

LINWOOD, NEW JERSEY
March 20, 2019

In compliance with the "Open Public Meetings Act" of the State of New Jersey adequate notice of this Special meeting has been provided. On January 7, 2019 written notice of this special meeting was posted in two schools, City Hall, and the Linwood City Library. On that same date written notice was faxed and mailed to The Press and The Current.

The meeting of the Linwood Board of Education was called to order by Mrs. Ziereis, Board President, in the Schiavo Auditorium, Belhaven Middle School, Linwood, New Jersey, **Wednesday, March 20, 2019, 7:05 PM.**

Mrs. Ziereis led all present in a flag salute.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Mr. McLaughlin Mr. Evinski, Mrs. Barrera, Mr. Goldstein, Mrs. DeMorat Mrs. Ziereis, Mrs. Scannell, Mr. Kahn, Mrs. Lowry

MEMBERS ABSENT: None

OTHERS PRESENT: B. Pruitt, Superintendent, T. Weeks, School Business Administrator, S. Tahsin, L. Care, & P Childs Supervisors, D. Lamkin, C. Flanagan, H. Rha, J. Cunniff, A. Buckburg, K. Zaleskiewicz, C. Harrison, K Jacobs, J. Candeloro, H. Derbyshire, C. Meade

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Policy – None

Personnel – None

Curriculum – None.

Negotiations - None

Operations – None

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC – None.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

FOR INFORMATION

Budget Presentation – Mr. Pruitt and Mrs. Weeks reviewed the tentative budget to be submitted to the county office for review and approval for advertising. The recommended budget includes the use of \$620,077 of banked cap, the use of reserves to support projects. The tax rate increase for the general fund is expected to be 6 cents and the net impact between the city paid school debt service and the portion now paid by the district .6 cents for a total increase expected increase of 6.6 cents. Use of banked cap was reviewed in detail including the impact of the future budget. Special Revenue Fund and Debt Service were also highlighted. Loss of state aid under S2 was discussed and the impact on the future budgets.

ACTION REQUIRED

2019-2020 School District Budget Motion made by Mrs. Barrera, seconded by Mr. McLaughlin, to approve the 2019 - 2020 tentative School District budget to be submitted to the county office for approval. The general fund budget is \$14,955,845, Special Revenue Fund Budget is \$206,850, and the Debt Service Fund Budget is \$212,600.

RESOLUTION

BE IT RESOLVED to approve the preliminary school district budget for the FY 2019-2020 School Year for submission to the County office for review as follows:

	Budget	Local Tax Levy
General Fund	\$14,955,845	\$12,336,561
Special Revenue Fund	206,850	
Debt Service Fund	212,600	207,156
Totals	\$15,375,295	\$12,543,717

Regular General Fund Tax Levy-Base Budget

RESOLVED, That there should be raised in Local Tax Levy for General Funds \$12,336,561 and Debt Service Funds \$207,156 for the ensuing FY 2019-2020 School Year.

RESOLVED, That Excess fund balance of \$620,503 and additional fund balance of \$200,000 be appropriated to support the 2019-2020 budget.

RESOLVED, That the 2016-2017 generated Banked Cap of \$620,077 be used to support the 2019-2020 base budget necessary to offset loss of state aid, increased special education costs in the base budget and that said need must be completed by the end of the budget year and cannot be deferred or incrementally completed over a longer period of time.

Capital Reserve Deposits for Excess Costs/Other Cap. Projects

RESOLVED, included in the general fund appropriations is \$1,000 designated for deposit from interest earned on the account into the board of education’s approved Capital Reserve Account for future funding of other capital projects as outlined in the Long Range Facility Plan. This deposit is for excess costs of the stated school facilities project or an "other" capital project and represents expenditures for construction elements or projects that are in addition to the facilities efficiency standards necessary to achieve the New Jersey Student Learning Standards

Capital Reserve Withdrawal – Excess Costs/Other Capital Projects

Included in the general fund Budget is \$183,938 to be withdrawn from the Board of Education’s approved Capital Reserve to fund the cost of the Seaview Elementary School and Belhaven Middle School Security Upgrade Projects and for District Wide Technology Infrastructure projects to include switches and wireless access. The additional Capital Reserve funds are for excess costs or for Other Capital Projects whose total costs are to be established and these funds represent expenditures for construction elements or projects that are in addition to the facilities efficiency standards determined by the Commissioner as necessary to achieve the New Jersey Student Learning Standards

Maintenance Reserve Deposits

RESOLVED, included in the general fund appropriations is \$500 designated for deposit from interest earned on the account into the board of education's approved Maintenance Reserve Account for future funding of other maintenance projects that are in addition to the facilities efficiency standards necessary to achieve the New Jersey Student Learning Standards.

Maintenance Reserve Withdrawal – Required Maintenance Projects

Included in the general fund Budget is \$40,000 to be withdrawn from the Board of Education's approved Maintenance Reserve to fund the cost of the Seaview Elementary School Playground Project. The additional Maintenance Reserve funds are needed in addition to fund required maintenance projects.

Motion carried by roll call vote, all members present voted yes.

Motion carried.

Communication – Included in the packet

OLD BUSINESS – None.

NEW BUSINESS – None

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC - None.

COMMENTS FROM THE BOARD – Mrs. Zierys thanked Mr. Pruitt, Mrs. Weeks and the Administration for all of the hard work and multiple meetings on this budget. Never a happy result with a tax rate increase, however it is necessary. Mrs. Scannell thanked the Board members who volunteer their time and spent many hours on the budget. She added that very difficult times are ahead. Additionally, she does not consider this budget done and wants to continue the work on the budget. Mrs. Barrera stated it is exciting to see all the fresh ideas and is looking forward to the strategic planning process. She commented on the state aid reductions, however the Board will continue to look for opportunities to support student achievement with fiscal responsibility to be threaded in the discussion. Mrs. DeMorat added we have to be fiscally responsible to the taxpayers who don't have students in the district.

ADJOURNMENT - Motion made by Mr. Goldstein, seconded by Mrs. DeMorat, to adjourn. (7:38 PM).

Motion carried by roll call vote, all members present voted yes.

Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Teri J. Weeks, Business Administrator,
Board Secretary