

January 23, 2017

The regular meeting of the South Williamsport Area School Board was called to order this evening in the conference room of the Rommelt Building by the Vice-President Chris Branton.

The meeting opened with Silent Meditation and Pledge to the Flag.

Board Members Present: Anthony, Broskey, Davenport, Fiorini, Persun, Pulizzi, and Branton.

Board Members Absent: Bachman and Engel

Others Present: Dr. Mark Stamm-Superintendent, Dwight Woodley-Rommelt Principal, Bill Reifsnyder-Maintenance Director, Jeff Rowe-Acting Solicitor, and Dennis Artley-Business Manager.

Visitors: Brenda Trimble, Pam Reifsnyder, Susan Bowman, Michele Finn, Jared Jacobs, Chad Banzhof, Michael Gonzalez, Manny Tsikitas, Rhianon Newcomer, Lynette Sauers.

#### **APPROVE GENERAL FUND BILLS**

A motion to approve the payment of bills from the General Fund in the amount of \$645,427.49, as funds become available, was moved by Pulizzi, seconded by Broskey. Roll call: Anthony-yes, Broskey-yes, Davenport-yes, Persun-yes, Pulizzi-yes, Fiorini-yes, and Branton-yes, motion carried.

#### **APPROVE CAFETERIA FUND BILLS**

A motion to approve the payment of bills from the Cafeteria Fund in the amount of \$15,165.46, as funds become available, was moved by Persun, seconded by Pulizzi. Roll call: Anthony-yes, Broskey-yes, Davenport-yes, Persun-yes, Pulizzi-yes, Fiorini-yes, and Branton-yes, motion carried.

#### **APPROVE MINUTES**

A motion to approve the minutes of January 9, 2017, as written, was moved by Broskey seconded by Davenport. All members present voting yes, motion carried.

#### **SUPERINTENDENT RECOMMENDATIONS**

#### **CONFERENCE REQUESTS**

Moved by Anthony, seconded by Fiorini, to approve the following conference requests:

- **Sara Beth Ireland**, to attend New Coordinator Training to be held at Blast IU 17, sponsored by PAFPC on February 10, 2017.
- **Sara Beth Ireland and Tambra Isenberg**, to attend the Roads to Results to be held at Hilton Garden Inn, Harrisburg on March 2-3, 2017.
- **Josie Kennedy, Scott Manning, Verna Correll, Emily Wagner, Matt Easley, John Hitesman, Cheryl Schonewolf, Jesse Smith and Dustin Gehr**, to attend the SAP Annual Maintenance Day to be held at Blast IU 17 in Williamsport on February 15.

Roll call: Anthony-yes, Broskey-yes, Davenport-yes, Fiorini-yes, Persun-yes, Pulizzi-yes, and Branton-yes, motion carried.

## **MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING**

A motion to approve a Memorandum of Understanding between the South Williamsport Area School District and the South Williamsport Education Association relating to the Collective Bargaining Agreement for section 5.16 Retirement requirements was moved by Pulizzi, seconded by Davenport.

Roll call: Anthony-yes, Broskey-yes, Davenport-yes, Fiorini-yes, Persun-yes, Pulizzi-yes, and Branton-yes, motion carried.

## **RETIREMENT/RESIGNATION**

A motion to accept the retirement resignation of Verna Correll from her position as High School Counselor effective June 20, 2017, was moved by Anthony, seconded by Davenport.

Roll call: Anthony-yes, Broskey-yes, Davenport-yes, Fiorini-yes, Persun-yes, Pulizzi-yes, and Branton-yes, motion carried.

## **RETIREMENT/RESIGNATION**

A motion to accept the retirement resignation of Robert Kimble from his position as a custodial worker effective March 1, 2017, was moved by Pulizzi, seconded by Broskey. Roll call: Anthony-yes, Broskey-yes, Davenport-yes, Fiorini-yes, Persun-yes, Pulizzi-yes, and Branton-yes, motion carried.

## **SUBSTITUTE**

A motion to approve the addition of Deborah McGee to the Cafeteria substitute list was moved by Pulizzi, seconded by Persun. Roll call: Anthony-yes, Broskey-yes, Davenport-yes, Fiorini-yes, Persun-yes, Pulizzi-yes, and Branton-yes, motion carried.

## **EMPLOYMENT MENTOR**

A motion to approve Rebecca Sparks, 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Learning Support Teacher to be the mentor for Hailey Carson for the second semester of the 2016-2017 school year was moved by Persun, seconded by Fiorini. Roll call: Anthony-yes, Broskey-yes, Davenport-yes, Fiorini-yes, Persun-yes, Pulizzi-yes, and Branton-yes, motion carried.

## **EMPLOYMENT SPRING COACHES**

A motion to approve the following athletic coaches was moved by Fiorini, seconded by Anthony.

Baseball Coaches:

Brett Kelley - \$2,085

Garrett Shnyder - \$1,788

Boys Jr High Soccer Coach:

Chris Vanaskie - \$1,788

Roll call: Anthony-yes, Broskey-yes, Davenport-yes, Fiorini-yes, Persun-yes, Pulizzi-abstain, and Branton-yes, motion carried

## **CHILD-BEARING/CHILD REARING LEAVE**

A motion to approve the child-bearing/childrearing leave request of Lauren Reynolds beginning Tuesday, January, 24, 2017, through April 18, 2017, was moved by Pulizzi, seconded by Davenport.

Roll call: Anthony-yes, Broskey-yes, Davenport-yes, Fiorini-yes, Persun-yes, Pulizzi-yes, and Branton-yes, motion carried.

## **OUT-OF-STATE FIELD TRIP REQUEST**

A motion to approve the request of Maggie Sander and Ryan Carper, to take some High School students to Washington, DC on May 12, 2017, was moved by Anthony, seconded by Broskey.

Roll call: Anthony-yes, Broskey-yes, Davenport-yes, Fiorini-yes, Persun-yes, Pulizzi-yes, and Branton-yes, motion carried.

## **2017-2018 SCHOOL DISTRICT CALENDAR 1st READING**

A motion to approve the 2017-2018 proposed school calendar, on 1st reading, was moved by Pulizzi seconded by Fiorini. Roll call: Anthony-yes, Broskey-yes, Davenport-yes, Fiorini-yes, Persun-yes, Pulizzi-yes, and Branton-yes, motion carried.

## **2017-2018 BUDGET OVERVIEWS**

Mr. Artley told the Board that we start with the budgeted deficit from 2016-2017 of \$346,820. Health insurance is projected to increase 10%, the retirement rate changes from 30.03% to 32.57%. These two items alone increase expenses over \$450,000 which leaves a starting point deficit of over \$800,000. This is the starting point for the Administration. Mr. Artley told the Board with these numbers, he felt he has no option but to recommend that the Board follow the early budget process and approve a preliminary budget in February and submit for any exceptions the District may be qualified to receive.

## **APPROVAL TO DRAFT PRELIMINARY 2017-2018 BUDGET AND PUBLICALLY DISPLAY**

Mr. Pulizzi made a motion to allow the Administration to draft a preliminary 2017-2018 budget, and publically display the budget as required by law, seconded by Persun. Roll call: Anthony-yes, Broskey-yes, Davenport-yes, Fiorini-yes, Persun-yes, Pulizzi-yes, and Branton-yes, motion carried.

## **PERMISSION TO IDENTIFY AND SUBMIT EXCEPTIONS TO THE STATE**

Mr. Anthony then made a motion to approve the Superintendent's request to allow the Administration to identify and submit to the State any exceptions allowable by law, seconded by Broskey.

Roll call: Anthony-yes, Broskey-yes, Davenport-yes, Fiorini-yes, Persun-yes, Pulizzi-yes, and Branton-yes, motion carried.

## **CAPITAL RESERVE PROJECTS REVIEW 2017-2018**

Mr. Reifsnyder reviewed the proposed projects for 2017-2018. This list includes the following:

- Tremico roof proposal for Central Elementary \$7,919
- Replacement of 1990 John Deere Tractor \$35,000
- Carpet replacement program \$9,800
- Replacement of walk behind auto scrubber at Central \$5,500
- Security cameras \$2,500
- Reseal and paint Rommelt & HS lower parking lot \$9,700
- Replacement of UPCM Board in AHU 5 in main gym \$4,700
- Upgrade air conditioning units in Server rooms \$12,500
- TUC cards for Central Univent heating system \$7,500

**Total Cost \$95,119**

Mr. Reifsnnyder also provided the Board a list of future capital projects that will need done in the next 3 to 5 years. That list is as follows:

- Replacement of district vehicles, Dodge mini van, Chevy athletic van, and drivers Ed car
- LED relamping
- Upgrade of Central univent heating system
- Replacement John Deere Riding Lawn Tractors
- Exterior door replacement at Central to lower playground
- Replacement of Concrete staircase along east side of Central
- Replace or upgrade of door security system
- Replacement of Central Boilers
- Retaining wall around football field
- Auditorium lighting upgrade and seating
- High School roofing membrane to extend roof life
- Replacement of weight room and boiler room exterior doors
- Fencing at Central
- Recommision of two high school chillers

The Board was also given a report that was prepared by Trane that went over the age of the boilers, univents, water tanks etc.

Dr. Stamm provided the Board with updated information concerning the district and borough soccer fields. Included with this information was a proposal to refurbish and grade the district practice field to make it the playing field in the future without spending 200,000 or 250,000 dollars. The Board spent about 20 minutes discussing the soccer fields including the new proposal brought forward.

## **FINANCING CAPITAL PROJECTS**

Les Bear and Audrey Bear from Robert Baird & Co were at the meeting to discuss Financing Future Capital Projects. Les talked about debt obligation to fund a capital project. He stated that there are many regulations governing a school district incurring debt. A very important aspect is timing of the debt service. When the district would decide to incur debt, the Board should be prepared the following 3 ways:

- Obligate 5% within 6 months
- Reasonably expect to spend 85% within 3 years of settlement
- Proceed with Due Diligence

Les talked about the different roles and responsibilities of professionals that will be involved in the project. The following list of professional will be involved:

- District Solicitor
- Architect
- Bond Counsel
- Paying Agent
- Rating Agency
- Bond Underwriter

He also talked about obtaining credit ratings from either Moody's Investment Services or Standard & Poor's Rating Corporation. He also talked about obtaining Municipal Bond Insurance for the project. He stated much time will be spent developing a financing plan. Some important factors will be Timing of Financing, Sizing the Borrowing, and Wrap-around structure vs. Level Debt Structure. He provided the Board with a timeline of issuing Debt. He stated it will take 10 to 12 weeks to actually issue debt. In advance of that will be a 6 month to 1 year process of conducting a feasibility study. He also talked about interest rates. 20 year debt right now would cost the district about 3.83%. The average over the last 20 years would be 5.29%. He also showed the volatility of interest rates during the past year from 2.8% to more that 4.2%.

Audrey Bear began her presentation by showing the Board the district's current debt both gross and net after state reimbursement. The district currently has gross debt of 1.8 million each year and net debt of 1.3 million after state reimbursement. Audrey then provided the Board with 6 different **what if** proposals considering future debt considering current interest rates. These **what if** proposals were put together with the following information. The Board would be considering a wrap-around 10 million dollar bond issue in each of 2019, 2020, and 2021. We would lower our debt service going forward from 1.3 million per year to 900,000. The first 3 proposals show the costs of that debt service going out thru 2036. The last 3 proposals again would be considering a wrap-around 10 million dollar bond issue in each of 2019, 2020, and 2021 but the debt service would go down to 700,000. The last 3 proposals show the costs of debt service going thru 2044. The Board spent a few more minutes discussing these examples and what the process might be over the next couple of years.

The Board had a 5 minute executive session before the meeting for personnel reasons.

Moved by Pulizzi, seconded by Davenport that the meeting be adjourned. All members present voting yes, the meeting was adjourned at 8:45 p.m.

Attest

Dennis A. Artley  
Secretary