

Start Time: 6:00PM

Present

Bonnie Thompson, Business Manager; Pat Hewitt, Acting Superintendent; Matt Feil, Committee Chairperson and Board Member; Chris Gastrock, Committee Member and Board Member; Duane Cotner, Board Member; Sue Judlin, Board Member; Wayne Hackett, Board Member; Stewart Burrous, Board Member; John Hoover, Board Member; Amy Repard, Director of Special Education; Steve Adams, Elementary School Principal; Rob Kreger, High School Principal; Mike Pietropola, Middle School Principal; Bryan Murphy, Network Administrator; Daren Bryant, Buildings & Grounds; Tammy Knowlton; Lisa Higham; Diane Eaton, Sun Gazette Reporter; Che Regina, Community Member

Committee Chairperson, Matt Feil, opened the meeting at 6:00 pm.

Act 1

Mrs. Thompson reviewed the Act 1 timeline and stated these are provisions governing the budget process and is mandated.

- The district adoption of the Proposed Final must occur 300 days prior to the Final Budget Adoption.
- The district must publish notice of intent to adopt the Final Budget 10 days prior to budget adoption.
- School code 671 and 672 mandate adoption by June 30th of the Final Budget.
- The adoption of the process allows the process of the annual real estate taxes to be started July 1st and has a 60 day discount period, 60 day face period and 60 day penalty period.

Assessed Values-

Mrs. Thompson stated assessed values from Lycoming and Tioga County have increased, however, they are not finalized yet and we may not have the final numbers till the first week of June. Lycoming County increased 2.3 million and 1.9 million of that is due to a pig farm.

Due to the changes in Assessed Values and having a Multi-County area, this impacts the millage with the rebalancing that has to occur. Since we are a multi-county school district, the PDE 2028 system will calculate a rebalance of millage using the STEB, market values and assessments, so one will always go up and the other will go down, without any tax revenue increases or decreases. Market values are 2 years behind on the PDE 2028 formula for rebalancing.

Review of Expenditures-

Mrs. Thompson stated the addition of two expenditures which are a retirement insurance addition at \$18,769 and debt service payment at \$100,000. The debt service payment is a conservative estimated projection of a payment due next spring for the Athletic renovation project.

Mrs. Thompson stated she added the projected amount of \$15,000 to Assigned Technology Reserve account which the Board approved this reserve last May.

Review of Revenues-

No new revenues to report, however, the new assessed values do change the real estate tax revenues and the millage projected on the Proposed Final Budget. Due to the change, Lycoming County taxes will be greatly reduced.

Discussion-Reductions-

After long discussions regarding ways to reduce the shortfall to get the budget to 1.5% millage or 0% millage increase; the committee recommended to make the following reductions to obtain as close as possible to a 0% millage increase:

- Remove the Head Custodian position
- Eliminate one full time custodian and part time custodian
- Eliminate the Curriculum/Federal Programs position
- Eliminate the Special Education secretarial position or other movement of secretaries for a cost savings.
- To continue to use Retirement reserves
- To fund the remaining shortfall with any surplus funds from the current year or use Unassigned fund balance

Final Budget will be on the agenda for the June 14th Board meeting as well as a Resolution authorizing Farmstead and Homestead and adoption of tax resolution.