

D. C. EVEREST AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT
6300 Alderson Street, Schofield, Wisconsin 54476

Budget Hearing/
60th Annual Meeting

October 27, 2009

6:30 p.m.

MINUTES

Budget Hearing

Call to Order - Roll Call:

Board President Valerie Palarski called the Budget Hearing to order at 6:30 p.m. Board members present were: Mary Hancock, Jason Jablonski, Rita Kasten, Valerie Palarski, Larry Schaefer, Diane Stroik, and Andrew Sutton. Also present were Superintendent Kristine Gilmore, Assistant Superintendent, Business/Personnel Services Thomas Owens, Attorney Ron Rutlin, Parliamentarian, Ruder Ware, and approximately 107 citizens.

Pledge to the Flag:

Those present joined in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

Announce the Purpose of the Budget Hearing: State Statute, Sec. 65.90(4):

Clerk Rita Kasten, in accordance with State Statute 65.90(4), announced the budget hearing would be held prior to the annual meeting for the purpose of informing the citizens of the proposed budget for the 2009-10 school year.

Opening Remarks –Valerie Palarski, President:

Palarski welcomed and thanked those present for coming. She explained the process of the Budget Hearing and the Annual Meeting. Palarski talked about the process used to reach the conclusions to be voted on and thanked those involved in the process. The results continue the fiscal responsibility and excellent educational programs the district is known for.

Palarski said the district will continue to look at how it functions and avenues available to serve students and that the board wants to hear what citizens have to say.

Palarski introduced Superintendent Gilmore.

Review the Proposed 2009-10 Budget

Dr. Gilmore said the annual meeting is important and it is good to see so many attend. She explained that budget process began in November 2008, but in June things changed. The \$1 million shortfall expected in June changed to \$2.5 million in July. The equalized value shortfall added to the cut process. Budgeting is a balancing act between what is good for children's education and what is good for the community. The board looked closely and, together with administrators and staff, arrived at these cuts, which effected everyone in the district and changed some opportunities for students. She asked citizens to support the recommended levy.

Dr. Owens reviewed the budget and the levy, explaining the purposes of the various funds. He also reviewed revenues and expenditures. The 2009-10 proposed budget amounts to \$77,193,682. The levy of \$20,810,265 is the same mill rate as 2008-09 and the equalized value growth is just over \$2.18 billion - .18% over last year. The levy rate is \$9.52, the same as 2008-09, a 0% increase. He also pointed out the tax-rate history from 1991-92 until today. Equalized value is now in excess of \$2.1 billion. The growth this year has dropped off as it has throughout the state.

Following the review, Palarski opened the meeting to questions and comments. The following citizens had questions and/or comments concerning the budget and levy rate. Janette Bauman, 6207 Danielle Drive, Weston, commented on budget cuts which directly effect students and opportunities and asked the board to look at the letter from the Mountain Bay PTO.

Adjourn the Budget Hearing:

There being no further questions, President Palarski declared the meeting adjourned at 7:01 p.m.

60th Annual Meeting:

Call to order:

The 60th Annual Meeting was called to order by President Palarski immediately following the Budget Hearing at 7:01 p.m.

Board members present were: Mary Hancock, Jason Jablonski, Rita Kasten, Valerie Palarski, Larry Schaefer, Diane Stroik, and Andrew Sutton. Also present were Superintendent Kristine Gilmore, Assistant

Superintendent, Business/Personnel Services Thomas Owens, Attorney Ronald Rutlin, Parliamentarian, Ruder Ware, and approximately 107 citizens of the district.

Reading of Official Notice:

Board Clerk Rita Kasten read the official notice of the meeting, which had been published in accordance with state statutes.

Robert's Rules of Order:

President Palarski announced that "Robert's Rules of Order" would be followed and Ron Rutlin, Ruder Ware, was present as parliamentarian.

Elect Temporary Meeting Chairperson:

Lois Alt, 2311 Summit, Schofield, second by Andy Sutton, board member, nominated Valerie Palarski as temporary chairperson. There were no other nominations. Ms. Palarski was elected by voice vote.

Reading of the Minutes of the 59th Annual Meeting:

Motion by Steven Pophal, 4202 Oak Terrace, second by Lois Alt, to dispense with the reading of the minutes of the 59th Annual Meeting. Motion carried on a voice vote.

Treasurer's Report for 2008-09:

Palarski introduced Andy Sutton to give the treasurer's report. Sutton indicated the treasurer's report starts on page 45 of the annual budget report and includes the actual audited expenditures and revenues of the 2008-09 budget.

Motion by Chris Welsh, 4509 Twin Pines Lane, second by Penny Antell, N3982 Hidden Valley Road, to approve the treasurer's report. Motion carried on a voice vote.

Old Business

There was no old business carried forward from last year.

Regular Business:

A. Provide for Free Textbooks for 2009-10

Motion by Lois Alt, second by Cynthia Diesen, 1804 Highland Avenue, to provide free textbooks for the 2009-10 school year. Motion carried with a voice vote.

B. Set School Board Salaries for 2009-10

Motion by Michael Alt, 2311 Summit Avenue, second by Chris Welsh, to set the school board members' salaries for 2009-10 at \$1,700. With a voice vote, motion carried.

C. Provide for Reimbursement of School Board expenses as per Policy #8230-Remuneration and Reimbursement

Motion by Steven Pophal, second by Barbara Lawrence, 9105 Sorrel Lane, to provide reimbursement of school board members' expenses for 2009-10 as per board policy #8230. With a voice vote, motion carried.

D. Set 2009-10 Tax Levy

Motion by Gretchen Lorge, 2102 Highland Drive, second by Mark Strehlow, R5740 Sattler Lane, to increase the tax levy \$1.25 per \$1000 of value to return the \$2.5 million the levy.

Aaron Nelson, district supervisor of administrative services, 5403 Winding Creek Drive, commented the district does not have revenue limit authority to go up to \$2.5 million. The limit authority is to go to \$2.1 million.

Lorge amended motion to set the levy at \$2,070,880, the maximum amount allowed, with a second by Strehlow.

Citizens commenting on the motion and amendment were Angela Bockhop, 408 Becker Street; Michael Alt, 2311 Summit Avenue; John Vanderwyst, 3202 Foxtail Court; board members Palarski, Schaefer and Sutton; and administrators Gilmore and Owens.

Michael Alt called the question, second by Scott Thompson, 5903 Mary Lane, Weston. Amendment failed 58 to 15.

More comments on the original motion were made by:

Sue Benes, South 32nd Street; Linda Staff, 928 Pine Street; Joan Radke, Sandhill Drive; Amy Adamus, 3305 Portage Street; Carlton Meinhardt, 203 Cathy Drive; Dave Miller, 7705 Callon Avenue; Polly DuVair, 5409 Alex Street; board members Palarski and Stroik; and administrators Gilmore and Owens.

With a show of hands, motion was defeated 45 to 30.

Motion by Scott Thompson, 5903 Mary Lane, second by Karl Marquardt, 6810 Alta Verde Street, to set the 2009-10 tax levy of \$20,810,265 as recommended by the School Board. With a vote by ballot, there were 58 no votes and 40 yes votes. Motion defeated.

Motion by Linda Staff, second by Michael Alt, to set the 2009-10 levy at \$21,810,055. With a ballot vote, there were 77 yes votes and 22 no votes. Motion carried.

E. Authorize Sale of Property Not Needed by the School District

The Chairperson clarified that "property" refers to District property such as desks and/or chairs and obsolete textbooks and not to real estate. Motion by Patricia Les Strong, R20550 Thumper Drive, second by Penny Antell, to authorize the sale of property not needed by the district. With a show of hands, motion carried.

F. Set Time of the 2010 Annual Meeting

Motion by Barb Lawrence, second by Tony Pickar, 231 Greenwood Drive, to authorize the school board to set the time and date of the 2010 meeting pursuant to state statute 120.08(1)(a). With a voice vote, motion carried.

Other Business:

There was no other business.

Adjournment:

President Palarski declared the meeting adjourned at 8:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

Rita A. Kasten, Clerk

Elizabeth M. Schultz, Secretary to the Board

Please note: These are not the official minutes of the Board of Education until approved at the November 24, 2009, board meeting.