

Dr. Earl Metzler  
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non-existent budget committee to be placed on the warrant had no legal effect because there was not (and is not) a budget committee in the Hampstead School District.

Accordingly, the "Town" budget committee is without any authority to participate in any of the duties or responsibilities of an official budget committee in the School District as set forth in RSA 32:14 (e.g., the preparing the budget, meeting with the governing body and administrators, conducting public hearings on the budget, providing copies of the final budget to the clerk, voting on recommendations to specific warrant articles).

In sum, based on the information provided by the Hampstead School District, it appears as though the voters never adopted an official budget committee and the budget committee from the Town of Hampstead has no legal standing in the Hampstead School District. Further, the "Town" Budget Committee, even if it had standing, did not comply with the membership requirements of RSA 32:15, which mandates that the budget committee be comprised of at least one member of the School Board.

Please do not hesitate to contact this firm if you have any questions.

Sincerely,



James A. O'Shaughnessy

JAO/df