

HADLEY- LUZERNE CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

BOARD OF EDUCATION BUDGET WORKSHOP/REG. MEETING

April 8, 2019

STUART M. TOWNSEND ELEMENTARY SCHOOL, LGI ROOM 6:30 pm

MINUTES

Meeting Place: Stuart M. Townsend Elementary School, LGI
Members Present: Mrs. Visscher, Mr. Novotarski, Mrs. Hoffman, Mrs. Braico
Members Absent: Mr. Moulton
Others in Attendance: Superintendent – Beecher Baker, School Business Administrator-T. Gregory Dale, Director of Special Education-Jennifer Sanford, ES Principal-Jonathan Baker, School Resource Officer-Mortimer Keane and 7+ others.

CALL TO ORDER

Vice President Visscher called the meeting to order at 6:30pm.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

CORRESPONDENCE

A thank you note was received from Coach, Curt Schreiner and the Nordic Team members.

EMERGENCY DECLARATION TO REPAIR BUS LIFT

Motion by Mr. Novotarski

Resolution #155

Whereas, the bus lift at the Bus Garage is in need of immediate repair, and

Whereas, the failure to repair this bus lift in a timely manner may result in the district being unable to provide transportation to its students,

Therefore, there is an unforeseen public emergency requiring immediate action that cannot await competitive bidding under the conditions set forth in law pursuant to General Municipal Law Section 103, and

Therefore the Board of Education hereby approves a Quotation from Total Tool Ltd. In the amount of \$ 30,157.63 (attached hereto), and authorizes the purchasing agent to issue a purchase order in the amount of \$ 30,167.63 to Total Tool Ltd., and further authorizes the increase of equipment line A 5510 200, if necessary, in an amount sufficient to satisfy this emergency condition.

Seconded by Mrs. Hoffman followed by a brief discussion.

Yes: 4 No: 0 Abstain: 0

Motion carried

TREASURER'S REPORT

Motion by Mr. Braico

Resolution # 156

As recommended by the H-L Superintendent, for the board of education to accept the February 2019 Treasurer's Report.

Seconded by Mr. Novotarski

Yes: 4 No: 0 Abstain: 0

Motion carried

BUDGET WORKSHOP

Mr. Dale covered the attached PowerPoint he explained why the text levy limit is 1% - this is due to paying off some of the previous building debt. NYSED is recommending schools have an elementary guidance counselor. In addition, the school is adding a special education teacher, two aides and a .5 speech teacher. Mr. Dale noted ESSA means that we are an identified school again. The difference with last time the school was identified is that there's going to be more funding and the state will be helping in assisting the district with the process. Mr. Baker noted this was a fair budget, we've always been under the tax cap and this last year we have spent a lot on safety and security. Mr. Baker noted the board had questions regarding the reserves. Mrs. Visscher stated that there are a lot of reserves and questioned how can this money be accessed for the budget, if needed in the future. Mr. Dale explain the reserves can be dissolved then the money goes into the general fund or you can dissolve a part of the reserve. The district can reduce or eliminate each reserve all together, then the funds would go back into the general fund which could be used for budgeting purposes. There was discussion on the tax certiorari reserve and it was noted it needs to be kept intact since the last negotiations cost the district \$350,000 that was paid out of the tax cert. fund for the claim regarding the over taxing (assessment) on the dams in the Town of Hadley. Mr. Dale suggested that there be a five year plan for all the reserves and noted the funding of the capital project already uses most of the repair reserve.

Mr. B. Baker offered any input from the public, Mrs. Corlew said thank you to all those who worked on the budget and that it was a great presentation.

ADMINISTRATIVE/BOARD COMMENTS

Mr. B. Baker brought up a discussion on the loader which was leased over the winter for snow removal. The plows were purchased separately as attachments. Everyone agreed in the past that the district would extend the lease for one year but there was a different understanding by Mr. Dale who had entered in to a 5 year lease at approximately \$178 for non winter-months. Mr. Dale apologized for the miscommunication and the mistake. The district tried but was unable to be released from the agreement so Mr. Dale offered to make amends with his personal funds. The board said that would not be necessary since the loader will be used all year. The board members made clear that all contracts need to be approved by the board of education. Mr. B. Baker noted that will be the case moving forward so this doesn't happen again. Mr. Novotarski questioned a phone call he received regarding the loader moving between school buildings and the insurance and registration on the vehicle.

Mr. B. Baker brought up a discussion on the fuel the district purchases. The district gets fuel for buses from one group and fuel for the buildings from another provider. Mr. Dale noted the fuel oil and propane used to heat the buildings is received from a vendor on the NYS Contract. The gas for the buses is from a different vendor who is not on the state contract nor was there a bid put out by the district and that right now the district is out of compliance. He suggested that the board approve a resolution although he noted the state contract or bid is the best way to go.

The Board Presented the following Resolution:

DIESEL AND GASOLINE PROVIDER (ACTION ITEM)

Motion by Mrs. Hoffman

Resolution #157

Whereas, the district has had issues with the delivery of fuel and appropriate mixture of fuel during the winter months, and whereas, the efficient and reliable running of school buses is essential to the education of the district's children, the Board of Education hereby resolves that, for reasons of efficiency and economy, John Ray and Sons is the only possible supplier or source for diesel and gasoline fuel for the 2018-19 and 2019-20 school years.

Seconded by Mr. Novotarski

Yes: 4 No: 0 Abstain: 0

Motion carried

Mr. B. Baker brought up a discussion regarding the board member's intentions for this year's graduation ceremony. He questioned if they would like the ceremony to remain in the George Doherty Gymnasium or to be held in the Alice Harris Auditorium. The auditorium will be completed according to the contractor and seats 623. The district would need to issue graduation tickets. The construction will be most likely completed by June 10-15. Mr. Baker noted he had talked to Mr. Gereau who was the superintendent when the last graduation was held in the auditorium and now 40 years later we are looking to reverse that. This problem will be the air conditioning will not be completed by graduation due to the duct work. There is the option of renting a portable air conditioning unit for approximately \$9,000. There was discussion on how many tickets per family. In addition he offered the option of holding overflow in the high school gym but that would cost another \$7,000 for the video feed. After further discussion it was noted Mrs. Braico and Mrs. Visscher would like the ceremony in the gym, and Mrs. Hoffman, Mr. Novotarski and Mr. Moulton (previously informed Mr. Baker) would like the ceremony in the new auditorium with only the rental of the air conditioning. Mr. B. Baker will get the details to the board later this week on the cost, can we cancel etc.. Mr. Dale noted the unit would be paid for out of the general fund.

Mr. Dale brought up two discussion items - we need to borrow to pay the contractors for the capital project and the board oked. He wanted to reiterate that the new circular cafeteria tables are in the budget and this will cover on the one large cafeteria in the elementary school for the total cost of \$19,000. The board members present all agreed to both items.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Mrs. Hoffman to adjourn the meeting at 7:35pm.

Seconded by Mr. Novotarski

Yes: 4 No: 0 Abstain: 0

Motion carried

Respectfully Submitted by Regina York, District Clerk