

2025 Benton School Board Budget Meeting Notes

Town of Benton – January 29, 2025

Attendees:

SAU23 Personnel
Delores Fox – SAU23 Superintendent
Kathy Ducharme – SAU23 Business Administrator
Dwight A. Swauger – Benton School Board Chair
Brenda Finioia – Benton School Board Member
W. R Darcy - Benton Selectboard Chair
Gina Elliott – Benton Selectboard Member
Kim Carpenter – Benton Selectboard Member
Dwight Swauger – Benton Treasurer
Michael Stiebitz – Benton Town Clerk/Benton Tax Collector
Joseph Boutin Jr. – Benton Road Contractor

The meeting was convened at 6:01PM.

The Assembly was directed to the handouts from the SAU showing the current and projected financials as well as the proposed warrant articles.

Questions to the SAU and Board members centered primarily around certain “Special Ed” funding lines.

The bottom line is that the proposed FY2026 budget is \$730,571. While certain budget items increased from FY2025 levels, Adequacy Aid and Medicaid funding is projected to decrease. The proposed budget represents an increase of \$67,894 over that of FY2025. The proposal is to use \$30,000 from the Expendable Education Trust fund to offset some of the increase.

The budget was put to a vote and passed by both School Board members present.

With no more questions or comments from the assembly, the meeting was motioned closed at 6:22PM.

A true copy,

Attest: Michael P. Stiebitz – Benton School District Clerk

Michael P. Stiebitz - 02/05/2025