

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 4, 2010.

The meeting was called to order by the President of the Board of Education, Mr. Peter Ray, at 8:03 PM.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Mr. Peter Ray, President
Mr. Carl Bonsignore, Vice President
Mr. Robert Condela
Ms. Patricia Mahon
Mrs. Kim McDonough

MEMBERS ABSENT: Mrs. Christine Holt
Mr. Kenneth Rochon

ALSO PRESENT: Dr. Charles J. Murphy, Superintendent of Schools
Dr. Arlene Genden Sage, Assistant Superintendent for Special Ed.
Ms. Susan Hlavenka, Assistant Superintendent for Business
Mrs. Concetta Carr, District Clerk

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Mr. Ray led the pledge of allegiance to the flag followed by a moment of silence.

BUDGET HEARING

Mr. Ray began the meeting by thanking everyone for attending this evening. He then turned the meeting over to Dr. Murphy who gave an overview of the 2010-2011 budget.

Dr. Murphy began by explaining the major obstacles the District faces for the 2010-2011 school year; such as, loss of state aid (\$520,000), increased mandated retirement contributions (\$700,000) system, required increase of employee health contributions (\$250,000), BOCES Karopczyc lease revenue loss (\$192,000), new maintenance/utility costs for Karopczyc building (\$50,000), debt service increase (\$197,000), new MTA tax (\$111,000), new mandated costs for Special Education summer school (\$52,000), increases in contractual obligations (\$1.6 million). The increases requested for next year are: security, \$94,000; maintenance vehicle, \$35,000; new computers, \$10,000; and PSAT testing, \$5,200. He explained that we started with a 9.25% rollover budget. He then went on to explain the cost cutting measures; such as, assistant coaches (11), custodial/maintenance overtime, school utilities, legal services, transportation, custodial/maintenance positions (2), materials and supplies, elementary reorganization, school staff/professionals (20 positions), etc. The Board of Education and administration tried to represent the community and the students.

Dr. Murphy explained how the administrators and custodians opened their contracts and gave back to the district to save two positions.

Dr. Murphy stated that both the Board of Education and the administrators worked hard to put this budget together. The proposed budget to budget increase for 2010-2011 is 1.2%, the proposed tax levy increase is 3.5%, and the total budget is \$57,020,084.

The budget vote and trustee election is on May 18, 2010, at Michael F. Stokes School from 12 Noon to 9 PM.

COMMENTS

FROM VISITORS: The Board heard comments and concerns from members of the audience.

At this evening's budget hearing the following information was available for public review:

- Proposed 2010-2011 Budget in Three Part Format
- District Administrators' Salaries,
- Exemption Report,
- Property Tax Report Card
- District School Report Cards

These printouts have been available in the Business Office since April 27, 2010, and will be available until the budget vote on May 18, 2010.

ADJOURNED: On **Motion** of Mr. Bonsignore, seconded by Ms. Mahon, and unanimously carried (5-0), the meeting adjourned at 8:36 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Concetta Carr
District Clerk

Minutes approved _____