

Minutes of the Budget Hearing of the Board of Education, Island Trees Union Free School District, Town of Hempstead, County of Nassau, Levittown, New York. The meeting was held at the Geneva N. Gallow School, 74 Farmedge Road, Levittown, New York, on Tuesday, May 1, 2007.

The meeting was called to order by the President of the Board of Education, Mr. Peter Ray, at 8:01 PM.

PRESENT: Mr. Peter Ray, President
Mr. Kenneth Rochon, Vice President
Mr. Carl Bonsignore
Mr. Joseph Buda
Ms. Patricia Mahon

ABSENT: Mr. Robert Condela
Mrs. Christine Holt

Also Present: Mr. James Parla, Superintendent of Schools; Mr. Salvatore Carambia, Assistant Superintendent for Finance & Administration; and Mrs. Concetta Carr, District Clerk.

Not Present: Mr. David S. J. Rubin, Chief Legal Officer

Mr. Ray led the pledge of allegiance to the flag.

PLEDGE

Mr. Ray called for a moment of silence for our troops.

BUDGET HEARING

Mr. Parla addressed the audience. He stated that the goal was to put together a budget that was fiscally sound while maintaining our excellent programs for our students. He stressed that the Board of Education worked very hard at keeping taxes down as much as possible while ensuring that the needs of our students are met. The proposed budget increase of expenditures is 4.7%, which will be among the lowest in Nassau County. He also stated that the tax levy to tax levy increase this year is 2.65%, which is among the lowest in Nassau County, and he showed through a PowerPoint presentation that this is the lowest in all of Long Island.

The meeting was then led by Mr. Salvatore Carambia, Assistant Superintendent for Finance & Administration, who presented a section-by-section analysis of the budget. After each section was presented, Mr. Carambia asked the audience if there were any questions.

Q. Is the $\frac{1}{4}$ of 1% change from year to year?

A. It was $\frac{1}{4}\%$ last year and $\frac{1}{4}\%$ this year. This year's comparison was apples to apples. Two years ago it was $\frac{1}{2}$ of 1%.

At this evening's budget hearing, Mr. Carambia had the following information available for public review:

- Proposed 2007-2008 Budget Summary including Expenditures, Revenues, Fund Balance, Tax Levy and 3-Part Budget Comparison Summary.
- District Administrators' Salaries
- Proposed 2007-2008 Budget divided into three components, pursuant to Chapter 436 of the Laws of 1997 – Administrative, Program and Capital. This budget printout will include 2006-2007 Actual Budget, 2007-2008 Proposed Budget, the change in dollar amount and the percentage change. These headings will also be available in the ST-3 format.
- School Report Cards and Property Tax Report Card

These printouts have been available in the Business Office since April 24, and will be available until the budget vote on May 15, 2007.

On motion of Ms. Mahon, and seconded by Mr. Bonsignore, the meeting was adjourned at 8:28 PM.

ADJOURNMENT

Respectfully submitted,

Concetta Carr
District Clerk

Minutes approved _____