

Conneaut School District Finance/Budget Committee Meeting Minutes

Conneaut School District Finance/Budget Committee

November 6, 2019

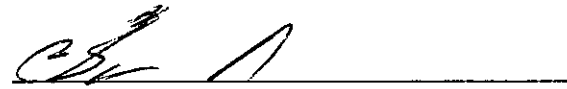
The meeting of the Finance/Budget Committee was called to order at 5:30 pm on November 6, 2019 as advertised in the Conference Room at Conneaut Lake Middle School. Present for the meeting were Directors Dorothy Luckock, Jamie Hornstein and Theresa Miller; Business Manager Greg Mayle and Superintendent Jarrin Sperry. One member of the public was present.

- Rick Kelly was present and discussed some upcoming plans.
 - He is proposing expanding the 1:1 Chromebooks for grades 7&8 in the 2020/21 school year. At this time, he would plan on utilizing the Chromebooks from the graduating seniors; with new cases at that time. It will incur some additional management licenses. The committee had a consensus to have him proceed with his plans and into next year's budget.
 - Update on E-rate: It is a new 5-year cycle and the category 2 permits some communication infrastructure, switches and some wireless upgrades. This will also be necessary to upgrade wireless in the MS if we expand the 1:1 as noted above. He is hoping to apply for 70% reimbursement. He is working with Greg on these plans and committee endorsed those efforts.
- Audit update with auditors on 2018/19 school year – it is 99% done and expect a report from them at our December board meeting. Greg presented a draft copy of the Comprehensive Annual Financial Report for our review (fiscal year ending June 30, 2019). It was used that our budget planned on utilizing 2.9 million of fund balance (included the funding of capital projects) and ended up being only 1.3 million used. The savings were in the 3 main categories of reduced cyber charter students/payments; state funding increase; and tighter budget uses. The committee wanted to again thank all district staff that worked to keep the budget under control.
- 20/21 Budget planning:
 - It was noted that in November is the last payment on the 2013 note – so that completes our leases & loans. Just bonds now outstanding.
 - Greg is meeting with buildings on the new budget in November and December. The committee agreed to plan as done last year where we personally meet with department heads such as Buildings & Grounds; Technology; Curriculum; Special Education. The building budgets will be recapped with the committee but at this time not planning on meeting personally.
 - Act 1 index – Greg presented the Act 1 index analysis which shows the current millage at 51.55 mills. The adjusted index came in at 3.5% or 1.8 mills. This would be the maximum millage increase without voter referendum. Based on the current property tax assessment of \$298,320,970 the max increase under Act 1 would be \$498,196.02 or on the median property level \$46.28. The committee recommended to have on the December voting agenda to pass the resolution to NOT go above the Act 1 index in the new year. No discussion was held at this time regarding if any tax increase is being considered.

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- The next meeting is Weds. Dec. 4th at 5:30 pm. at the Central Office. It was determined to continue meeting prior to the monthly work sessions; noting that during the couple months of intense budget work additional meetings will be held.


Dorothy Luckock, Board President


Greg Mayle, Board Secretary