

Board of Education Minutes

Date of Meeting: April 12, 2017
Type of Meeting: **SPECIAL MEETING**
Location: Troy Middle School

I. Call to Order

At 5:45 pm Mr. Schofield, Board President, called the meeting to order.

A. ROLL CALL

Members Present: Mrs. Ann Apicella
Mrs. Carol Harvin
Ms. Mary Marro-Giroux
Mr. Tom Mayo
Mrs. Elizabeth Poletto
Mr. Jason Schofield
Mr. Michael Tuttman
Mr. Bill Strang
Mrs. Anne Wager-Rounds

Members Absent: None.

Also Present: Mr. John Carmello, Superintendent of Schools
(Exec. Session only) *Dr. Donna Watson, Asst. Superintendent for Curriculum & Instruction*
Mr. Adam Hotaling, Asst. Superintendent for Business
Mrs. Kristen Miaski, Director of Human Resources

Citizens Advisory Committee: Mrs. Mary Ellen Adams
Mrs. Stephanie Fitch
Mr. Ken Hughes

B. EXECUTIVE SESSION

At 5:45 pm Mr. Schofield made a motion for Executive Session for a contractual matter. Invited in were Mr. Carmello, Dr. Watson, Mr. Hotaling and Mrs. Miaski.

C. PUBLIC SESSION

At 6:05 pm Mr. Schofield called the meeting to order with the Pledge of Allegiance.

D. PUBLIC INPUT ON AGENDA AND NON-AGENDA ITEMS NON-ACTION ITEMS

There was no public input.

II. Infrastructure Upgrade Capital Project

Mr. Schofield made a motion to approve Items A. 1 - 5 as a Consent Agenda.

Discussion: Mr. Tuttmann asked if pricing was within the budget. Mr. Hotaling said yes.

Second: Mr. Mayo

Carried: 9-0

A. CP Phase I - Bid Awards

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, hereby award the following bids opened on March 30, 2017 for The Infrastructure Upgrade Capital Project to be awarded to the following lowest responsible bidders:

- 1. Contract AA1 (asbestos abatement at THS, excluding roofing abatement)

<u>Vendor</u>	<u>Amount</u>
AKTOR Corp.	\$279,565.00
44 Tivoli Street	
Albany, New York 12207	

- 2. Contract GC4 (window replacement and associated gaz mat at School 2)

<u>Vendor</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Hoosick Valley Contractors, Inc.	\$663,000.00
52 Melrose-Valley Falls Road	
Melrose, New York 12121	

- 3. Contract GC5 (general contracting at Schools 12, 14, 18 and THS)

All bids rejected.

4. Contract MC1 (mechanical and associated electrical work at TMS)

<u>Vendor</u>	<u>Amount</u>
T. McElligott, Inc. 589 River Street Troy, New York 12180	\$247,000.00

5. Contract PC1 (plumbing and associated electrical work at School 12 and CHS)

<u>Vendor</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Eckert Mechanical LLC 1062 Central Avenue Albany, New York 12205	\$208,695.00

III. 2017-18 Budget

A. Draft 3 of Budget

Mr. Carmello gave a powerpoint presentation on Draft 3 of the budget. He stated we need to develop a budget that is fiscally responsible and educationally sound. This has proven to be one of the most difficult process we have had in several years, in addition to the fact that State budget was approved one week late.

Draft 1 of the budget was presented at \$113,587,468 with a gap of \$2,597,042. Draft 2 of the budget was \$113,040,797 with a gap of \$2,050,371.

Mr. Carmello discussed the State budget as it impacts the Troy School District. Foundation Aid was increased \$1,685,705 or 4.2% from last year; Foundation Aid in the Executive Budget was increased \$659,970; Community Schools is a set aside item of \$272,576 that is already included in the Foundation Aid. Troy will be losing \$562,707 in charter school transitional aid but fortunately our enrollment in charter schools is lower. Tuition is not frozen and there is a supplemental basic increase of \$500 per student.

Draft 3. Proposed amount is \$112,018,797. There is a fund balance allocation that is a one-time revenue of \$325,000 to appropriate for charter school tuition which we will get back next year. Mr. Carmello would like to give public thanks to Assemblyman John McDonald for advocating for Troy School District. He was in constant contact with him during the process and got Troy an extra \$659,970 in Foundation Aid. Expenses in the budget include equipment, charter school and prescription. Mr. Carmello has met with the Mayor about SRO's and we agreed to fund positions for next year only. Tier 2 and Tier 3 requests will be considered next year. Mr. Carmello concluded by saying it was difficult to achieve, but this budget is both educationally sound and fiscally responsible and we will continue our positive trend of improved student performance. He said this is the tightest budget we ever had; there are no frills and we will limit purchases to only essentials.

Discussion: Mr. Tuttmann asked about the tax cap. Mr. Carmello stated it will be .45%, following a 0% tax increase last year.

Mr. Schofield asked that is the budget increase from last year. Mr. Hotaling responded increase of 2.4%.

Ms. Marro-Giroux ask if the equipment budget will impact the District's technology plans. Mr. Carmello said we will try to use money from this year's budget to make necessary purchases.

Ms. Marro-Giroux also asked how the charter enrollment impacts the budget and should we reach out to charter school parents about the great programs available at THS? Mr. Hotaling said we have budgeted for 30 additional students for next year; we now pay for 600. Some charter students are attending high schools other than Troy Prep.

Capital Reserve. The community will vote on a proposition to authorize the creation of a Capital Reserve Fund (savings account) for the purpose of helping to finance the local share of future capital projects. The Reserve may be funded up to a maximum of \$4.5 million over the course of ten years. The Reserve would be funded by setting aside one-time revenues and surplus funds. There will be no tax increase involved and it allows the District to plan for the future in a proactive way.

Discussion: Mrs. Harvin thanked Assemblyman McDonald for his support and said Mr. Carmello has done a wonderful job on the budget.

Mrs. Adams asked what dollar amount equates to .45% tax levy on a fully-assessed home. Mr. Hotaling said this number is not available right now. She also asked if taxpayers could expect another rebate. Mr. Hotaling said the rebates are tied to the taxpayer's income and STAR savings so there is a sliding scale. The formula will change next year.

B. Adopt 2017-18 Budget

Mr. Schofield made a motion to approve the 2017-18 budget.

Second: Mr. Mayo

Discussion: Mr. Schofield said great job on the budget and thanked Mr. Carmello and Mr. Hotaling for their hard work.

Carried: 9-0

BE IT RESOLVED, that the statement of expenditures of the Troy City School District for the 2017-18 school year showing a proposed budget of \$112,018,797 is hereby adopted; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the budget proposition to be put before voters on May 16, 2017 shall read as follows:

RESOLVED, that the proposed budget of expenditures of the Troy City School District, Troy, New York for the 2017-2018 school year in the amount of \$112,018,797 and for the purposes shown in the statement of estimated expenditures adopted by the Board of Education be and the same hereby is approved and the amount thereof shall be raised by a levy of a tax upon the taxable property of the school district, after first deducting the monies available from state aid and other sources as provided by the law.

IV. Adjourn

A. FUTURE MEETINGS

April 25, 2017 at 6:00 pm (School 12)

May 3, 2017 at 6:30 pm (TMS)

May 17, 2017 at 6:00 pm (TMS)

Discussion: Mrs. Wager-Rounds said that the ALP has established a food pantry for students and they are looking for donations. Please bring food items to the April 25 meeting at School 12.

At 6:40 pm Mr. Schofield made a motion to adjourn the meeting. This was seconded by Mr. Mayo and carried 9-0.

Respectfully submitted by,



Mary Beth Bruno
Board Clerk

We Can.
We Will. 
End of Story