

**PLEASANT VALLEY SCHOOL DISTRICT
Board of Education Meeting
Special Meeting July 5, 2007**

Board Approved July 19, 2007 Excellence in Education: A Community Commitment

The special meeting of the Pleasant Valley School District Board of Education was called to order by President Thomas Murphy, on Thursday, July 5, 2007 at 6:30 p.m. President Murphy welcomed those present followed by the Pledge of Allegiance. The meeting was held in the Pleasant Valley School District Offices, Brodheads ville, PA.

ROLL CALL:

Board Attendees:	President Thomas Murphy	Harvey Frable	Susan Kresge
	Vice-President John Sabia	H. Charles Hoffman	Ryan Hinton
	Treasurer Russ Gould	MiChelle Palmer	Linda Micklos
Board Absentees:	None		
Administrative Attendees:	Dr. Arnold, Ms. Les, Ms. Zeliznik		
Solicitor:	Mr. Daniel Corveleyn		

President Thomas Murphy announced Notification of Executive Sessions as follows

- ▶ July 5, 2007 - For the purpose of discussing personnel, negotiations and legal issues

MEETING PROCEDURES:

President Thomas Murphy referred to the agenda that was available to everyone present and to the meeting procedures that were attached.

PLEASANT VALLEY CITIZENS:

Comments shall be limited to the advertised purpose of this special meeting - the consideration of rescinding the previous motion to approve the budget that had been adopted at the June 28, 2007 Board meeting.

The district budget was advertised for public inspection on April 19, 2007 and originally adopted on June 28, 2007.

NEW BUSINESS - Dr. Douglas C. Arnold, Superintendent

Dr. Arnold informed everyone that the purpose of this meeting is for the Board to consider the possibility of rescinding the previous motion to approve the 2007-2008 General Operating Budget that had been adopted at the June 28, 2007 Board meeting. The purpose of rescinding the motion would be solely to consider reducing the millage increase previously passed on June 28, 2007 when the budget was officially adopted. It came to our attention on Monday, July 2nd, that \$917,000 in revenues had become available, which could have potentially led to a reduction in millage for 2007-08. As of today, no tax bills have been printed, which allows for a change (reduction) in millage should the Board so desire.

Dr. Arnold provided a chart of potential millage impacts, as well as a worksheet.

Donna Les explained the circumstances that surrounding the additional monies.

Dr. Arnold asked that the Board consider that the district will be working on new professional and support staff contracts and subsequent negotiations. He also mentioned that Block Grant funds could someday be in jeopardy, though it looks like funding will stay intact this year. However, there may someday be a need to re-absorb some of the staff positions paid for by this grant. Also, not yet knowing the Act 1 index for 2008-09 is cause for concern.

Dan Corveleyn commented that, because of wording in Section 687 of the PA School Code, he recommends that the Board can, if it wishes, rescind the motion for approving the 2007-08 General Operating Budget that was adopted at the June 28, 2007 Board meeting. Five "yes" votes are necessary to complete this action. He then suggested that the Board could motion to adopt, with whatever consideration it makes, a 2007-08 General Operating Budget with reduced millage.

MiChelle Palmer motioned; seconded by Linda Micklos to rescind the 2007-2008 General Fund Budget, increasing millage to 128.57 mills, 4.42 mill increase, adopted on June 28, 2007.

Roll Call: 8-1 Carried Voting no: Ryan Hinton

Discussion began:

- ▶ John Sabia commented that he would like to see some portion of the money used to replenish the contingency fund. He feels the district needs a cushion in case additional money is needed.
- ▶ John Sabia also commented that he would like to see some of the money put into Capital Reserve for next school year to help pay for buses.

- ▶ Ms. Les distributed a document that listed 07-08 Budget Reserve and a document with Budget revenue information listed.
- ▶ MiChelle Palmer asked what a mill was worth, Ms. Les stated \$305,000.
- ▶ Russ Gould asked where the additional monies came from. Ms. Les stated they are from a subsidy comprised of various items. Mr. Gould stated that he feels the money needs be used to lower the millage.
- ▶ Sue Kresge commented that she disagrees with putting money in the reserve contingency account for staffing issues because she feels in the past we over-budgeted on salaries. She stated that she does agree with lowering the millage and putting an amount in capital reserve.
- ▶ More discussion continued; President Murphy asked each board member to state their positions regarding how to handle the additional funds. The majority stated that they would prefer to lower the millage increase to 2 or 2.5 mills.

The following action occurred:

John Sabia motioned; seconded by Harvey Frable to adopt the 2007-2008 budget as follows:

BE IT RESOLVED that the 2007 - 2008 General Fund Budget be approved, calling for a tax levy of 126.30 mills in property tax and the Act 511 Earned Income Tax of 1% and the Real Estate Transfer Tax of 1%. (This represents a 2.15 mill increase from last year's budget) as per the attached copy.

Roll Call: 8-1 Carried Voting no: Ryan Hinton

Pleasant Valley School Directors:

Dr. Arnold distributed copies of a letter from HRG Engineering Inc., Chestnuthill Township's engineering firm. The letter seeks support for proposals reviewed and supported by the Building and Grounds Committee with regard to the Routes 209, 115 and 715 Corridor Project. The letter is requesting a signature from the School District. There were no objections to Dr. Arnold signing the letter of support, which already bears a signature for the township.

Pleasant Valley Citizens:

Comments shall be limited to the sole, advertised purpose of this special meeting.

Adjournment:

There being no further business to come before the Board, President Thomas Murphy motioned, seconded by H. Charles Hoffman, and carried unanimously by the Board to adjourn the meeting at approximately 7:08 PM.

NEXT SCHEDULED MEETING: July 19, 2007 AT 8:00 PM, District Office

Respectfully submitted,

Donna Les
Board Secretary

Linda Zeliznik
Board Recorder