

Conneaut School District Finance/Budget Committee

November 3, 2021

The meeting of the Finance/Budget Committee was called to order at 5:30 pm on November 3 in the ASA meeting room. Present for the meeting were Directors Dorothy Luckock, Jamie Hornstein and Theresa Miller, Business Manager Greg Mayle and Superintendent Jarrin Sperry.

- 2020-2021 Audit Update – Greg reported that he expects the independent auditors to come to either the December or January meeting for their report. There were no findings. We had a budget that balanced, and after any adjustments at year-end the actual was adding \$67 to the fund balance.
- Assessment Discussion – the board had recommended that Greg review properties sold for several months and report/discuss at the finance committee level if it was in the best interest of the district to put in assessment appeals. Of note is the extensive number of years since a county-wide reassessment.
 - For his analysis Greg used for the market value the selling price and had the report “flag” if the assessment was 20% more or less (after the conversion from market value to expected assessed value). He also reported that the median assessed in the district for Homestead discount is approx. \$25,000.
 - Of the 201 properties reviewed, 107 were under assessed, 57 within the variance and 37 over-assessed. Possible impact would be just over \$100,000.
 - Equity was discussed again as that has been the motivation from the public for this review. Equity is best achieved in a county-wide assessment as it generates tax neutral.
 - There was limited interest in asking all school districts to encourage the county commissioners to re-assess, yet we realize it is time consuming and costly. But, it would give all a new “bench mark”.
 - The majority of the committee did not want the district to be the “only bad guy” and recommended that the members of the public approach the county officials in a respectful manner to plead their case and request movement. It was noted that any member of the school board is at liberty to go as an individual property owner/member of the public but to ensure not representing the board nor the school district.

The next meeting is scheduled for Weds. Dec. 1 at 5:30 pm prior to the worksession/reorganization meeting.



Dorothy Luckock, Board President



Greg Mayle, Board Secretary