

MARPLE NEWTOWN SCHOOL DISTRICT
Newtown Square, Pennsylvania

BUDGET & FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING
October 8, 2013 6:30PM
Board Room, Administration Building

MINUTES

PRESENT: Mrs. Kathryn Chandless, Mrs. Barbara Harvey, Mr.
Leonard Altieri, Mr. Robert Sack, Mr. Jim Lanzalotto, (by phone)

Administration: Dr. Merle Horowitz, Mr. Joseph Driscoll, Dr. Connie
Bompadre

Press: 0

Audience: 7

1. Call to Order:

Mr. Sack called the meeting to order at 6:35PM and Pledge of Allegiance

Mr. Sack asked if there were any Additions to the Agenda ~ there were none.

2. Approval of the minutes from the September, 2013:

Mr. Sack asked that the minutes be approved as presented.
With no discussion the minutes were approved

3. Bills for Payment:

Mr. Sack asked to take to the full Board for approval a motion for:

- a. Motion: To take to the full Board for approval the General Fund and
Capital Reserve

Will take to the full Board for approval

4. Financial Reports:

Mr. Sack asked to take to the full Board for approval a motion for:

- a. Motion: To approve Treasurers' report for August 2013.
- b. Financial Reports Informational September 2013
- c. Budget Transfers – October 2013

Mr. Driscoll explained that when Budget is passed it is sometimes outdated, but must remain in tacked for 90 days. October 1st is the end of the 90 days and transfers are made to correct the amounts in budget codes or transfer funds needed to other budget codes.

Will take to the full Board for approval

5. Donations:

Mr. Sack asked to take to the full Board for approval a motion for:

- a. Motion: To accept \$250.00 from Active Image Media for “Raise the Bar”.

Will take to the full Board for approval

6. Fixed Asset Appraisal

Mr. Driscoll explained that this is a goal that he has tried to accomplish for sometime. A company comes in and capitalizes the fixed assets. This has not been done for a while. Since we have new buildings it would be easier to track other ways rather than just on a spread sheet. He would like to, with Board approval, get proposals to get assets with an outside company. A \$5,000 threshold would be the amount. Example, a copier would be included, a table would not.

Computer inventory are leased and they are automatic inventoried. They are insured by us, but we do not own them.

7. 2014-2015 Budget Process:

- Timeline
- Act 1 Index
- Budget Process
- Budget Committee

Mr. Driscoll gave a brief presentation

- The budget process is a year round process
- Talked about the timeline
- January 30th, Preliminary Proposed Budget for public inspection
- Vote on this at the January 28th Regular Board Meeting
- February 10th, public notice of intent to Adopt Preliminary Budget
- February 19th deadline to vote on Preliminary Budget
- 20 days for public inspection
- Possible special meeting for vote ~ different from the Budget & Finance meeting.
- February 27 is the deadline to publish to public and file for exceptions
- March 6 ~ exceptions filed
- March 21 ~ referendum deadline
- April 22 ~ Proposed Final Budget adoption (tentative)
- April 23 ~ Proposed final for public inspection

- April 27 ~ Final Budget and Resolution adoption
- Latest date for final end of May and June
- Index 2.10%
- Average ECI ~ SAWW Rate
- Calculation change to SAWW Rate
- Resolution to exceed the Index
- 2 exceptions ~ Special Ed and Retirement
- May not see Special Ed exception this year
- Interest Rates are still near zero
- State Subsidy ~ Level Funding
- Additional considerations ~ full impact of teacher contract, benefits (Trust self funding), Special Ed cost, Retirement rate 21.5%
- Assessments, growth and appeals.
- Additional funds for new building
- June 30, 2013 positive, \$1 million more than expected
- Bulk of Revenue is from Real Estate Taxes
- 96.5% collection rate
- Interim Real Estate, 511 transfer taxes, public utilities
- Continue to look at trends
- State funding is the same
- Special Ed
- Debt Service ~ as it changes
- Health service is flat
- Homestead is a wash not guaranteed
- Salaries ~ Social Security is State shared, retirement
- Federal funding is not a lot of income
- Medical Access ~ explained that for Special Ed students we can bill Medical Access for some of the services that are provided by the District
- Parents have to sign up for this, can get more information for the Board
- Dr. Horowitz explained that if a student needed a specific piece of equipment it can be purchased with Medical Access monies.
- Making sure that the Board has enough information
- Share presentation online
- Working on giving the public more information
- Mr. Driscoll also explained that 2 sets of Financial Statements are required
- Watching assessment growth
- When talking about Budgets we always have to think three years, not the year that we are in.
- Might be a good idea to have Budget workshops

8. New Business

None

9. Public Comment

There was a brief discussion regarding the collection rate and revenues. The County does assessments. This is how the taxes are calculated. You can look online and get all this information. Mr. Driscoll explained, he monitors all assessment appeals. There was also a discussion about the minutes being online. Mr. Driscoll explained they are a month behind. Should it be that they are not being put online contact him. He will make sure that they are put online. Also, he would like to do a multi-year budget. This would make it much easier for us. The first budget he does is a status quo budget.

There was a brief discussion about the wall at Loomis. We will have to focus on using what resources we have to continue looking at the other buildings. The goal is to have this issue and other issues presented at the Facilities and Transportation meeting in November.

Mr. Driscoll explained that Act 1 has prevented us from borrowing. If we do any major projects we would have to use the funds that we have, or we would have to go out for a vote from the public.

10. Adjournment:

The meeting was adjourned at 7:45PM