

**HAWTHORNE PUBLIC SCHOOLS**  
**HAWTHORNE, NEW JERSEY**  
**Tuesday, April 26, 2022**  
**Regular Meeting and**  
**Public Hearing on the 2022-2023 Budget – 7:00 P.M.**  
**at Board of Education Meeting Room**

**MEETING CALLED TO ORDER:**

**Time:** 7:01 p.m.

**PUBLIC PORTION OF MEETING BEGINS:**

The New Jersey Open Public Meeting Law was enacted to ensure the rights of the public to have advance notice of and to attend the meetings of public bodies at which any business affecting their interest is discussed or acted upon.

In accordance with the provisions of this act, the Business Administrator/Board Secretary has caused notice of this meeting to be published by having the date, time, and place thereof posted on the bulletin board of the municipal building, communicated to The Herald News, The Record, and filed with the Clerk of the Borough of Hawthorne.

| ROLL CALL:          | PRESENT | ABSENT | Time of arrival after meeting has been called to order. |
|---------------------|---------|--------|---------------------------------------------------------|
| Joseph Carr         | X       |        |                                                         |
| Alex Clavijo        | X       |        |                                                         |
| Jennifer Ehrentraut | X       |        |                                                         |
| Alma Morel          | X       |        |                                                         |
| Anthony Puluse      | X       |        |                                                         |
| Bruce Reicher       | X       |        |                                                         |
| Jay Shortway        | X       |        |                                                         |
| Marco Totaro        | X       |        |                                                         |
| Abigail Goff        | X       |        |                                                         |

Also Present: Richard A. Spirito, Superintendent of Schools  
Cheryl Ambrose, Business Administrator/Board Secretary  
And approximately 0 members of the public and 3 via YouTube

**FLAG SALUTE:**

**MEETING REGULATIONS:**

During each regular meeting, two opportunities are provided for citizens to ask questions and to make comments. During the first opportunity, early on the agenda, the meeting is open to the public for the purpose of addressing items listed for approval on this agenda only. The second opportunity occurs just prior to adjournment, when citizens may address any subject matter that is pertinent to and/or directly related to the operation of the school district.

Persons wishing to speak must upon being recognized, rise, state their name, address and subject matter. Comments and questions shall be addressed to the Board President or the presiding officer and shall be limited to five minutes per person. The Board may (or may not) respond to issues raised by members of the public at the time they are raised, but will provide a response if and when appropriate.

The Board asks that members of the public be courteous and mindful of the rights of other individuals when speaking. Please note that the Board will not respond to comments regarding students or board employees in light of the privacy rights held by those individuals. Moreover, the Board discourages comments about such individuals, and will not be responsible for such comments. Members of the public who choose to speak during this public session should carefully consider their comments, since they could be held personally liable for any statements they make.

Finally, please note that in accordance with District Policy the Board will not officially comment or respond to any matter mentioned unless it can confirm that the matter has first been brought to the attention of the appropriate school personnel in an attempt to resolve the issue.

**PUBLIC BE HEARD - AGENDA ITEMS ONLY:** No one wished to speak

**CORRESPONDENCE:** None

**BUDGET PRESENTATION:** 2022-2023 Budget Power Point Presentation by Mr. Spirito

**FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION:**

**Alex Clavijo, Chairperson**

**ACTION ITEMS:**

Pursuant to the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Committee on Finance and Administration recommends the following resolutions:

F-1. APPROVAL OF BUDGET FOR THE 2022-2023 SCHOOL YEAR

The Board of Education of Hawthorne hereby adopts the following budget for the 2022-2023 school year:

The proposed budget includes sufficient funds to provide curriculum and instruction which will enable all students to achieve the core Curriculum Content Standards, and is in compliance with N.J.S.A. 18A and N.J.A.C. Title 6 and 6A.

Expenditures

|                         |                  |
|-------------------------|------------------|
| General Current Expense | \$47,189,162     |
| Special Revenue Fund    | 4,568,155        |
| Repayment of Debt       | <u>1,998,601</u> |

**Total Expenditures** **\$53,755,918**

Revenue

|                                      |            |
|--------------------------------------|------------|
| Budgeted Fund Balance – operating    | \$ 927,208 |
| Budgeted Fund Balance – debt service | 155,235    |
| Local Tax Levy                       |            |
| Current                              | 41,167,645 |
| Debt Service                         | 1,325,515  |
| Tuition                              | 31,222     |
| Misc. Revenue                        | 46,250     |
| Medicaid Reimbursement               | 111,304    |
| State Aid                            |            |
| Current (includes extraordinary aid) | 4,705,533  |
| Debt Service                         | 517,851    |
| Special Revenue Fund                 | 4,568,155  |
| Withdrawal from Capital Reserve      | 200,000    |

**Total Revenue** **\$53,755,918**

Included in the budget is the use of \$281,932 of Banked Cap. The Banked Cap is to help support the following costs: \$146,000 for new Chrome books and cases, \$63,515 for full time high school behavioral teacher, and \$72,417 toward the cost of additional required transportation. The implementation of these programs will be completed by the end of the budget year and will not be deferred or incrementally completed over a longer period of time.

Be it further resolved, that the district's general tax requirements to support the proposed 2022-2023 budget, as stipulated by the Hawthorne Board of Education Finance Committee and Hawthorne Borough Municipal Officials, as follows:

|               |                  |
|---------------|------------------|
| General Fund: | \$41,167,645     |
| Debt Service: | <u>1,325,515</u> |
| Total:        | \$42,493,160     |

**F-2. APPROVAL OF WITHDRAWAL FROM CAPITAL RESERVE**

Be it Resolved, that the Hawthorne Board of Education approves the withdrawal of \$200,000 from Capital Reserve to fund \$200,000 for the local share of parking lot repaving projects at the Hawthorne High School and Jefferson Elementary School.

**F-3. APPROVAL OF STATEMENT OF PURPOSE**

Be It Further Resolved, that included in budget line 620, Budgeted Withdrawal from Capital Reserve Excess Costs & Other Capital Projects is \$200,000 for other capital project costs including \$85,000 for the Hawthorne High School repaving project and \$115,000 for the Jefferson Elementary School repaving project. The total cost of these projects is \$200,000 which represents expenditures for construction elements in addition to the facilities efficiency standards determined by the Commissioner as necessary to achieve the core curriculum content standards.

**F-4. Acceptance of the Secretary's and Treasurer's Report for March, 2022 and the Board Secretary certifies that no budgetary line item account has been over expended and that sufficient funds are available to meet the District's financial obligation**

**F-5. Approval to make the necessary transfers for the period March 1, 2022 through March 31, 2022, for the budget year 2021/2022 in compliance with N.J.A.C. 6A:232.11. A list of these transfers is submitted under separate cover and shall be made an integral part of this resolution.**

**F-1-5– Moved by Mr. Clavijo, seconded by Mr. Puluse**

|                |   |                                                                                                                     |
|----------------|---|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Ayes</b>    | - | <b>Mr. Shortway, Mr. Carr, Mr. Puluse, Mr. Reicher, Mr. Clavijo, Ms. Ehretraut, Dr. Morel, Mr. Totaro, Ms. Goff</b> |
| <b>Nays</b>    | - | <b>None</b>                                                                                                         |
| <b>Abstain</b> | - | <b>None</b>                                                                                                         |
| <b>Absent</b>  | - | <b>None</b>                                                                                                         |

**PERSONNEL:**

**Jennifer Ehretraut, Chairperson**

The following resolution is pursuant to the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools.

**ACTION ITEMS:**

**Appointments, Retirements, Terminations, Resignations, Rescissions:**

| Item # | Name          | Action | Position  | Degree /Step | Salary | School | Effective Date | Notice Date or Ending Date | Reason/ Account |
|--------|---------------|--------|-----------|--------------|--------|--------|----------------|----------------------------|-----------------|
| P-1.   | Joseph Chavez | resign | Custodian | n/a          | n/a    | RES    | 4/18/2022      | 4/18/2022                  | Resignation     |

**P-1– Moved by Ms. Ehrentraut, seconded by Mr. Clavijo**

|                |          |                                                                                                                         |
|----------------|----------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Ayes</b>    | <b>-</b> | <b>Mr. Shortway, Mr. Carr, Mr. Puluse, Mr. Reicher, Mr. Clavijo,<br/>Ms. Ehretraut, Dr. Morel, Mr. Totaro, Ms. Goff</b> |
| <b>Nays</b>    | <b>-</b> | <b>None</b>                                                                                                             |
| <b>Abstain</b> | <b>-</b> | <b>None</b>                                                                                                             |
| <b>Absent</b>  | <b>-</b> | <b>None</b>                                                                                                             |

**PUBLIC BE HEARD:** None

**GENERAL COMMENTS AND QUESTIONS FROM THE BOARD RELATED TO SCHOOL DISTRICT:**

- Upcoming Lady Bears Flag Football home game – April 27 at 7:30 p.m.
- Hawthorne Lacross Day
- High school drama production “High School Musical” - April 28-May 1
- Middle school drama production, May 6

**NEW BUSINESS:** None

**OLD BUSINESS:** None

**MOTION TO ADJOURN:**

**At 7:46 p.m. Mr. Carr moved the board adjourn, seconded by Mr. Puluse**

|                |          |                                                                                                                         |
|----------------|----------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Ayes</b>    | <b>-</b> | <b>Mr. Shortway, Mr. Carr, Mr. Puluse, Mr. Reicher, Mr. Clavijo,<br/>Ms. Ehretraut, Dr. Morel, Mr. Totaro, Ms. Goff</b> |
| <b>Nays</b>    | <b>-</b> | <b>None</b>                                                                                                             |
| <b>Abstain</b> | <b>-</b> | <b>None</b>                                                                                                             |
| <b>Absent</b>  | <b>-</b> | <b>None</b>                                                                                                             |

Respectfully submitted,

Cheryl Ambrose  
Board Secretary