

Finance Committee Meeting Notes

May 9, 2023

The Finance Committee met on Tuesday, May 9, 2023, at the District Office Conference Room. In attendance were committee members Clinton Jackson, Chairperson, Colleen Zasowski, Gabrielle Deardorff, and Erica Hermans; administrators Robert Rizzo, *Superintendent*, James Fink, CPA, *Chief Financial Officer*, Mary Davidheiser, *Controller (Zoom)*, Shawn Ryan, *Supervisor of Operations/Facilities* and Robert Hunter, *Director of Planning, Operations and Facilities*; and community members Will Cromley, Steve Frey, Diana Kirsch, David Laky, Sagar Sharma, and Theresa Westwood. Mr. Jackson called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

- Public to be heard on agenda items only: None.
- Review and acceptance of minutes for April 11, 2023: Accepted.
- Items to be Discussed
 - Old Business
 - Executive monthly reports through April 30, 2023, reviewed by Mr. Fink
 - Liquidity:
 - \$107.5MM includes \$22MM bond proceeds (prior year \$78MM)
 - Revenues:
 - Generally local and state revenues are on coming in as expected
 - Real Estate Transfer Taxes are greater than expected and are currently exceeding budget.
 - Earned Income Taxes are \$500k ahead of prior year and expected to exceed budget.
 - Note both Transfer Taxes and EIT are economy sensitive
 - Expenditures:
 - Expenses are on par except for health insurance which continues to run higher than expected as previously reported
 - Assessments
 - Not much movement in April
 - Remaining amount on goal for 2023-24 budget \$16.5MM
 - Self-Funded Health Insurance:
 - Continues to run higher than planned as previously discussed and have budgeted accordingly for 2023/2024
 - Food Service
 - Operating in positive territory
 - 610k meals YTD vs 710k meal prior year (all meals were “free” during 2021/2022)
 - YTD operating income is \$1.07MM to be used for updated equipment going forward.
 - 2023-2024 Budget Update
 - Mr. Fink reviewed the changes in the budget model since the prior meeting in April which included a reduction in new staff requested, an increase in employee co-share payments for health benefits per benefit plan language, and a new grant secured.
 - Budget is currently at a \$4.9MM gap equaling a 4.00% tax impact

- Mr. Jackson questioned if the bond issuance for the GESA project increased the debt service line item in the budget. Mr. Fink replied no because there was debt settled during this current year, so the debt service line item did not increase year over year.
 - New Business
 - Two assessment appeal settlements that will appear on the board meeting agenda. Both were negotiated at rates well in excess of the taxpayers opinion of value and confirmed to be settlements favorable to the district by the district's appraiser.
 - The committee agreed to move to full Board
 - Resolution for the Adoption of General Fund Budget
 - The committee agreed to move to full Board
 - Resolution for the Homestead and Farmstead Exclusion
 - The committee agreed to move to full Board
 - Items recommended for discussion at the next board meeting: The items noted under New Business
 - Preparation/Proposals for next meeting's agenda: none
 - Board Comment
 - Ms. Zasowski stated the Western Center budget did get approved and Mr. Fink stated he was aware
 - Public to be heard:
 - Ms. Westwood commented on the budget and understood the drivers and appreciates the district's efforts on still trying to lower the tax impact
 - Mr. Frey commented on education finance compared to education outcomes.
 - Adjournment 6:52 pm
- Next meeting date: Tuesday, June 13, 2023, at 6:30 pm.