Conneaut School District Finance/Budget Committee

April 4, 2016

The meeting of the Finance/Budget Committee was called to order at 2:00 pm on Monday, April 4, 2016 as advertised in the Large Conference room in the Central Office. Present for the meeting were Directors Dorothy Luckock and David Schaefer (member Jody Sperry out of the country), Business Manager Greg Mayle, and Superintendent Jarrin Sperry. No members of the public were present.

Latest State budget news was that the legislature sent the latest budget to the governor. He was not going to sign it, nor veto it, so it would become law. The governor did veto the Fiscal Plan – which continues uncertainty regarding the funding formula to be used as well as stalled PlanCon reimbursements. For CSD, the PlanCon budgeted for in the current 2015-16 budget is $646,000. The waiting and uncertainty continues.

- Greg had prepared a review of the Audit services RFP information. Based on the initial information on the day of bid opening, he set up meetings with 2 companies. Only one could meet in the short timeframe. After review of this information as well as Greg’s verification of references from other district business managers – the committee will be recommending to the full board to hire McGill, Power, Bell & Associates LLP of Meadville, PA as our new auditors.
  - A notation that the highest quote came in from the existing auditors – Black, Bashor & Porsch LLP.
- Budget review on Draft for 2016-17 – In all areas line item questions are raised, evaluated, discussion, etc.
  ✓ Elwood Schell, Frank Kimmel and Julie Houck were present with the budget for Maintenance and Grounds.
    - Curley described the account areas that he typically uses to transfer into other areas as needed. The level of maintenance to keep athletic fields not currently being used was discussed – not keep at playing condition, but general mowing.
    - Disposal services are costly, including recycling. These are bid every 3 years.
    - Under Custodial services – the Callouts were budgeted at $5,000 were primarily for responses to alarms – mentioned that coaches are the biggest “culprits”.
    - They put in a 3% across the board requested increase in codes 2620- 431 and 432 which cover repairs/maint of buildings from contractors and equipment repairs/maint by contractors. It was discussed the retirement timeframe of Bill Zacher who has been “Mr. Fix it”. Also discussed was the possibility of some of the floor cleaning equipment – to possibly work with our custodial contractors for phase this over to them.
    - Account 2630-434 has over $15,000 for blacktop, crack seal, etc. Hoping to do minimal at CASH this year.
    - In addition, playground “mulch” at CLMS was discussed. They were asked to see if possibly the PTO at Conneaut Lake might consider that as a special fundraiser project to help out.
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Jarrin reported that John Acklin had asked the coaches regarding the usage level of the activity shuttle; as well as asking Rick Bridge, Anderson Bus Co for information as well. Usage level and associated costs will be reviewed by the committee.

The next meeting is 9 am on Tuesday, April 19th in the Large Conference room of the Central Office to more closely review the Music Dept. budget, primarily at CASH. This would include bus costs, etc associated with Marching band travel to away football games.

Jody Sperry, Board President

Greg Mayle, Board Secretary

Dorothy Luckock, Chairperson