

MILLER PLACE UNION FREE SCHOOL DISTRICT
MILLER PLACE, NEW YORK
MINUTES
MAY 26, 2020

Time of Meeting: 7:00 P.M.
Kind of Meeting: Budget Hearing
Place of Meeting: Zoom Meeting

Those Present

Board President:	Mrs. Johanna Testa
Board Vice President:	Mr. Richard Panico
Board Trustee:	Mrs. Noelle Dunlop
Board Trustee:	Mr. Keith Frank
Board Trustee:	Mrs. Lisa Reitan
Superintendent of Schools:	Dr. Marianne Cartisano
Deputy Superintendent:	Mr. Seth Lipshie
Assistant Superintendent:	Ms. Susan Craddock
School Business Official:	Mrs. Colleen Card
Executive Director for Educational Services:	Mrs. Sandra Wojnowski
District Clerk:	Mrs. Patricia Morbillo

PLEASE NOTE: THE MINUTES, AS WRITTEN, ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE AND ARE NOT CONSIDERED AN OFFICIAL RECORD UNTIL THEY HAVE BEEN APPROVED BY THE BOARD OF EDUCATION AT THE JUNE 17, 2020 BUSINESS MEETING.

Mrs. Testa called the meeting to order at 7:00 P.M.

This Budget Hearing was conducted via Zoom so that it could be held in public within the guidelines of safe distancing due to the Governor’s Executive Order putting the state on “Pause”.

Mrs. Testa and the Board members read the Pledge of Allegiance for the attendees. Mrs. Testa stated that the District would like to recognize all veterans for their service and that the District would also like to thank all essential and front line workers for their service during this extremely difficult time. She stated that the District would like to recognize members of the media in attendance. She asked that they type in the chat box their name and media affiliation. There were no media present who identified themselves as being present.

I. BUDGET HEARING PRESENTATION

Mrs. Testa introduced Mrs. Card to present the budget hearing information. She shared the Budget Hearing handout and shared the document on the screen so the Board and community members could follow with the presentation.

Mrs. Card stated that First, we will start on the top box on the left-hand side of the handout with the Proposed Budget Overview. The Proposed Budget with the projected state building aid funding included is \$75.7 million or a \$1.7 million dollar increase. \$1 million of this increase is offset by the projected state building aid for the capital project work that was completed on the MPHS gymnasium.

To show you the proposed budget without this one-time increase, please move to the top box on the right-hand side of the handout where you can see the Proposed Budget Overview with the Proposed

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Budget increase without the projected state building aid funding of \$1 million. The Proposed Budget without the state building aid is \$74.7 million which equals a \$754 thousand increase or 1.02% increase.

Now if you move back to the second box on the left-hand side of the handout here is the detailed expenditure plan by the popular budget format. This breaks down the budget plan by General Support which is increasing \$75 thousand, Instruction which is increasing \$215 thousand, Transportation Services which is increasing \$132 thousand, and finally Undistributed Costs which is increasing by \$1.3 million of which \$1 million relates to the projected state building aid for the MPHS gym expenditures as discussed earlier. Overall the reflects the overall expenditure plan of \$75.7 million for the 2020-21 school year.

Now if we move to the second box on the right-hand side of the handout here is another view of the detailed expenditure plan in the three-part component budget format. This breaks down the detailed expenditure budget plan into three different components: The first line is the Administrative Component is decreasing \$56 thousand. This component includes the administrative costs to run the District including legal, insurance, postage, and certain BOCES expenses. The second line is the Instructional Component is increasing \$631 thousand. This component includes the instructional costs to run the District including costs to support the instructional programs of the District. The third section is the Capital Component which is increasing \$1.1 million. This component includes the operational costs to run the District including operation and maintenance of facilities, debt service and transfer to capital. The transfer to capital line reflects the state building aid funding of \$1 million for the MPHS gym expenditures.

Now let us move back to the third box on left-hand side of the handout to review the Detailed Proposed Revenue Plan to fund the above proposed expenditure plan. First state aid is projected at \$23.1 million or an increase of \$283 thousand for next school year. Next, the projected state building aid is reflected for the MPHS gym of \$792 thousand for 2019-20 and \$208 thousand for 2020-21. The District then projects the other revenues including tuition, interest, and other miscellaneous revenues of approximately \$577 thousand. We then apply reserves from unemployment, workers compensation, fund balance applied, and the Employers' Retirement System which reflects a net change of \$4k from last year's plan. These are reserves that the District currently plans on applying to the revenue budget for 20-21 to offset costs in the projected expenditure budget. The last two lines show bond proceeds that were not used and have been applied in the upcoming and current year. This brings us to the tax levy line of \$47.6 million or an increase of 1.46% or \$687 thousand over last year. Overall the revenue plan is \$75.7 million. Additionally, please note that the District does not currently know the impact of potential state aid cuts for the upcoming school year but if the District receives a state aid cut the District has multiple sources of revenue and expenses that we would review if we receive a state aid cut and will continue to monitor the ongoing situation.

Now let us review the tax levy cap calculation in the third box on the right hand side of the handout. This is what everyone calls the 2% tax levy cap but for the District next year our cap is 1.46% which is approximately half a percent below the "2%" cap. Now let us review the actual calculation of the tax levy cap. First we start with the 2019-2020 tax levy of \$46.9 million we then

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add in the growth factor of .0032 which is approximately \$150 thousand. This factor reflects changes in the assessed value for new building in the District and is determined by Department of Taxation and Finance. Next, we subtract the new BOCES capital exclusion which reflects BOCES capital expenses for the 19-2020 school year of \$67 thousand. Then we subtract the District's debt service less our building aid for the 19-20 school year of \$834 thousand. This then gives us our starting point of \$46.1 million to calculate the 20-21 tax levy cap. Next, we add in the Allowable Growth Factor (or CPI) which is 1.81% for the 20-21 school year. The allowable growth factor calculates to \$835 thousand for next year. We then add the District's debt service less building aid for the next school year 20-21 school year of \$530 thousand.

Then we add the new BOCES capital exclusion which reflects BOCES capital expenses for the 20-21 school year of \$73 thousand. This year there are no ERS or TRS exclusions so that reflects as a zero change in both categories. This then totals to a total allowable tax levy of \$47.6 million or a 1.46% tax levy increase. We then use this as the starting point for the revenue budget which we reviewed in detail earlier where we have the projected state aid of \$23.1 million, state building aid of \$792 thousand and \$208 thousand, other revenues of \$577 thousand and applied reserves of approximately \$700 thousand and fund balance applied of \$2.6 million. This reflects in a total maximum budget of \$75.7 million for the next school year.

Now let us move back to the fourth box on the left-hand side of the handout to review the Library Contract. The library contract is based on the population of the Miller Place school district of approximately 15,859. This population count is based on the census which is completed every 10 years. The projected per person cost of the library contract is \$145.20 times the population of Miller Place of 15,859 which equals a total contract of \$2.3 million that is proposed for next year by the library system next year. The District has no control over this contract and is required by the library districts to submit this proposal to the Miller Place School District voters each year for their approval.

Let us review the detailed vote information. On June 9, 2020, District residents will have the opportunity to vote on the school district's proposed budget for 20-21 school year and candidates for the Board of Education. The District's two incumbents, Mr. Panico and Mrs. Reitan, are running re-election and have submitted the paperwork as Board of Education candidates. For this election you are eligible to vote in the school district election if you are a citizen of the United States, 18 years of age or older on the day of the vote, and a resident in the Miller Place School District for at least 30 days or more preceding the day of the vote. Those who are registered with either the school district or general elections and have voted in a school or general election within the last four years are eligible to vote.

Mrs. Card than reviewed the Voter Registration Deadlines as follows:

First, due to the current executive orders, there will be no in-person registration but you may register online to vote by May 26, 2020 at the Department of Motor Vehicles website. As per Executive Order 202.26, this year all voting by qualified voters will be by absentee ballot only. There will be no in-person voting. Absentee ballots and postage-paid return envelopes have been mailed to all qualified voters. Ballots may be returned in the postage paid envelope or dropped off to the District Office and must be received by the District no later than 5:00 p.m. on Tuesday, June 9, 2020 to be valid and counted. The ballots will be secured in the District safe and the vote tally with the election inspectors will begin on June 9, 2020 after the 5pm deadline. Please call the

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District Office at (631) 474-2700 ext. 764 or email the District Clerk if you need more information regarding the vote process. Now let us ask the members of the Board of Education if they have any questions regarding the presentation or budget vote.

Mrs. Testa asked if there were any questions from the Board. Mrs. Reitan asked when the ballots were mailed. Mrs. Card answered that they were mailed and should be received in a few days.

II. PUBLIC BE HEARD

There were no questions from the public.

III. ADJOURNMENT OF MEETING

Mrs. Testa asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting.

Mr. Panico moved, seconded by Mr. Frank to adjourn the budget hearing at 7:17 P.M. The Board then voted to adjourn the budget hearing.

Yes 5; No 0; Motion Carried

Respectively submitted by: Patricia A. Morbillo, District Clerk