

Plainview Public Schools Board of Education Meeting

Monday, September 12, 2011

The regular monthly meeting of the Board of Education of District 5 of Plainview, NE, was preceded by the budget public hearing and the tax request public hearing, all in the high school media center on Monday, September 12, 2011. The rules for open meetings were posted at the back of the room.

BUDGET PUBLIC HEARING

A public hearing to present the proposed 2011-2012 budget was called to order at 5:30 p.m. by Alden Zuhlke, president. Roll call was answered by Zuhlke, Vicki Peterson, Krista Hanks and John Anderson. Jeremy Hampton and Marilyn Elwood were absent and excused. Also present were Superintendent Richard Alt, Secondary Principal Randy Klooz and recording secretary, Imogene Wacker. Elaine Hampton, Ronita Jacobsen, Chad Kment and Lori Klooz signed the visitor roster. Peterson moved, Anderson seconded, to approve the agenda. Upon roll call vote, the ayes were unanimous, with Hampton and Elwood absent and excused. Motion carried. Elementary Principal/Activities Director Kort arrived at 5:45 p.m.

Superintendent Alt reviewed details of the proposed budget. State aid will drop from \$160,879 in 2010-2011 to \$108,803 in 2011-2012. District assessed valuations have increased \$17,906,834 from 2010-2011 to 2011-2012. Expenditures for 2011-2012 are estimated at \$6,812,255, including \$4,805,529 for non-special education purposes, \$625,590 for special education and \$1,381,136 for cash reserves. Discussion followed. The actual General Fund budget will be 0.3 percent less than 2010-2011. The hearing closed at 5:58 p.m.

TAX REQUEST PUBLIC HEARING

A hearing for the purpose of considering the tax requests for the 2011-2012 budget was then opened by Zuhlke. Zuhlke, Peterson, Hanks and Anderson again answered roll call, with Hampton and Elwood absent and excused. Also present were those in attendance at the previous hearing. Hanks moved, Peterson seconded, to approve the agenda. Upon roll call vote, the ayes were unanimous, with Hampton and Elwood absent and excused. Motion carried.

It was indicated that the budget, discussed at the previous hearing, would require a 0.917241 tax levy for the General Fund and a 0.042249 tax levy for the Building Fund, for a total tax levy of 0.959490, compared to 0.960196 in 2010-2011. Superintendent Alt informed the board that since the district does not receive equalization aid, there is no penalty for setting the levy below the 95 cent minimum levy limit. The hearing was closed at 6:01 p.m.

REGULAR MEETING

The regular meeting was called to order at 6:01 by Alden Zuhlke, president. Roll call was answered by Zuhlke, Peterson, Hanks and Anderson, with Hampton and Elwood absent and excused. Also present were those in attendance at the previous hearing.

ELEMENTARY PRINCIPAL REPORT

Principal Kort requested that his report be moved up on the agenda to allow him to return to his responsibilities at the junior varsity football game. He reported 20 students participating in volleyball, 26 in football, three in cross country and 12 in girls golf. The board expressed support for his membership in an organization for activity directors. He also reported that the elementary is beginning full implementation of the LtoJ program and is beginning Six-Minute Solutions in grades 2-6.

CONSENT ITEMS

Consent items included the minutes of the August 8, 2011 regular meeting, the financial reports, the September claims and approval of the agenda.

The financial report (with last month's figures in parentheses) showed a balance of \$323,233.86 (549,449.92) in the General Fund. CDs total \$1,000,000.00 (1,000,000.00), Special Building Fund \$71,936.91 (94,573.00), Petty Cash \$2,483.27 (2,452.93), Activity Account \$60,062.75 (66,522.33), Lunch Account \$11,564.87 (4,328.09) Employee Benefit Fund \$52,903.31 (52,882.45), Depreciation Fund \$465,674.53 (471,467.77), Payroll Account \$1,105.24 (1,100.87), Custodial/Section 125 Account \$8,399.26 (7,081.73). Total assets were \$1,922,692.50 compared to \$2,222,222.94 a month ago and \$1,789,903.93 a year ago.

August receipts totaled \$75,483.03. That compares to \$101,382.49 in July. Disbursements totaled \$301,699.09, including \$27,636.15 for claims and \$274,062.94 for payroll. Building Fund receipts totaled \$363.91. Building Fund expenditures were \$23,000.00.

Claims to the General Fund totaled \$74,671.50. Claims to the Building Fund totaled \$40,025.82. Peterson moved, Anderson seconded, to approve the consent items. Upon roll call vote, the ayes were unanimous, with Hampton and Elwood absent and excused. Motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

There were no public comments.

ADOPTION OF THE 2011-2012 SCHOOL BUDGET

Since no changes had been suggested during the hearing conducted earlier in the evening, it was moved by Hanks, seconded by Peterson, to adopt the 2011-2012 budget as presented. Upon roll call vote, the ayes were unanimous, with Hampton and Elwood absent and excused. Motion carried.

TAX REQUESTS FOR THE 2011-2012 BUDGET

Having adopted the budget in the meeting's previous action, Anderson moved, Hanks seconded, to approve the tax requests as presented for the 2011-2012 school year. Upon roll call vote, the ayes were unanimous, with Hampton and Elwood absent and excused. Motion carried.

REPORT ON LtoJ

Ronita Jacobsen and Lori Klooz gave a presentation on an LtoJ workshop they attended in July. After a pilot year by several staff members last year, the entire staff is beginning to use the LtoJ process in the 2011-2012 year and the two instructors spoke about the variety of methods teachers are using to implement the system in their classrooms.

SCHOOL FOUNDATION BOARD MEMBER APPOINTMENT

The Articles of Incorporation of the Plainview Public Schools Foundation require the Board of Education to appoint by majority vote at the regular May board meeting any directors who need appointing. The appointment of a director to fill Brian Ickler's position did not take place in May. At the August 31 meeting of the Foundation, the expired term was discussed and it was the consensus of the Foundation members to support Ickler's appointment to a new four-year term. Anderson moved, Peterson seconded, to appoint Brian Ickler to serve a four-year term on the Plainview Public Schools Foundation. Upon roll call vote, the ayes were unanimous, with Hampton and Elwood absent and excused. Motion carried.

CHANGE IN SCHOOL CALENDAR

The school has been contacted about the possibility of having Lee Jenkins (LtoJ founder) come to Plainview to work with the staff while he is in the area at Pierce. Mr. Jenkins can come on October 20 at a cost of approximately \$3,000 for a full-day workshop. The schedule change will involve not having elementary classes (PreK-6) on Thursday, Oct. 20. Students in grades 7-12 will have morning classes and be dismissed for the afternoon. Mr. Jenkins will work with elementary teachers in the morning and secondary teachers in the afternoon. An in-service day is already scheduled for the morning of Friday, Oct. 21, with Parent-Teacher Conferences from 2 to 7 p.m. Peterson moved, Hanks seconded, to approve the calendar change as recommended. Upon roll call vote, the ayes were unanimous, with Hampton and Elwood absent and excused. Motion carried.

HIGH SCHOOL PRINCIPAL REPORT

Secondary Principal Klooz spoke on the newly ordered touch screen monitor for the hallway outside the Pirate Gym, the new Pirate Newsletter, implementing reading strategies in content areas other than reading and language arts, and principal classroom walk-throughs. He reported that the advanced web design students will be working with Plainview Manor residents on computer use.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

President Zuhlke asked board members if they are still interested in meeting with Creighton board members to work on cooperation between the two schools. Board members were agreeable. He also asked administrators about the virtual high school classes considered for the state.

Marilyn Elwood arrived at 7:05 p.m.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Superintendent Alt showed a thank you from TeamMates and reported approval of the district's Early Childhood program. He reported on the swipe key system installation, the signed negotiated agreement, the signed Blue Cross/Blue Shield premium holiday form, NASB membership meetings and current enrollment numbers of 333 in K-12 and 15 in preschool. The district has received a REAP grant of \$20,006.

CLOSED SESSION FOR NEGOTIATIONS

Peterson moved, Anderson seconded, to go into closed session for the purpose of discussing classified salaries. Upon roll call vote, the ayes were unanimous, with Hampton absent and excused. Motion carried. The board went into closed session at 7:16 p.m.

The board returned to open session at 8:08 p.m.

DISCUSSION AND ACTION ON CLASSIFIED SALARIES

Elwood moved, Hanks seconded, to set the classified salaries according to the following:

On the classified salary schedule, the 25-plus years experience lines will be changed to 25-29 years of experience. A 30-plus years of experience line will be added to each area.

The classified salary schedule hourly rates will be increased by 20 cents.

All classified staff not paid according to the classified salary schedule will receive a two percent increase in pay.

Classified staff currently receiving Blue Cross Blue Shield benefits will receive a \$350 stipend in December as part of the Educators Health Alliance premium holiday.

Upon roll call vote, the ayes were unanimous, with Hampton absent and excused. Motion carried.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 8:10 p.m.

I, the undersigned, the duly appointed recording secretary of the Board of Education of District 5, Plainview, NE, hereby certify that the attached and foregoing minutes are a true and correct copy of the regular meeting of the Board of Education of District 5 of Plainview, NE, held in open session on the 12th day of September 2011, which meeting was preceded by public notice published in The Plainview News.

Imogene Wacker, Recording Secretary