

May 18, 2020

The regular meeting of the South Williamsport Area School Board was called to order at 7:00 PM as a virtual meeting on the Zoom platform by the President, Nathan Miller.

The meeting opened with a Moment of Silence and Pledge to the Flag.

Board Members Present: Bachman, Bowman, Cramer, Engel, Fiorini, McGinn, and Miller.

Others Present: Mark Stamm – Superintendent, Fred Holland – Solicitor, and Jamie Mowrey – Business Manager.

Visitors: Adam Dincher, Amy Pregent, Audrey Bear, Brenda Trimble, Jesse Smith, Kathie Sinibaldi, Kevin Eck, Kevin Stahl, Kristin Bastian, Lesa Hennigan, Manny Tsikitas, Melissa Bradley, Melissa Stahl, Michele Loomis, Patty Schick, Rob Houseknecht, Ryan Carper, Scott Hill, Steve Rupert, Susan Zaydell, Tina Pulver, Connie McLaughlin, Bill Reifsnyder, Emily Wagner, Anita Leahy, Christina Nelson, Kim Sauer, Tammy Robbins, Cindy Sullivan, Kristie Tawney, Christy Pinkerton, Lisa Arp, Becky Swinehart, and Nicki Hockman.

#### **APPROVE GENERAL FUND BILLS**

A motion to approve the payment of bills from the General Fund in the amount of \$688,932.34 as funds become available was moved by Fiorini, seconded by Engel. Roll call: Bachman-yes, Bowman-yes, Cramer-yes, Engel-yes, Fiorini-yes, McGinn-yes, and Miller-yes, motion carried.

#### **APPROVE FOOD SERVICE BILLS**

A motion to approve the payment of bills from the Food Service Fund in the amount of \$575.75 as funds become available was moved by Cramer, seconded by Fiorini. Roll call: Bachman-yes, Bowman-yes, Cramer-yes, Engel-yes, McGinn-yes, and Miller-yes, motion carried.

#### **APPROVE MINUTES**

A motion to approve the minutes of May 4, 2020, as written was moved by Fiorini, seconded by Engel. Roll call: Bachman-yes, Bowman-yes, Cramer-yes, Engel-yes, Fiorini-yes, McGinn-yes, and Miller-yes, motion carried.

#### **SUPERINTENDENT RECOMMENDATIONS**

The Superintendent provided an update to the board on staff professional development, the backpack program, employee safety protocols, graduation, and CARES funding.

#### **DEBT REFINANCE DISCUSSION**

Audrey Bear from Piper Sandler gave a presentation about the current debt outstanding and a possible refinancing to provide budgetary relief. The district's current debt is scheduled to be paid in the 2021-2022 school year. Her hypothetical restructuring has the balance paid off in the 2022-2023 school year. The district will incur additional interest expense costs; however, it will provide budgetary relief in the 2020-2021 school year. Because Audrey provided hypothetical new borrowing scenarios related to the potential building project in December 2019, she provided updated scenarios so that board members can see how a refinancing would impact future borrowings.

The next step is to have the board approve a resolution to refinance. This resolution will be put together by Bond Council and has to be advertised in the newspaper at least 3 days prior to voting on the resolution. The vote must be a roll call vote. Even after the resolution is approved, the board can still decide not to proceed with the refinancing. However, the district cannot begin the process to receive a rating and lock in interest rates until a resolution is approved.

After some discussion, it appeared that the board was in favor of moving forward with pursuing a refinancing of debt. It is anticipated that the board will vote on the resolution at the June 8, 2020 board meeting.

#### **BUDGET DISCUSSION**

Jamie Mowrey, Business Manager, fielded questions from board members regarding the proposed final 2020-2021 budget. Updates will be made to the budget and provided to board members prior to the June 8, 2020 meeting. The final budget is expected to be voted on at the June 15, 2020 board meeting.

#### **REQUEST TO CHANGE BOARD MEETING DATE**

A motion to move the June 1, 2020 board meeting to June 8, 2020 was moved by Bachman, seconded by Cramer. Roll call: Bachman-yes, Bowman-yes, Cramer-yes, Engel-no, Fiorini-yes, McGinn-yes, and Miller-yes, motion carried.

#### **ELECT TREASURER**

Per Board Policy #005, the school directors shall annually, during the month of May, elect a Treasurer who shall serve for one year beginning the first day of July after such election.

Mr. Fiorini nominated Cathy Bachman for Treasurer; Mr. Engel seconded. There being no other nominations, nominations were closed. All members present voted yes to elect Mrs. Bachman as Treasurer.

There was an Executive Session prior to the regular board meeting to discuss real estate matter. No action to follow.

#### **COURTESY TO THE FLOOR**

The following topics were discussed by the following individuals:

Kevin Stahl – education during COVID-19 closure

Kristie Tawney – commencement

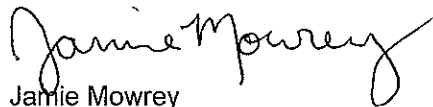
Manny Tsikitas – commencement

Melissa Stahl – Textbooks on devices

Melissa Bradley – Textbooks on devices; copy of proposed budget

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Fiorini, seconded by Engel. All members present voting yes, the meeting was adjourned at 9:13 PM.

Attest



Jamie Mowrey  
Board Secretary