

**SHELTER ISLAND UNION FREE SCHOOL DISTRICT
BOARD OF EDUCATION**

**PUBLIC BUDGET
HEARING/
SPECIAL MEETING
May 10, 2010**

Members Present: Rebecca Mundy, Thomas Graffagnino, Mark Kanarvogel, Linda Eklund

Members Absent: Kenneth Lewis, Jr.; Kathleen Reilly; Stephen Gessner; Gina Giambruno, Student Liaison

Others Present: Sharon Clifford, Superintendent; Donna Guiffre, Assistant Superintendent; District Clerk, Deborah Vecchio; Sam Schneider, School District Business Leader; Ted Hills, The Shelter Island Reporter, 1 staff/faculty/students; 1 community member

The meeting was called to order at 6:06 p.m. by President Mundy, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance. Call To Order

Presentation - Presentation

Mr. Sam Schneider welcomed everyone in attendance and presented the agenda topics, which include the proposed budget highlights and overview, estimated tax levy, estimated tax rate, Property Tax Report Card, contingency budget, and the Capital Reserve Proposition. Mr. Schneider stated that the proposed 2010-2011 Budget is \$9,547,979, which is a .18% budget to budget increase from 2009-2010 and that the administration and Board of Education did a top to bottom examination of all expenditures. This also includes a multiple-year contract with Sunrise Busses, Inc., in the amount of \$73,200. The total four year (2010-2014) price is \$292,800. This allows the district to combine bus runs. After the whole budget process was completed, the last step was to take a look at possible areas of savings. Areas of savings include a special education contingency, a charter school contingency, additional tablets, extra-curricular items, an auditorium door, a reduction of the Assistant Superintendent, TAN Interest, and new copiers. The total savings is \$248,348.

A chart was presented by Mr. Schneider showing the estimated tax levy, estimated tax rate, estimated revenues, and the Property Tax Report Card. The tax levy proposed for the 2010-2011 budget is -0.79%. The estimated revenues proposed for the 2010-2011 budget is \$945,835, and the tax rate is estimated to be \$2.82.

Mr. Schneider discussed the contingency budget. The 2010-2011 contingency budget, as per the formula, is \$9,562,660, which is higher than the 2010-2011 proposed budget. Mr. Schneider explained that a contingency budget cannot be higher than a failed budget. If the budget failed and the district were to go to contingency, the proposed budget would be used less the non-contingent items. The Capital Reserve Proposition was discussed. The district is asking voters to authorize the Board of Education to expend out of the previously established construction Capital Reserve Fund for the purpose of playground renovations at the school. The amount of the playground budget is \$135,800. This would not constitute an additional cost to the taxpayer.

Presentation
(con't)

Mr. Sam Schneider stated that all the budget meeting presentations can be found on the school website, and if anyone has any questions regarding the vote, to call the District Clerk.

Visitor's Questions -

Visitor's Questions

A. Ms. Nell Lowell asked the Board numerous questions regarding the current playground and the new playground. She is concerned about the change and wanted to know if the Board considered keeping the existing playground and whether or not it can be fixed. She also wanted to know if more can be added to the existing playground, if the existing playground can be moved to Fiske Field, if kids can be on the playground committee, and will all ages be allowed on the new playground. Ms. Lowell also asked the Board if the Capital Reserve Proposition does not pass, what will happen to the playground. The Board stated that the existing playground cannot be moved to Fiske Field because of the set-up of the field. Also, the Board stated that there were kids who saw the plans for the new playground, and they did express their feelings to the committee. Ms. Rebecca Mundy stated the wood is not fixable on the current playground, and the Board wants it to be safe. The committee has had numerous meetings and determined that the new playground was the best value for the money they wanted to spend. If the Capital Reserve does not pass, the Board stated that they will have to do some investigating.

Ms. Rebecca Mundy thanked the Business Office and the administration. If anyone has any questions, they should give the business office a call.

A motion was made by Linda Eklund, seconded by Mark Kanarvogel, BE IT RESOLVED THAT: The Board of Education voted to go into an executive session at 6:24 p.m. to discuss a specific personnel matter.

Executive Session

Motion carried unanimously

A motion was made by Thomas Graffagnino, seconded by Mark Kanarvogel, BE IT RESOLVED THAT: The Board of Education hereby adjourns executive session at 6:58 p.m.

Adjournment

Motion carried unanimously

A motion was made by Thomas Graffagnino, seconded by Linda Eklund, to adjourn the meeting.

Motion carried unanimously

The meeting adjourned at 7:02 p.m.

Deborah Vecchio
District Clerk

The next meeting of the Board of Education of the Shelter Island Union Free School District is Monday, June 14, 2010 at 7:00 p.m.