

Freeburg Elementary School
Monday, November 25, 2024
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 25, 2024 at 6:30 p.m. in the Freeburg Elementary School District #70 Cafeteria.

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, Amber Trout, and Bill May. Board member David Stein was absent. Also in attendance were Dr. Melanie Brink, Superintendent and Mark Janssen, Financial Officer and Recording Secretary.

Visitors

Visitors included Ben Mueth and Erin Shook.

Public Participation

No one addressed the Board.

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 3.5%.
2. The multipliers are expected to decrease. To illustrate:
 1. Freeburg - Decrease to 2.43% from 5.54% LY
 1. Smithton - Decrease to 6.72% from 8.21% LY
 1. Belleville - Decrease to 1.39% from 10.66 %LY
 1. New Athens - Decrease 0.63% from 9.03% LY

When accounting for these factors, EAV is expected to increase by about \$17M, or 8%. However, some fluctuations are still possible. An example would be exemption applications received up until March, when they equalize all property.

Mark's recommendation is to project an 8% increase in EAV. This will enable us to capture all available dollars. While taxpayers will most likely recoil at this, remember these are factors beyond our control. The only factor we can control is our tax rate, which Mark recommends a

decrease. We need to capture all available dollars because if we don't, we cannot go back and recapture them. And costs are going up, as we all know. This projection means we'll need a Truth in Taxation hearing at next month's meeting.

After a brief discussion, the Board decided to forecast a 8.0% growth in EAV. The Board felt this forecast enables the district to capture all available local dollars.

Adjournment

Moved: Bill May

Seconded: Jayson Baker

There being no further business to come before this body, **A MOTION WAS MADE TO ADJOURN THE MEETING AT 6:34 P.M.**

Upon a voice vote, Motion Carried, 6-aye, 0-nay.

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

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