

Freeburg Elementary School  
Monday, November 27, 2023  
6:30 p.m.

A special meeting of the Board of Education for Freeburg Community Consolidated School District No. 70 was held on Monday, November 27, 2023 at 6:30 p.m. in the Freeburg Elementary School District #70 Superintendent's Office.

### **Call to Order**

Mrs. Foppe called the meeting to order and asked for a roll call of the members.

### **Roll Call**

In addition to Ms. Foppe, board members Jamie Smith, Ed Scheibel, Jayson Baker (6:32), Amber Trout, David Stein, and Bill May. Also in attendance were Dr. Melanie Brink, Superintendent and Mark Janssen, Financial Officer and Recording Secretary.

### **Visitors**

There were no visitors.

### **Public Participation**

There were no public comments.

Mr. Janssen presented his recommendation for the tax levy to be approved next month. The district has a few unique factors impacting our levy this year the Board needs to consider. Those factors include:

1. The annual change in EAV is expected to increase by approximately 2.0%.
2. The multipliers are expected to be high once again. Freeburg Township's multiplier will be 5.54% (last year 6.06%), Smithton's 8.21% (last year 5.85%), New Athens's 9.03% (last year 5.14%), Fayetteville's 16.95% (last year 5.21%), and Belleville's 10.66% (last year 7.86%). A complete listing can be found in the addenda.

When accounting for these factors, EAV is expected to increase by about \$20M, or 10%. There is still a possibility of some fluctuations. An example would be exemption applications received right up to March, when they equalize all property.

Mr. Janssen's recommendation is to project a 10.0% increase in EAV. This will enable the district to capture all available dollars. He reminded the Board these factors are beyond our control. The only factor the district can control is the tax rate, which he is recommending a decrease. He feels the district needs to capture all available dollars because the district cannot go back and recapture them. And costs are going up, as everyone can attest to. This projection means the district will need to have a Truth in Taxation hearing at next month's meeting.

After a brief discussion, the Board decided to forecast a 10.0% growth in EAV. The Board felt this forecast enables the district to capture all available local dollars.

**Adjournment**

Moved: Ed Scheibel

Seconded: Jamie Smith

There being no further business to come before this body, **A MOTION WAS MADE TO ADJOURN THE MEETING AT 6:42 P.M.**

Upon a voice vote, Motion Carried, 7-aye, 0-nay.

Michelle Foppe, President  
Board of Education, Dist. #70

Jamie Smith, Secretary  
Board of Education, Dist. # 70