

LINWOOD, NEW JERSEY
January 14, 2016

In compliance with the "Open Public Meetings Act" of the State of New Jersey adequate notice of this meeting of the Board of School Estimates has been provided. On October 30, 2015, written notice of this 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 School Estimates was called to order by Mayor DePamphilis, in the Schiavo Cafetorium, Belhaven Middle School, Linwood, New Jersey, Thursday, January 14, 2016 at 7:05 PM.

Mayor DePamphilis led all present in a flag salute.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Mayor DePamphilis, Mr. Heun, Mr. Matik, Mr. Sless and Mr. McLaughlin

MEMBERS ABSENT: None

OTHERS PRESENT: J. Yochim, Acting Superintendent, T. Weeks, Business Administrator, F. Rudnesky, S. Speirs, A. Larkin, M. Hieb, B. Marino, T. Lhulier, D. Todd, J. Scannell, L. Gibson, F. Pileiro, D. Lamkin, C. Meade, K. Nazarak, C. Swan, M. Pellegrino, MK Pellegrino, P. Vacarro, S. Marino

MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL MEETING - Motion made by Mr. McLaughlin, seconded by **March 26, 2015** Mr. Matik, to approve the minutes of the Special meeting, held March 26, 2015.

Motion carried by roll call vote with all members present voting yes, except Mr. McLaughlin and Mr. Sless, who abstained.
Motion approved.

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC – None

SUPERINTENDENT REPORT

REVIEW OF THE 2016-2017 BUDGET PROJECTION – Mrs. Yochim and Mrs. Weeks reviewed the 2016-2017 anticipated budget in a power point. The Administration has been charged with the task of achieving a \$0.0 tax rate increase in this proposed budget. This budget includes several staffing reductions, decrease in extra-curricular activities and supplies. The Administration received the unofficial tax levy this afternoon which is less than the anticipated, so therefore the budget projection which was at a \$0.0 increase is now \$0.003 The

Administration recognizes they have to look at approximately \$70,000 of further reductions. Use of fund balance, capital reserve, and maintenance reserve was reviewed along with the anticipated projects supported by the withdrawal from reserves.

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC - C. Meade thanked the Administration, Board and Board of School Estimates for sharing the budget information timely.

COMMENTS FROM THE BOARD – B. Heun commented that the Administration will need to revisit the budget to achieve the \$0.0 rate increase. He further stated that there has been a 20% reduction of the student population, but the budget did not decrease in the same manner.

Mrs. Yochim stated that schedules and class size is being discussed. The proposed reduction in staff for 2016-2017 will further increase class size, however, it is not just a matter of class size. The programs that are delivered will be impacted in areas such as basic skills, enrichment, world language and math.

Mr. Matik inquired if we were to find 2 cents, could the Administration redefine the budget projection.

Mr. Sless thanked Mr. Meade for recognizing everyone's efforts. We do not want these reductions to prevent our district from moving forward. We will continue to work in this open and transparent process.

Mayor DePamphilis requested the identification of which clubs and sports and the possibility of eliminating the pay to play or participation fee policy.

COMMUNICATIONS - None

ADJOURNMENT Motion made by Mr. McLaughlin, seconded by Mr. Matik to adjourn (7:52 PM).

Motion carried and approved.

Respectfully submitted,

Teri J. Weeks, Business Administrator,
Board Secretary