

D. C. EVEREST AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT
6300 Alderson Street, Schofield, Wisconsin 54476

Budget Hearing/
62nd Annual Meeting

October 25, 2011

6:30 p.m.

MINUTES

Budget Hearing

Call to Order - Roll Call:

Board President Mary Hancock called the Budget Hearing to order at 6:30 p.m. in the auditorium of the D.C. Everest Senior High School, 6500 Alderson Street, Weston. Board members present were: Helen Ackermann, Joshua Dickerson, Mary Hancock, Jason Jablonski, Rita Kasten, Larry Schaefer, and Diane Stroik. Also present were Superintendent Kristine Gilmore, Assistant Superintendent, Business/Personnel Services Jack Stoskopf, Attorney Ron Rutlin, Parliamentarian, Ruder Ware, and approximately 70 citizens of the district.

Pledge to the Flag:

Those present joined in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

Announce the Purpose of the Budget Hearing: State Statute, Sec. 65.90(4):

Clerk Rita Kasten, in accordance with State Statute 65.90(4), announced the budget hearing would be held prior to the annual meeting for the purpose of informing the citizens of the proposed budget for the 2011-12 school year.

Opening Remarks – Mary Hancock, President:

Hancock welcomed and thanked those present for coming. She explained the process of the Budget Hearing and the Annual Meeting.

Hancock introduced Superintendent Gilmore and Assistant Superintendent Stoskopf.

Review the Proposed 2011-12 Budget

Dr. Gilmore mentioned the importance of this annual meeting and thanked those present for their interest. It has been a difficult year for Wisconsin and the board and administration will try to share with all what has happened in the district and how the staff has adjusted. She listed the facts that all staff had wage/salary freeze, and budgets and programs were cut across the district. There was a 28.4 FTE staff reduction. Administration hopes this evening's presentation will help citizens understand the school budget process. She thanked those attending for their support of the district and stated she hoped for their support of the budget and levy in the interest of the district's students.

Mr. Stoskopf reviewed the referendum history of the district including the last one, which was a recurring referendum that the district has not fully levied. He also reviewed the district's budget history, the proposed budget and recommended levy rate. The 2011-12 proposed budget expenditures amount to \$70,786,510. The levy rate of \$23,432,792 is a 3.8% increase.

Superintendent Gilmore reiterated that the increase in levy is not additional money to the district, but to make up for lost state aid.

Following the review, Hancock opened the meeting to questions and comments. John Jacobs, 8740 Sunrise, Weston, asked about the fund balance that looks as if it is very small, although it was increased this past year. He also asked if the school board would work to increase the fund balance in the next few years? Stoskopf explained some of the increase came from TIF money that came off. Also the district changed from the self-insured insurance to a high deductible plan and \$500,000 was shifted to the claims trail. The low fund balance is why so much needs to be borrowed. If the district can increase the fund balance, less money will need to be short-term borrowed. Gilmore said it is hard to increase the fund balance when a district is growing and we are penalized on state aid for putting money in the fund balance.

Adjourn the Budget Hearing:

There being no questions, President Hancock declared the meeting adjourned at 7:02 p.m.

62nd Annual Meeting:

Call to order:

The 61st Annual Meeting was called to order by President Hancock immediately following the Budget Hearing at 7:02 p.m.

Board members present were: Helen Ackermann, Joshua Dickerson, Mary Hancock, Jason Jablonski, Rita Kasten, Larry Schaefer, and Diane Stroik. Also present were Superintendent Kristine Gilmore, Assistant Superintendent, Business/Personnel Services Jack Stoskopf, Attorney Ronald Rutlin, Parliamentarian, Ruder Ware, and approximately 70 citizens of the district.

Reading of Official Notice:

Board Clerk Rita Kasten read the official notice of the meeting, which had been published in accordance with state statutes.

Robert's Rules of Order:

President Hancock announced that "Robert's Rules of Order" would be followed and Ron Rutlin, Ruder Ware, was present as parliamentarian.

Elect Temporary Meeting Chairperson:

Motion by Lois Alt, 2311 Summit Avenue, Schofield, second by Pauline Schield, 6104 Babl Lane, Weston, to nominate Mary Hancock as temporary meeting chairperson. There were no other nominations. Mary Hancock was elected by voice vote.

Reading of the Minutes of the 60th Annual Meeting:

Motion by Lois Alt, second by Pauline, Schield, to dispense with the reading of the minutes of the 61st Annual Meeting. Motion carried on a voice vote.

Treasurer's Report for 2009-10:

Motion by Steven Pophal, 4202 Oak Terrace, Weston, second by Patricia LesStrang, R20550 Thumper Lane, Ringle, to approve the treasurer's report. Motion carried on a voice vote.

Old Business

There was no old business carried forward from last year.

Regular Business:

A. Provide for Free Textbooks for 2011-12

Motion by Lois Alt, second by Aaron Hoffman, 6202 Daniel Drive, Schofield, to provide free textbooks for the 2011-12 school year. Motion carried with a voice vote.

B. Set School Board Salaries for 2011-2012

Motion Christine Welsh, 4509 Twin Pines Lane, Weston, second by Pauline Schield, to set the school board members' salaries for 2011-12 at \$1,700. With a voice vote, motion carried.

C. Provide for Reimbursement of School Board expenses as per Policy #8230-Remuneration and Reimbursement

Motion by Steven Pophal, second by Scot Abel, 2135 Oregon Trail, Mosinee to provide reimbursement of school board members' expenses for 2011-12 as per board policy #8230. With a voice vote, motion carried.

D. Set 2011-2012 Tax Levy

Motion by Michael Alt, 2311 Summit Avenue, Schofield, second by Casey Nye, 1901 Wesenik Avenue, Schofield, to set the 2010-11 tax levy at \$23,432,792 as recommended. Motion carried on a voice vote.

E. Authorize Sale of Property Not Needed by the School District

The Chairperson clarified that "property" refers to District real estate and such as desks and/or chairs and obsolete textbooks. Superintendent Gilmore said the district intends to try to sell the Schofield and Easton school property. Motion by Patty LesStrang, second by Pauline Schield, to authorize the sale of property not needed by the district. With a voice vote, motion carried.

F. Set Time of the 2012 Annual Meeting

Motion by Barbara Lawrence, 9105 Sorrel Lane, Wausau, second by Steve Pophal, to authorize the school board to set the date and time of the 2012 budget hearing and annual meeting. Linda Staff, 9208 Pineview Street, Rothschild, mentioned the fact that tonight is also parent teacher conferences. It was explained that in 2010 the motion was made to set the meeting on the fourth Tuesday of October and that could not then be adjusted. With a voice vote, motion carried.

Other Business:

No other business was brought before the meeting.

Adjournment:

President Hancock declared the meeting adjourned at 7:13 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

Rita A. Kasten, Clerk

Elizabeth M. Schultz, Secretary to the Board

Please note: These are not the official minutes of the Board of Education until approved at the November 16, 2011 board meeting.