintendent Nadeau provided a response regarding funding. Over the past decades special education has been one of the greatest cost increases in districts all across the country.

Rep Susan Porcelli stated she wants to figure out how we could pursue getting our share back here in Hampton Falls and asked if they had any suggestions let her know.

Matt added that it's a classic case of unfunded mandate.

Rep Susan Porcelli asked about the estimated revenue from special education and doesn't see a line item and asked if she is understanding it correctly. Superintendent Nadeau stated that Federal funds come through IDEA Grants and are handled outside of the operating budget.

Matt Gagalis from Crystal Drive stated he appreciated all the hard work in the budget and presentations. He had a question in the decision to not backfill the retiring FTE and speak more to that decision because it feels like the reduction in the number of students is maybe disproportionate to the impact of the FTE. Matt Ferreira responded that every year they look at staffing and that this does not reflect a single year’s reduction, but it looks at the critical mass for the reduction which is not all in one class.

Jason Farias stated that there are two teachers that would not be returning, and they worked hard to make sure they backfilled for one of them.

Anthony Lang further explained the board’s decision to backfill one of the positions.
Jill Swasey set a Motion to restrict reconsideration, Anthony Lang seconded the motion, all voted yes.

The Moderator stated that Article 01 would move to the ballot as written.


The Moderator introduced Article 02 Seacoast Education Association Collective Bargaining Agreement.

To see if the School District will vote to approve the cost items included in the collective bargaining agreement reached between the Hampton Falls School Board and the Seacoast Education Association for the following increases and reductions in salaries and benefits at the current staffing levels:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Estimated Salary Increase</th>
<th>Estimated Health/ Dental Insurance Costs</th>
<th>Estimated Salary Driven Benefits Increase</th>
<th>TOTAL Estimated Costs</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2023-24</td>
<td>$138,923</td>
<td>$1,526</td>
<td>$38,155</td>
<td>$178,604</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2024-25</td>
<td>$90,801</td>
<td>$600</td>
<td>$24,947</td>
<td>$116,348</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2025-26</td>
<td>$80,453</td>
<td>$600</td>
<td>$22,109</td>
<td>$103,162</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2026-27</td>
<td>$73,805</td>
<td>$600</td>
<td>$20,983</td>
<td>$95,388</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

and further to raise and appropriate the sum of $178,604 for the 2023-24 school year, such sum representing the additional costs attributable to the increase in salaries and benefits required by the new agreement over those that would be paid at current staffing levels in accordance with the current collective bargaining agreement. (Majority vote required.)

The School Board recommends this article. Vote: 5-0

NOTE: In order for this article to be adopted, it must be approved by the voters of the school districts of Hampton Falls, North Hampton, Seabrook, South Hampton and the voters of the Winnacunnet Cooperative School District (which includes Hampton voters).

Matthew Ferreira presented Article 02 to the public.

The moderator thanks Matt for his presentation and opened the floor for public comment.

Diane Martin asked questions relative to the warrant article. She commented that the warrant article would be more informative if more data points were added. Matt Ferreira responded that they have very strict language they must follow and is dictated by the Dept of Revenue.

Jill Swasey commented that the tentative agreement with modifications of the CBA agreement can be found on the SAU website.

The Moderator stated that Article 02 would move to the ballot as written.
Andy Gushee made a Motion to restrict reconsideration, Jill Swasey seconded the motion, all voted yes.

The Moderator introduced Article 03 Telephone System Upgrade/Replacement.

To see if the School District will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of $55,000 for upgrades and replacement of the current phone system at Lincoln Akerman School. This will be a non-lapsing appropriation per RSA 32:7, VI and will not lapse until the project is completed or by June 30, 2026, whichever is sooner. (Majority vote required)

The School Board recommends this article. Vote: 5-0

Matthew Ferreira presented the article.

There were no remarks or questions.

The Moderator stated that Article 03 would move to the ballot as written.

Jill Swasey made a motion to restrict reconsideration and Anthony Lang seconded the motion and all voted yes.

J.P Pontbriand reminded everyone that the voting will be on March 14, 2023 starting at 8am.

Motion: Jason Farias moved to close the 2023 Deliberative Session

Second: Jill Swasey. Motion passed unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 8:36pm

Submitted by Hampton Falls School District Clerk

[Signature]

Gisela Manna