

## WORK SESSION MINUTES

A Work Session of the Springfield School District No. 19 Board of Education was held on January 8, 2024.

### **1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER**

Board Chair Light called the Springfield Board of Education Work Session to order at 5:38 p.m.

#### **Attendance**

Board Members in attendance included Board Chair Jonathan Light, Board Vice Chair Kelly Mason, Ken Kohl and Nicole De Graff. Emilio Hernandez was excused.

District staff and community members identified included Superintendent Todd Hamilton, David Collins, Brett Yancey, Dustin Reese, Whitney McKinley, Taylor Madden, Martie Steigleder, Brian Richardson, Jeff Michna, Arthur Ayre, Elaine Doornbos, Hollea Puzio, and John Svoboda.

### **2. REVIEW PROCESS FOR CANDIDATES INTERVIEWS**

Superintendent Hamilton shared that four community members would be selected to fill four vacancies on the Budget Committee. The appointments would be made later in the evening at the regular Board meeting, to begin at 7:00 p.m. A panel interview with all four candidates was held and the questions were provided to the candidates in advance of the meeting.

### **3. INTERVIEW CANDIDATES**

School Board

#### **A. Arthur Ayre** — In Attendance

Currently serving the first year of three on the Springfield Budget Committee. Employed with the State in a budgetary capacity for nine years. Retired.

#### **B. Heather Quaas-Annsa** — Not in Attendance

#### **C. Elaine Doornbos** — In Attendance

Relocated from Chicago where she had been a PTA member and 117 Troop Block Club member of Parliamentarian when her children were young. Had been involved in community and church service. Currently employed as a school bus driver with 4J. Retired.

#### **D. Jeremiah Rupe** — Declined

#### **E. Hollea Puzio** — In Attendance

Mother of five children, three of which are currently enrolled in the Springfield School District. Prior to COVID, served as a PTO School President and a Head Start Policy Council member.

#### **F. John Svoboda** — In Attendance

Local resident for over 50 years, member on the Springfield Budget Committee for 22 years and Thurston High School Mock Trial Teacher for over a decade. Retired.

#### **4. DEBRIEF INTERVIEWS**

Chair Light

Candidates were asked to respond to the following questions and or scenarios:

1. Share an overview of your experiences on a school district and or other committee.
2. Share why you want to serve on the Springfield Public Schools Budget Committee.
3. Describe how you would raise the interest of your friends or coworkers in the school district.
4. How would you ensure your opinion was represented on a committee with differing opinions? If your opinion were not the majority, how would you work with those who disagree, in order to deliver the best budget possible?
5. Describe what you believe to be the biggest budgetary challenge facing Springfield Public Schools.
6. Do you have any questions for the Board?

Various questions directed to the Board, by the Candidates:

- What is the main focus of the Budget Committee?
- Is the Committee having any issues with the Public Employee Retirement System (PERS)?
- How much does the Springfield School District spend per student?
- Moving into the new budget, how is the Voluntary Early Retirement (VER) issue going?

#### **5. ADJOURNMENT**

Chair Light

Having no further business to discuss, Chair Light adjourned the work session at 6:12 p.m.

*(Minutes recorded by Trenay Ryan, Recorder/Transcriptionist LCOG)*