

GREATER LATROBE SCHOOL DISTRICT

Finance Committee Meeting Minutes

1/4/2017

In Attendance:

Mrs. Kathryn Elder
Dr. Rhonda Laughlin
Mr. Eric Hauser
Mrs. Judy Swigart
Mr. Dan Watson

Absent:

Mr. Bill Mohler

ITEMS FOR APPROVAL AT THE SCHOOL BOARD MEETING:

Act 1 – Resolution Not to Raise Taxes Above the Index (Deadline – January 26, 2017)

The committee authorized making the recommendation to the full board to approve the Act 1 Resolution stating the district would operate within the index (3.2%). This would result in the following:

- the board would not be required to adopt a preliminary budget
- the board would be required to approve a final budget with a millage increase of no more than 2.53 mils, which would generate an additional \$854,464 in R/E tax revenue
- the board would not be allowed to file for exceptions
- the board would not be able to request a voter referendum to increase taxes by more than the index

June 30, 2016 Audit Approval

The committee was notified that the district audit is completed and that all of the necessary reports have been filed. They were informed that it was a clean audit and that there were no findings of any sort. Our local auditors (Horner, Wible & Terek) will attend the January 10th meeting to provide a brief overview and answer any questions.

Mileage Reimbursement Rate

The committee was informed that the IRS set the new mileage reimbursement rate for the 2017 calendar year at \$.535/mile. This is a decrease of \$.005 (was \$.54) from the 2016 calendar year.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS:

2017-2018 Preliminary Budget Review

The committee reviewed preliminary budget expenditure figures. The following are the areas of significant increase:

- Salaries - \$690,000 (3% increase) – does not take into account ERI
- PSERS - \$821,000 (12% increase) – reflects the change from original increase to 30.62% (inc. of \$356,000) to amended increase to 32.57% (inc. of \$821,000)
- Medical Insurance - \$413,368 – assumes a 5% increase

It was also noted that revenue increases are projected to be flat. More to come...

Tax Collector Compensation

The committee was reminded that the full board must set tax collector compensation levels every four (4) years. The next four (4) year (2018/19-2021/22) collection terms will need to be approved in February. Recommend levels will be provided to committee members at the next meeting.

ERATE Update

Schools are no longer eligible to receive ERATE funding for voice telecommunication services (pots/centrex, local, long distance, modem, cell), therefore the district will not be making any 470/471 filings for these services. A three (3) year agreement was approved last year for Category 1 services (internet), so no 470/471 filing will be required this year for these services either. Robin Pynos is checking to see if we have any Category 2 services (networking upgrades) planned for next year. If so, 470/471 filings may be required. More to come...

General Fund Transfer to Foundation

The committee was notified that the administration will be evaluating how to assist the foundation with offsetting general operating costs.

Early Retirement Incentive

The committee was agreeable to rounding 19.52 years in PSERS as of June 30, 2017 to 20 for eligibility purposes, but was not willing to amend the agreement to include the in-lieu of option currently available to active employees.

2017 Finance Committee Meeting Dates

The committee was offered a copy of the 2017 meeting date calendar.

Other

None

Meeting Adjourned

The meeting adjourned at 11:00 AM.

Executive Session

An executive session was not necessary.

Next Meeting Date

February 1st at 10 A.M. in the Administration Building