

BIG SPRING SCHOOL DISTRICT

Newville, Pennsylvania

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE OF THE BOARD MEETING MINUTES

MONDAY, MAY 4, 2020

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I. CALL TO ORDER

The Committee of the Whole of the Board of School Directors for the Big Spring School District met through a Virtual Meeting in the Big Spring School District Board Conference Room in the District Administration Office, at 6:55 p.m. with (9) directors present; William Swanson, President; Todd Deihl, Vice President; David Gutshall, Treasurer; William Piper, Secretary; Richard Roush, Alexis Blasco-Hurley, Frank Myers, Robert Over and John Wardle.

Others in attendance: Richard W. Fry, Superintendent; Kevin C. Roberts, Jr., Assistant Superintendent; Richard Kerr, Business Manager; Robert Krepps, Director of Technology; Robyn Euker, Director of Curriculum and Instruction; Cathy Seras, Board Minutes.

II. Presentation:

➤ **Finance Update** - Mr. Richard E. Kerr, Jr., Business

- Mr. Kerr opened the meeting with slides detailing COVID-19 Revenue Loss. Mr. Kerr stated that the figures being shown are projected figures from PASBO. Mr. Kerr shared detailed information on PASBO Local Revenue Loss for BSSD and surrounding school districts. Information was shared on the following:
 - Earned Income Taxes
 - Current Real Estate Taxes, Interim Real Estate Taxes, Real Estate Transfer Taxes and Delinquent Taxes
 - Other Local Revenues such as:
 - a. Investment Earnings
 - b. Average Annual Growth
 - c. Drop in Financial Market Returns
 - Mandated Expenditure Growth:
 - a. Charter School Tuition – average annual growth and rise in Charter School Tuition payments; which is an 8.35% increase. Mr. Myers asked about the Charter School formula. Dr. Fry talked about the tuition rate for a special education student vs. a regular education student.
 - b. Special Education – average annual growth and rise in special education costs.
- Mr. Kerr shared the comparison of assessments for BSSD and surrounding school districts from 2009-2018.
- Mr. Kerr talked about the transportation subsidy and transportation cost and stated that BSSD receives 60% subsidy to assist with transportation cost.
- Mr. Kerr continued with the FY 21 Budget Presentation and shared possible cuts for FY 21.
- Mr. Piper asked about some of the losses and increases shown within the General Fund Expenditures.

- Mr. Kerr stated that the budget will need to be offset this year with Districts reserves; the General Fund and Capital Reserves.
- Mr. Piper requested administration to outline the property line item of -\$197,000; Mr. Kerr defined as follows:
 - a. Technology Equipment Reduction;
 - b. Cut back in the Maintenance Office;
 - c. Vehicle for Special Education Dept. and the DAO to share.
- Mr. Wardle talked about online learning for BSSD. Dr. Fry stated that BSSD does have an online learning for students with CAOLA. BSSD has approximately 29-30 students enrolled yearly.
- The Board of School Directors asked about the Home/School Visitor. Dr. Fry defined BSSD's Home/School Visitors role within the District and community.
- Mr. Kerr explained the FY 21 Expenditures by Function.
- Mr. Kerr continued discussions on the revenue and the projection of loss of local revenue.
- Mr. Piper asked about the Lunch and Breakfast Program monies. He continued with a question regarding the CARES monies from the state. Dr. Fry communicated; BSSD will receive \$368,000, but this may well get supplemented by the state.
- Discussions continued amongst Administration and the Board of School Directors regarding state budget and Act 13.
- Mr. Kerr shared slides on five-year percentage projections listed.
 - 2.0% Increase
 - 2.5% Increase
 - 2.95% Increase
 - 3.2% Increase (Max)
- Mr. Piper asked what the average has been over the years. Dr. Fry stated it has been an average of 3.0%.
- Mr. Kerr shared options for Board approved increases of 0.00%, 1.00%, 1.50%, 2.00%, 2.50%, 3.00% and 3.20%.
- Mr. Kerr showed information on:
 - Approved Increase of Mills
 - Total Mills
 - Tax Levy-Property Tax Relief
 - Collection Rate
 - Collected Value of Mill
 - Mill Increases as Tax Levy
 - Total Increases in Tax Collected
 - Tax on \$100,000 Assessed Property
 - Tax Increase \$100K Assessed Value
 - FY 25 Value of Collected Tax assuming 2% Increase of all other years
- Mr. Kerr shared the FY 2021 Budget Schedule.
- The Board of School Directors and the Administration discussed savings for the District.
- Mr. Kerr shared details with the Board of School Directors on a 0.0% increase for the FY 21.
- Dr. Fry requested direction from the Board of School Directors on what the increase needs to look like for the proposed budget. As review and discussions continued amongst the Administration and the Board of School Directors it was noted to run a 0 % – 3.2%. Dr. Fry reaffirmed to the Board of School Directors that this is just a proposed budget and further discussions will occur before a final decision and approval of the budget is agreed upon.
- Dr. Fry stated that 70% of BSSD's budget is personnel. Discussions continued amongst Board of School Directors and Administration regarding the proposed budget.

III. PREVIEW OF THE AGENDA

President Swanson requested that the Board address XIV. NEW BUSINESS PERSONNEL CONCERNS and combine Items A through C into one motion.

IV. BUILDING & PROPERTY COMMITTEE

No discussion

V. FINANCE COMMITTEE

No discussion

VI. DISTRICT IMPROVEMENT COMMITTEE

No discussion

VII. BOARD POLICY

No discussion

VIII. ITEMS FROM FLOOR

No discussion

IX. ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Deihl, seconded by Wardle to adjourn the meeting.

Roll call vote: Voting Yes: Swanson, Deihl, Piper, Blasco-Hurley, Gutshall, Over, Wardle, Roush and Myers.

Motion carried unanimously. 9-0

The Committee of the Whole meeting adjourned at **8:06 p.m.**

William L. Piper, Secretary