

MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION
Independent School District No. 820
Sebeka, MN 56477
Truth in Taxation Meeting and Regular Meeting
Monday, December 14, 2020

The Truth in Taxation meeting for the 2020-Payable-2021 tax levy was called to order at 6:00 p.m. The following members were in attendance: Nate Erickson, Kayla Frame, Charles Funk, Rodney Huttunen, Russell Johnson, Eric Nelson, and JoAnn Olson. Also present were Superintendent Dave Fjeldheim, Principal Amie Westberg, Business Manager Holly Paulson, staff members Cathy Baumgart and Dave Kerkvliet; and Review Messenger Reporter Roy Rudderforth.

Nelson moved, Funk seconded to approve the agenda as presented for the Truth in Taxation meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

Superintendent Fjeldheim reviewed information on the District's budget, general background information on the school district's property taxes and the tax levy was presented. It was noted that the total levy for the 2020-Payable-2021 increased by approximately 3% which included the building bond. (2020-Payable 2021 Levy Limitation is \$492,815.50 and the 2019-2020 levy limitation was \$490,037.36). When adding in the Debt Service Fund for LTFM of \$44,966.28 and the bond referendum of \$864,348.97, the total levy for 2020-Payable-2021 is \$1,402,131.06. Consensus of the board is to maximize the school levy of \$490,037.36 plus the bond referendum levy of \$864,348.97 and LTFM of \$44,966.28 for a total levy of \$1,402,131.06.

Olson moved, Nelson seconded to adjourn the Truth in Taxation meeting at 6:33 p.m. Motion carried unanimously.

The regular school board meeting was called to order at 6:34 p.m. The following members were in attendance: Nate Erickson, Kayla Frame, Charles Funk, Rodney Huttunen, Russell Johnson, Eric Nelson, and JoAnn Olson. Also present were Superintendent Dave Fjeldheim, Principal Amie Westberg, Business Manager Holly Paulson, staff members Cathy Baumgart and Dave Kerkvliet; and Review Messenger Reporter Roy Rudderforth.

Nelson moved, Erickson seconded to approve the agenda for the regular meeting as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

Principal Westberg noted that the Student Council planned a "Who's That Baby" with staff members submitting baby pictures; Ugly sweater day planned for Monday, December 21st and planning activities for December 23rd.

Business Manager Holly Paulson reviewed rebates received from Sourcewell (\$1,287.55), and Minnesota Power (\$23,032.96) and updated information on the Cares Act Funding noting that an additional \$6,030 was received from Wadena County; final levy has been received from MDE and will be submitted to MDE and county auditors after board approval; revised the Title I budget and working on budget revisions.

Mr. Lillquist's Activities Director report included information regarding three possible start times for the winter season noting all sports would start on the same day start days would either be December 21st, January 4th or January 18th. He also noted that most seasons would be completed by the last week of March or the first week of April, that teams would be allowed two events per week until the last two weeks of the season and then they could play three times per week, and the current plan is to have some kind of state tournament; and spring sports would have their full amount of contests and the last tournament date would be June 15th.

Principal Westberg reported on midterms mailed on December 10th; students and staff are enjoying December Fun Where there are different dress-up days for the month; breakout activities have been planned for students to attend on December 23rd; and reviewed the new CDC guidelines with the school nurse and decided to stay with the current plan unless the Decision Tree is adjusted.

Superintendent Fjeldheim reported on the December forecast of the State budget and reviewed the PMA Bond Portfolio report that is received monthly, and the MREA ballot for the 2021 Board of Directors. He also reported on Legislative Day that was held virtually on December 9th for area superintendents and school board members, Compensatory Revenue review based on reduced applications and those who qualify, MDH and CDC guidelines, and a letter from area Activities Directors in our conference to MSHSL in regards to keeping Junior High athletics this winter. He informed the school board that the Food Service department had a positive case and entire staff was out from November 30th through December 9th and thanked Pat Drury, paras Andrea Amundson, Trudy Kreklau, and custodian Lisa Wanderi for stepping in to help out during this time and the Custodial and Transportation departments are full staffed and running smoothly.

Under Discussion Items, Superintendent Fjeldheim noted that since November 16th, the 6th-12th grade students have been in the distance learning model and in the past couple of weeks we have been bringing in students who are falling behind in the secondary along with students who are working on projects in Ag and Industrial Tech. He noted that 6th grade returned to in-person on Monday, December 14th and will be bringing back 7th-12th grade students on January 4th unless the state and our regional support team dictates differently. There will be additional information relayed from the Governor and MDE on Wednesday, December 16th. He also asked for confirmation on who would like to attend the virtual meetings and informed Board members that registration is still necessary to participate and noted that he had completed the requirement for 2019-2020 World's Best Workforce Summary and Achievement and Integration Progress Report and provided a public report of the goals established for the five areas of the World's Best Workforce: 1) all students ready for kindergarten; 2) all students in third grade achieving grade-level literacy; 3) progress toward closing the achievement gap between free and reduced and non-free and reduced; 4) all students attaining career and college readiness before graduating from high school; and 5) all students graduating from high school. The 1st goal and the fifth goal were achieved and goals 2, 3, 4 could not be achieved because the indicator used is the MCA tests and we did not take these assessments last spring so we did not have data to determine our school district's results.

Funk moved, Johnson seconded to approve the following consent agenda items: the November 12th regular meeting minutes; Treasurer and Investment report for December; Monthly bills at \$666,703.71; assignment of Michelle Koch as UNC Speech Advisor; and December enrollment at 445 students K-12. Motion carried unanimously.

Nelson moved, Frame seconded to approve the second reading of the 2020-2021 EMS-ESP Seniority list as presented noting that there were no changes from the original list presented the previous month. Motion carried unanimously.

Johnson moved, Erickson seconded to approve the 2020-Payable-2021 tax levy at \$1,402,131.06 and noted that the total levy for the 2020-Payable-2021 increased by approximately 3% which included the building bond. (2020-Payable 2021 Levy Limitation is \$492,815.50 and the 2019-2020 levy limitation was \$490,037.36) and that when adding in the Debt Service Fund for LTFM of \$44,966.28 and the bond referendum of \$864,348.97, the total levy for 2020-Payable-2021 is \$1,402,131.06. Motion carried unanimously.

Funk moved, Nelson seconded to approve the first reading of the 2020-2021 EMS Seniority List as presented noting that the seniority list has been posted in both lounges. Motion carried unanimously.

Funk moved, Nelson seconded to approve a resolution accepting a donation of \$100 from Crystal Hammack in memory of Emmi Vernon and noted that this donation was designated for the lunch program to someone not able to pay for their account. The following members voted in favor: Erickson, Frame, Funk, Huttunen, Johnson, Nelson and Olson; against: none; therefore the resolution was duly adopted.

Nelson moved, Olson seconded to approve the resolution establishing a combined polling place in case of a special election noting that this is a yearly resolution that has to be approved by the school board and the combined polling places have to be the same as designated by the city or county. The combined polling places for a special election for Sebeka School not held on the same day as a general election would be the Sebeka Fire Hall and Nimrod Community Hall. The following members voted in favor: Erickson, Frame, Funk, Huttunen, Johnson, Nelson and Olson; against: none; therefore the resolution was duly adopted.

Nelson moved, Olson seconded to approve an early dismissal of 12:30 p.m. on Wednesday, December 23rd for students and staff for the Christmas break. Motion carried unanimously.

Johnson moved, Nelson seconded to adjourn the regular meeting at 7:30 p.m. Motion carried unanimously.

JoAnn Olson
Clerk of Sebeka School District