FERNDALE AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT
Special Board Meeting Minutes
Board Room
June 6, 2019

I. A Special Board Meeting of the Ferndale Area School Board was held on June 6, 2019 in the Board Room of the Elementary School, 100 Dartmouth Avenue, Johnstown, Pennsylvania for the Specific Purpose of General Business. The Meeting was called to order by Mrs. Boyle at 5:00 p.m.

II. Pledge of Allegiance

III. Moment of Contemplation

Notice is given that the Meeting of the Ferndale Area School Board to be conducted in this room will be tape recorded and entry constitutes consent to the taping of any individual who comments. Please turn off or silence all electronic devices and refrain from use during the meeting.

Policy No. 903 Public Participation in Board Meetings is posted on the bulletin board in the Board Room.

IV. Roll Call: Present: Susan Boyle, Melissa Garman, Jason Moschgat, Stephen Thompson, and Patricia Wilson. Absent: Sandra Chobany, Joshua Hyland, James McKendree, and Richard Pavic.

Others in attendance were Carole Kakabar, David Gates, Administrators; Michael Molchan, Amy Schmidt, Michelle Sendek, FAEA; Susan Sheesley, PSEA Retired; David Gates, Recording Secretary.

V. Hearing of Citizens/Ferndale Area Education Association

VI. Committees Agenda

1. Board

None.

2. Buildings and Grounds

None.

3. Cafeteria

None.

4. Education

None.

5. Finance

F-40-06/19 Mr. Moschgat made a motion, seconded by Mr. Thompson, to approve the 2019-2020 school year proposed Final Budget as presented, using the District's Fund Balance and a property tax increase of 3 mills (complies with state index), (to 87 mills) to balance the budget. The estimated remaining Fund Balance at June 30, 2020, $500,020, shall be classified as Unreserved/Designated to pay for future pension obligations and health care increases. The Final Budget proposed $12,972,042 in Expenditures and $11,372,062 in Revenues. Record vote for the motion: Boyle, Moschgat, Thompson, and Wilson. Against the motion: Garman. Abstained: None. Absent: Chobany, Hyland, McKendree, and Pavic. The motion carried.

Mr. Thompson made a motion, seconded by Mr. Moschgat, to approve F-41-06/19 and F-42-06.19.

F-41-06/19 Approve the following Resolution:

RESOLVED, by the Board of School Directors of the Ferndale Area School District, that homestead and farmstead exclusion real estate tax assessment reductions are authorized for the school year beginning July 1, 2019, under the provisions of the Homestead Property Exclusion Program Act (part of Act 50 of 1998) and the Taxpayer Relief Act (Act 1 of 2006), as follows:

1. Aggregate amount available for homestead and farmstead real estate tax reduction. The following amount is available for homestead and farmstead real estate tax reduction:

    a. Gambling tax funds. The Pennsylvania Department of Education (PDE) has notified the School District that PDE will pay to the School District during the school year pursuant to Act 1, 53 P.S. 6926.505(b), as a property tax reduction allocation funded by gambling tax funds, the amount of $303,398.99.

2. Homestead/farmstead numbers. Pursuant to Act 50, 54 Pa. C.S. 8584(1), and Act 1, 53 P.S. 6926.341(g)(3), the County has provided the School District with a certified report listing approved homesteads and approved farmsteads as follows:

a. Homestead property number. The number of approved homesteads within the School District is 1,302.
b Farmstead property number. The number of approved farmsteads within the School District is 2.
c. Total homestead/farmstead equals 1,304.

3. Real estate tax reduction calculation. The homestead exclusion amount and farmstead exclusion amount shall be equal. Dividing the paragraph 1(a) amount available during the school year for real estate tax reduction of $303,398.99 by the paragraph 29(c) aggregate number of approved homesteads and approved farmsteads of 1,304, the maximum real estate tax reduction amount applicable to each approved homestead/farmstead.

4. Homestead exclusion calculation. Dividing the paragraph 3 maximum real estate tax reduction amount of $232.67 by the School District real estate tax rate of 87 mills (.087), the maximum real estate assessed value reduction to be reflected on tax notices as a homestead exclusion for each approved homestead is $2,674.34, and the maximum real estate assessed value reduction to be reflected on tax notices as a farmstead exclusion for each approved farmstead is $2,674.34.

5. Homestead/farmstead exclusion authorization July 1 tax bills. The tax notice issued to the owner of each approved homestead within the School District shall reflect a homestead exclusion real estate assessed value reduction equal to the lesser of: (a) the County established assessed value of the homestead, or (b) the paragraph 4 maximum real estate assessed value reduction of $2,674.34. The tax notice issued to the owner of each approved farmstead within the School District shall reflect an additional farmstead exclusion real estate assessed value reduction equal to the lesser of: (a) the County established assessed value of the farmstead, or (b) the paragraph 4 maximum real estate assessed value reduction of $2,674.34. For purposes of this Resolution, "Approved homestead" and "approved farmstead" shall mean homesteads and farmsteads listed in the report referred to in paragraph 2 above and received by the School District from the County Assessment Office on or before May 1 pursuant to Act 1, 53 P.S. 6926.341(g)(3), based on homestead/ farmstead applications filed with the County Assessment Office on or before March 1. This paragraph 5 will apply to tax notices issued based on the initial tax duplicate used in issuing initial real estate tax notices for the school year, which will be issued on or promptly after July 1, and will not apply to interim real estate tax bills.

F-42-06/19

Approve the following Resolution:

WHEREAS, Ferndale Area School District is a school district of the third class, and is existing under and governed by the Public School Code of 1949, as amended; and

WHEREAS, Ferndale Area School District has this date duly enacted a budget for the School Fiscal Year 2019-20; and

WHEREAS, Ferndale Area School District, to provide the necessary revenues for the operation of the School District, has deemed it necessary to levy certain taxes;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Ferndale Area School District, and it is hereby resolved by the authority of the same, that pursuant to the authority granted to school districts in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania by Act of Assembly, approved December 13, 1956, Act 511, known as the "Local Tax Enabling Act", the following taxes shall continue in full force and effect, and remain due and payable for the School Fiscal Year 2019-20, and the resolutions for like taxes for prior years, specifically including but not limited to the amendment thereof made by the taxing resolution dated June 30, 1981, are hereby enacted:

(a) 1% earned income tax;
(b) $5.00 per capita tax; and
(c) real estate transfer taxes.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that pursuant to the authority granted to school districts in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania by Act of Assembly approved March 10, 1948, P.L. 30, Article VI, Section 679, as amended, a per capita tax in the amount of $5.00 is imposed upon all persons residing in said district over the age of eighteen (18) during the School Fiscal Year beginning July 1, 2016, and the Resolution of June 26, 1974, as amended by taxing resolution of June 30, 1981, imposing a like tax is hereby re-enacted for the School Fiscal Year 2019-20.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that all taxpayers who made payment of the aforesaid $5.00 per capita tax enacted pursuant to the authority of the Act of March 10, 1948, P.L. 30, Article VI, Section 679 as amended, and the aforesaid real estate taxes within two (2) months after the date of the tax notice shall receive a discount of 2% of the face amount thereof. All taxpayers who fail to made payment of such taxes shall, in addition to interest otherwise provided by law, be subject to, and required to pay, a penalty in the amount of 10% of the face amount of the tax due, which penalty shall be added to the taxes due and be collected by the Tax

Collector, and further, shall be in addition to interest and other charges due thereon which are assessed pursuant to applicable law.

Record vote for the motion: Boyle, Garman, Moschgat, Thompson, and Wilson. Against the motion: None. Abstained: None. Absent: Chobany, Hyland, McKendree, and Pavic. The motion carried.

F-43-06/19 Mr. Moschgat made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Wilson, to approve the following Resolution:

WHEREAS, Ferndale Area School District is a school district of the third class, and is existing under and governed by the Public School Code of 1949, as amended; and

WHEREAS, Ferndale Area School District has this date duly enacted a budget for the School Fiscal Year 2019-20; and

WHEREAS, Ferndale Area School District, to provide the necessary revenues for the operation of the School District, has deemed it necessary to levy certain taxes;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Ferndale Area School District, as provided by law, does hereby fix the rate of taxation for the School Fiscal Year 2019-20, for the purpose of the real estate taxes levied by said District, at 87.0 mills, which tax rate is eight dollars and seventy cents, ($8.70) on each $100.00 of assessed valuation of taxable real property.

Record vote for the motion: Boyle, Moschgat, Thompson, and Wilson. Against the motion: Garman. Abstained: None. Absent: Chobany, Hyland, McKendree, and Pavic. The motion carried.

6. Personnel

None.

7. Student Activities

None.

8. Workshops/ Conferences

None.

VII. Adjournment

Mr. Thompson made a motion, seconded by Mr. Moschgat, to adjourn the meeting at 5:17 p.m. All were in favor.