SPRING LAKE BOARD OF EDUCATION BUDGET HEARING JUNE 17, 2019

The Spring Lake Board of Education held a Budget Hearing on Monday, June 17, 2019, at the IS/MS Media Center. President Jeff Lauinger called the hearing to order at 6:30 p.m. Board members present: Jeff Lauinger, Curt Theune, Dennis Devlin, Kathy Breen, Jennifer Nicles, Bruce Callen and Katie Pigott. Absent: None

2019-20 SLPS GENERAL FUND BUDGET

Scott Powers, Chief Financial Officer, advised that a public budget and truth in taxation hearing was required before the Board can adopt next year’s budget or tax levy. He then presented the following:

2018-19 Budget

- In review of the 18-19 budget, it was noted that it was rather stable and moving in a favorable direction with a slight improvement over the amended budget adopted in February of 2019. Mr. Powers indicated there was an increase in state funding for special education, support from the Spring Lake Schools Foundation and increases in interest earnings and rebates
- The increases noted above allowed for a reduction in the amount of expected fund balance to be used from $144,100 to $93,800. This leaves a fund balance of 8.79%. This may improve slightly after the 18-19 financial audit in August

2019-20 Budget

The revenue assumptions take the following into consideration:
- 2,470 blended enrollment, which is 16 less than last year
- Foundation allowance increase of $150 per pupil
- Continued increase in state funding for special education
- Enhancement millage funding estimated at $600,000 in year 1 of 10
- Indirect cost subsidies from Food Service and the FAC of $80,000 combined

The expenditure assumptions take the following into consideration:
- Salary/wage increases for all staff
- Continuation of hard cap for health insurance costs which increased by 2% for 2019
- Required retirement contributions per legislative budget recommendation
- Administrative and certified staff retirements and replacements
- Year 1 enhancement millage funding earmarked for capital needs

The proposed budget for 2019-20 is $28,067,100. It is anticipated there will be a use of fund balance reserves in the amount of $176,300, which is a conservative estimate and would leave the fund balance at roughly 7.75%.

Debt Fund 2019 Proposed Tax Levy

In order to meet the principal and interest obligations on voter-approved bonds, the District will levy 7.00 mills on homestead properties for the upcoming year. Mr. Powers noted that this levy is recalculated every year and 7.00 mills is the lowest allowed by the School Bond Loan Fund. Further, the debt payoff is ahead of schedule by roughly 2 years.
18.0 mills will be levied on all industrial, commercial and non-primary resident exempt properties.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

N/A

ADJOURNMENT

Curt Theune moved, supported by Dennis Devlin, to adjourn the Budget Hearing.

Vote: Yes – Unanimous

Jeff Lauinger adjourned the meeting at 6:44 p.m.

The meeting opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Curt Theune moved, supported by Jennifer Nicles, to approve the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of May 20, 2019, as presented.

Vote: Yes – Unanimous

ITEMS RECEIVED TOO LATE FOR AGENDA

N/A

PUBLIC COMMENTS

N/A
FINANCIAL REPORTS

CONSENT AGENDA

Curt Theune moved, supported by Kathy Breen, to approve the consent agenda as presented:

Accounts Payable – Check Listings
- Food Service, SLCFAC, General Fund, Student Activity, etc. – #222378 through #222597 totaling $613,611.
- Payroll - totaling $2,151,144.

Vote: Yes – Unanimous

BUDGET AMENDMENT

Kathy Breen moved, supported by Curt Theune, to approve the 2018-19 General Appropriation Resolution Amendment as presented.

Vote: Yes – Unanimous

ACTION ITEMS

CONSENT AGENDA

Curt Theune moved, supported by Jennifer Nicles, to approve the Consent Agenda as presented:

- New Hires –
  Amy Kendall .................. Director .................................. Special Education
  Emily Marine............... 4th Grade................................. Jeffers Elementary
  Amanda Pepin ................. Math ...................................... High School

- Superintendent’s Contract - A 3.0% salary increase is granted for Superintendent Furton, which is the same increase as the administrative and non-union staff.

Mr. Furton introduced Amy Kendall, provided a brief history of her background and the Board welcomed her. Amy will begin her duties July 1.

Vote: Yes – Unanimous

2019-20 BUDGET

Curt Theune moved, supported by Bruce Callen, to approve the General Appropriation Resolution for Fiscal Year 2019-20 as presented.

Vote: Yes – Unanimous
2019-20 TAX LEVY

Dennis Devlin moved, supported by Bruce Callen, to approve the 2019-20 Tax Levy as presented. This includes 7.0 mills levied against all properties for debt retirement, and 18.0 mills levied against commercial and non-principal resident properties.

Vote: Yes – Unanimous

MASB MEMBERSHIP FOR 2019-20

Mr. Furton provided some materials to the Board for consideration and discussion regarding continuation of the MASB membership for 2019-20. Dues have increased to $4,894 annually, an increase of $322. Discussion of the benefits provided by the MASB in relationship to the cost of dues was had.

Dennis Devlin moved, supported by Kathy Breen, to suspend payment of MASB dues for 2019-20 and reconsider 12 months from now.

Vote: Yes – Unanimous

FOOD SERVICE MANAGEMENT CONTRACT RENEWAL

Curt Theune moved, supported by Dennis Devlin, to approve the renewal of the Food Service Management Contract with Chartwells for the 2019-20 school year as presented.

Liz Boeve provided that this is more of a formality as the district has a 5 year contract with Chartwells, but this renewal is required by the National School Lunch Program and the MDE. Ms. Boeve noted this is the second renewal, the program has contributed $30,000 to the general fund in 2018-19, and prices to students will not increase in 2019-20. She provided that Chartwells is doing a very good job, and they understand how to feed students nutritiously and how to attract students to participate in the lunch program.

Vote: Yes – Unanimous

DISCUSSION/INFORMATION ITEMS

N/A

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Joanne Koratic, 16789 Bridlepath Dr – commented on the lack of AP courses offered to students as compared to other neighboring districts. She provided a spreadsheet of her research to the Board for their review. She asked the Board to consider increasing the number of AP classes offered and to look at a collaborative approach with Fruitport schools to offer more options for students.
SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT

Superintendent Furton reported on the following:

- Legislative Update – impact of proposals provided to the Board with an extended analysis by Chris Glass and MASA detailed information.
- Resignations – On behalf of the Board, the following hourly employee resignation have been accepted: Alex Kapenga, IS paraprofessional, she has accepted a teaching job in another district; Priscilla Schultz, Food Service worker.
- Mike Gilchrist’s letter to a high school student regarding the vaping policy was provided to the Board. Mr. Furton asked the Board to review and let him know if any questions or concerns. Also attached were the survey results of MASA that highlight vaping as a significant issue in public schools.
- An op-ed piece regarding school funding authored by the WMTT and some area superintendents was provided to the Board. Mr. Furton did not participate as a writer but fully endorses the message.
- Schools of Choice – 127 students applied for schools of choice and 92 applications were accepted. A good number (50% or more) are students who were living in Spring Lake and have recently moved out of the district. It was noted that enrollment variances will be seen over the summer in both directions. All indications are favorable that the district will reach the projected 2,470 enrollment.
- Schedule:
  - June 24: Meeting with Rep. Pamela Hornberger, Chair of House Education Committee
  - June 26-28: WMHIP Summer Retreat

UPCOMING MEETINGS

- Regular Board Meeting – July 15, 2019 – IS/MS Media Center, 7:00 pm.

ADJOURNMENT

Curt Theune moved, supported by Jennifer Nicles, to adjourn the meeting.

Vote: Yes – Unanimous

Jeff Lauinger adjourned the meeting at 7:31 p.m.

APPROVED: ___________________________ Date ___________________________ Board Secretary