

Meeting called to order by President Rulseh at 6:15 PM in the Auditorium. Board members present: Volk, Rulseh, and Ingram. Also present: Dr. George J. Karling, District Administrator; Susan L. Frank, Business Office Manager; 185 electors and 8 visitors.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by those in attendance.

President Rulseh thanked everyone for coming and welcomed all to the Budget Hearing and Annual Meeting.

Dr. Karling reported on the agenda posting and legal publication of the meeting.

President Rulseh introduced the Board, Dr. Karling, and Ms. Frank, the panel, and announced that Clerk Ingram will be serving as Parliamentarian of the meeting. He then explained the ground rules for the meeting and stated that Roberts Rules of Order would be followed. He called for nominations to serve as Chairperson of the Annual Meeting. Motion was made by Steve Garbowicz and seconded by Ann Asbeck to nominate Jeff Bruss to serve as Chairperson of the Annual Meeting. Motion by Kari Volk and seconded by Sue Frank to nominate Tom Rulseh to serve as Chairperson of the Annual Meeting. A roll call vote by a show of hands was taken and Tom Rulseh was selected as Chairperson. Tom Rulseh accepted the position of Chairperson.

Clerk Ingram read the minutes from the 2017 Budget Hearing and Annual Meeting. Motion was made by S. Frank and seconded by John Stauner to accept the minutes as read. Motion carried.

Jen West presented a video of the District's accomplishments that took place during the 2017-2018 school year. Those in attendance applauded at the completion of the video presentation. Chairperson Rulseh expressed the strength of this District and appreciation to the teachers, coaches, staff, administration, community, and volunteers.

Board Member Kari Volk entertained a motion to dispense of the complete reading of the Treasurer's report. Motion by S. Frank and seconded by Lisa Wales to approve summarizing the Treasurer's Report. Motion carried. Board Member Kari Volk, in the absence of Treasurer, McCloskey, summarized the receipts, disbursements and cash balance for the fiscal year ending on June 30, 2018. Motion was made by S. Frank and seconded by A. Ingram to accept the Treasurer's Report as read. Motion carried.

Clerk Ingram read the Clerk's Report summarizing the 2017-2018 revenues and expenditures. Motion was made by B. Kral and seconded by J. Wales to accept the Clerk's Report as presented. Motion carried. Beth Jacobson questioned what the Fund 80 Community Service Fund was used for. S. Frank replied by highlighting the items expensed under Fund 80. She replied that these funds are used for programs that involve the community including the fitness center, police liaison, recreational programs, and all other community relations including the time spent with the community within the Fab Lab.

Dr. Karling presented the 2018-2019 budget summaries of revenues and expenditures, including the tax levy. The total budget increase was \$164,819 or 1.42%. The Fund 10 expenditure increase was \$142,599 or 1.56%, which yielded a tax levy of \$8,456,729 which is an increase of \$372,109 from the previous year amounting to an increase of 4.60%. The projected mill rate with no increase in valuation for 2018-2019 will be 6.114 mills. Dr. Karling reviewed the district's Energy Efficiency Exemption on the Three Lakes and Sugar Camp roofing projects for those in attendance. Dr. Karling also reviewed the updated referendum projection report and explained how the cumulative balance that is projected to be \$2,712,560 at the end of the 2018-2019 school year came about. Chairperson Rulseh asked how the mill rate will be affected based on the current valuations report. Dr. Karling replied that we need the October 15 certification of values to determine the result.

Motion was made by S. Frank and seconded by J. Wales to levy the 2018-2019 school tax of \$8,456,729.00 as recommended in the District Board of Education Budget, for the operation of school, non-referendum debt, and community service for the ensuing school year of 2018-2019. Motion carried.

Beth Jacobson questioned if the dollars budgeted include expenses related to the land purchase in item 13. Chairperson Rulseh replied that we have not budgeted any expenses related to the land purchase. Beth then asked where the funds will come from. Chairperson Rulseh asked to defer that question to the land purchase item 13 on the agenda.

Clerk Ingram read the present Board salaries and made mention that these salaries have been the same for approximately 12 years, since his first term on the Board. Motion was made by R. Ingram and seconded by K. Volk to continue with the current salaries for the Board and to authorize the reimbursement of actual and necessary expenses of School Board members when traveling in the performance of their duties. Motion carried.

Motion was made by S. Frank and seconded by A. Ingram to authorize the Board to acquire real estate through purchase or condemnation. Discussion followed: S. Garbowicz questioned why there are two items on the agenda pertaining to real estate purchases. R. Ingram explained this a statutory requirement and a statutory motion has to be made. B. Jacobson asked if item 12 results in a yes vote, and item 13 results in a no vote, can the Board purchase the real estate? Chairperson Rulseh stated no. Dr. Karling went on to explain that things are unsettled at the State level regarding whether or not a specific property purchase has to be put before the public for a vote when the Board already had the authority to purchase land from the previous annual meeting. B. Roth indicated the issue remained unclear to her. Chairperson Rulseh went on to explain that #12 is used for the small transactions that may come up throughout the year and indicated that it is a statutory requirement. The Board chose to place #13 on the agenda to allow the electors to vote on this real estate purchase. A. Asbeck stated statutory law indicating the powers authorized are determined by the electors and asked if the history of the Board has been to include #12 on the agenda in past years. Chairperson Rulseh indicated yes. C. Mahlerwein asked if the land purchase has to go to the electors and Chairperson Rulseh replied yes. J. Levandoski commended the Board for putting #13 on the agenda as they did not have to do so. C. Mahlerwein asked how often does a land purchase take place. Dr. Karling replied that in the past 30 years there has not been any land purchased and that the Board could have made this land purchase without voter approval. Since the state did not give any definite authority, we are here tonight to get voter's approval. Ingram stated this item has been revised over the past few years and is no longer a requirement. M. Yaeger stated that 12 & 13 are unclear and asked the issue to be tabled. B. Jacobson asked if the vote could be done with a written ballot, or by standing? Chairperson Rulseh stated the vote will be taken by voice. A. Asbeck noted that a written ballot can be requested and asked for such. Vote was taken by voice. Motion carried with a few nays.

Motion by S. Sowinski and seconded by A. Ingram to purchase a parcel of land along County Road A described as approximately 40 acres situated in the northeast quarter of the southeast quarter of section 17, in township 38 north, range 10 east in the Town of Sugar Camp from the Board of Commissioners of Public Lands for school purposes at the appraised value of \$63,000. There was a lengthy discussion followed by a ballot vote. The ballot vote indicated 139 yes votes and 46 no votes with 185 total votes cast. Motion carried.

Motion was made by M. Gorney and seconded by D. Blamey to authorize the Board to prosecute or defend any action or proceeding in which the School District is interested. Motion carried.

Chairperson Rulseh stated that Dr. Karling recommended that the 2018 Annual Meeting be held on August 28 at 6:00 PM. Motion was made by S. Sowinski and seconded by M. Olkowski to set the 2018 Budget Hearing and Annual Meeting for August 28, 2019 at 6:00 PM. Motion carried.

Under other new business several people commented on the performance of the District Administrator and Board of Education.

There being no further business to come before the Annual Meeting, motion was made by J. Wales and seconded by B. Kral to adjourn at 8:32 PM. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Susan Frank
Business Office Manager