

**NORTHERN LEHIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT  
Special School Board Minutes**

**Slatington, PA  
June 14, 2001**

**PURPOSE** A special meeting of the Northern Lehigh School District Board of School Directors, for the purpose of adopting the 2001-2002 Northern Lehigh School District Budget, was called to order by the President, Mr. Gary S. Fedorcha, at 6:15 p.m., on Thursday, June 14, 2001, in the gymnasium of the Slatington Elementary School.

**ROLL CALL** Members present: Mr. Robert J. Cox, Mr. Bryan C. Dorshimer, Mrs. Jane J. Escott, Mrs. Lori H. Geronikos, Mrs. Sheryl A. Giles, Mr. Mathias J. Green, Jr., Mr. Jason M. Newhard, Mrs. Lynn C. Sechler, Mr. Gary S. Fedorcha (9)

Members absent: None (0)

Non-members present: Dr. Nicholas P. Sham, Sr., Mrs. Lynne B. Fedorcha, Mrs. Karen Nicholas, Mr. Brian Geiger, Mr. Bernard Rockovich, Mrs. Doneta Merkle

**VISITORS** Sharon Minnich, reporter for TheTimes News and Elizabeth Bartolai, reporter for The Morning Call also attended the meeting.

Presentation Adoption of the 2001-2002 Northern Lehigh School District Budget  
Of Business

Motion made by Mrs. Sechler, seconded by Mrs. Geronikos, that the Board of Education adopt the budget of the Northern Lehigh School District for the 2001-2002 fiscal year in the amount of \$18,972,220.00.

1. A 42.8404 mill (or \$ 4.28 per \$100 of assessed valuation) tax on Real Estate for Lehigh County and a 38.6674 mill (or \$3.86 per \$100 of assessed valuation) tax on Real Estate for Northampton County. An increase of 3.2204 mills in Lehigh County after equalization and 4.4274 mills in Northampton County after equalization over 2000-2001.  
(NOTE: Looking at the same millage increase before equalization, there would be a 4.0404 mill increase for Lehigh County and a .1326 decrease in mills for Northampton County).
2. A \$5.00 Resident Per Capita Tax, taxable on 18 year olds and over based on Section 679 of the School Code of 1949. No change from 2000-2001.
3. Taxes under Act 511 with no changes from 2000-2001:
  - a. A 1% Earned Income Tax shared equally with the coterminous municipalities.
  - b. A 1% Realty Transfer Tax shared equally with the coterminous municipalities.
  - c. A \$10.00 Resident Per Capita Tax, taxable on 18 year olds and over.
  - d. A \$10.00 Occupational Privilege Tax.

ROLL CALL: YEA: Mrs. Escott, Mrs. Geronikos, Mrs. Giles, Mrs. Sechler, Mr. Fedorcha (5)  
NAY: Mr. Cox, Mr. Dorshimer, Mr. Green, Mr. Newhard (4)

Motion carried.

Mr. Cox addressed the lack of public interest in the entire process of adopting the 2001-2002 budget.

Mr. Dorshimer also agreed and also addressed his concern that the board could not keep the millage under a 4 mill increase for Lehigh County. He also stated that a 4 mill increase is high for many of our district residents on a fixed income.

Mrs. Geronikos addressed the many unfunded mandates placed on the district which accounts for much of the tax increases that have occurred over the years.

Mr. Green commented on the staff that was hired in the 2001-2002 budget stating that the state did not mandate the district to hire them. Those are decisions that are made within the district.

Mrs. Sechler congratulated the administration on the fine work and difficult decisions that had to be made with the 2001-2002 budget.

**ADJOURN-  
MENT**

Motion made by Mrs. Geronikos, seconded by Mrs. Escott that the special meeting of the Northern Lehigh Board of School Directors be adjourned at 6:30 p.m.

YEA: Mrs. Escott, Mrs. Geronikos, Mrs. Giles, Mrs. Sechler, Mr. Fedorcha  
Mr. Cox, Mr. Dorshimer, Mr. Green, Mr. Newhard (9)  
NAY: None (0)

Respectfully submitted,

Lori H. Geronikos  
Secretary

ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_ President  
Gary S. Fedorcha