

**Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board of Education
of Hawthorn Community Consolidated District Number 73, Lake County, Illinois
held in the Board Room at 841 West End Court, Vernon Hills, IL 60061
at 7:00 p.m. on the 23rd day of November 2009.**

CALL to ORDER

Tim Shanahan, President, called the Regular Meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. Those present recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL

Theresa Calabrese called the roll, with the following members of the Board of Education answering present: John Sonnenberg, Julie Weiler, Jeff Bard, Tim Shanahan and Theresa Calabrese.

Absent: Lisa Jay and Michelle Comitor

Also in attendance were Dr. Zook, Alan Hahn

PUBLIC COMMENT - There was no community participation.

STAFF PRESENTATIONS

President, Tim Shanahan, announced that the School Board Appreciation Day was last week. He thanked the Board for their hard work.

PRESENTATIONS / Q&A - None scheduled

CONSENT

11/09.32 Approval of Meeting minutes, regular session, 10/26/09

11/09.33 Approval of COW meeting minutes, 11/09/09

11/09.34 Approval of Closed Committee of the Whole minutes, 7/21/09

11/09.35 Expenditure Report for November 2009

11/09.36 Policy PRESS Approval

11/09.37 Approval of the 2010-2011 Budget Calendar

11/09.38 Estimated 2009 Tax Levy

11/09.39 Personnel Report A-C: A-B: Leave of absence for two (2) certificated staff members:

A: Nichole Petersen, 1st grade teacher, EN; B: Michelle Pogachnik, 3rd grade teacher, AS;

C: Retirement of one (1) certificated staff member: Leslie Harris, Kindergarten teacher at ES,
at the end of 2009-2010

John Sonnenberg moved and Theresa Calabrese second the motion that the Board of Education approve the Consent agenda items, as presented.

Jeff Bard requested clarification on the following points:

Policy PRESS

Were all options discussed?

Tim Shanahan explained that all the options contained in the Policy PRESS were discussed. Most of the policies are due to changes in the law.

Estimated 2009 Tax Levy

Background on the tax levy and how was the number arrived at?

Alan Hahn explained that there is a tax cap law in place that limit's the levy that is extended on the property in the District. In the 1980's inflation and tax increases were high, legislation put into effect the Truth in Taxation law. That law required School Boards to notify the public if their tax levy would be over 5% from the previous year. This requirement included a notice to be published in a newspaper and for the Board to hold a public hearing. The law was then extended and a tax cap was put in place that limited the tax levy that is extended. The Board's job is to levy the tax required to operate programs. The levy is then filed with the County where, in most cases, the tax levy is reduced. The current CPI for the 2009 taxes is 0.1%.

A methodology is used to determine how the number is estimated. This year's tax levy is less than 5%, therefore, we are not required to publish a notice or hold a public hearing. The Board must pass a resolution stating that this tax levy, about 2.4%, is an estimate.

How was the new construction estimated?

New construction and new property are added to the tax roles. Alan Hahn stated that the one of the jobs of the assessors is to predict the amount of new construction that will take place. The recommendation is to stay on the conservative side, therefore, the number used for estimating is between 8-10 million.

What is done at the end of the tax extension adjustment?

At the end of the tax extensions an adjustment is made. The County's last step is to look to see if the tax cap has been exceeded. Regardless of what the District asks for in the levy, the County will only allow what the CPI is, which is 0.1%.

How does the levy effect individual homeowner?

The tax levy is used to determine the tax rate for property owners in each of the cities, towns or villages that makes up a school district. The tax levy is the part of the equation the tax extension uses. The homeowners assessed value is also part of the formula that determines the tax rate. Using this, for example, will translate to a tax rate of \$2.91 per \$100 of assessed value.

Expenditure Report

Jeff Bard requested clarification on the IHC expenditure.

Alan Hahn explained that when the District began construction, we utilized IHC Construction Companies attorney who is an expert in legal matters concerning construction. All the legal requirements going back to the 2002 referendum were managed through their attorney.

Tim Shanahan called for a vote,

Roll Call Vote: John Sonnenberg, Julie Weiler, Jeff Bard, Tim Shanahan and Theresa Calabrese
5 ayes, 0 nays. Motion carried.

ACTION

11/09 Approval of settlement with Construction Systems, Inc.

John Sonnenberg moved and Theresa Calabrese second the motion that the Board of Education approve the Construction Systems settlement as presented.

The Board having no discussion, President, Tim Shanahan called for a vote.

Roll Call Vote: John Sonnenberg, Julie Weiler, Jeff Bard, Tim Shanahan and Theresa Calabrese
5 ayes, 0 nays. Motion carried.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

President, Tim Shanahan, told the audience that the Board attended the IASB Joint Conference this past weekend. A presentation will be given by Tim Shanahan at the next Committee of the Whole Meeting on the Delegate Assembly he attended.

SUPERINTENDENTS REPORT

Dr. Zook asked members of the Board to review the information sent out regarding the bid opening for the District Office Roof project. This item will be on the agenda for the December 14th meeting.

COMMITTEE REPORTS - None scheduled

UNFINISHED BUSINESS - None scheduled

NEW BUSINESS - None scheduled

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Jeff Bard stated he attended the Outdoor Ed program with the Middle School South students at Ryerson Woods. This program is very educational for our students. The staff at Ryerson Woods did an excellent job with this program. Julie Weiler attended the Outdoor Ed program with the Middle School North students. Jeff Bard and Julie Weiler encourage parents to volunteer to attend one of the Outdoor Ed programs.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

Theresa Calabrese asked members of the Board if it were still necessary to receive paper copies of the Policy Updates. The updates are on-line at IASB for review. Members of the Board will decide on an individual basis and advise Dr. Zook or Tim Shanahan if a paper copy is wanted in the future.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

2008 Tax Distribution #11
Suspension Report
Hawthorn in the News

ADJOURNMENT

Tim Shanahan requested a motion to adjourn. John Sonnenberg moved and Jeff Bard seconded the motion to adjourn.

Voice Vote: 5 ayes; 0 nays. Motion carried.

The Meeting adjourned at 8:01 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,
Gloria Bentzen

Timothy Shanahan, President

Lisa Jay, Secretary

Date Minutes Approved: _____