

Minutes of the Metamora CCSD #1 Board of Education Meeting of December 12, 2015

The December 12, 2015 meeting of the Metamora Community Consolidated School District #1 Board of Education was called to order at 7:00 p.m. in the Multi-Purpose at Metamora Grade School. Members present: Mr. Blundell, Mr. Edwards, Mr. Fisher, Mrs. Sikkema, Mr. Strawn, Mr. Ward, and Mr. Wernsman, Metamora Grade School Principal Cathy Costello, Metamora Grade School Dean of Students Tim Damery, and Marty Payne.

Consent Agenda

Motion was by Mr. Edwards, seconded by Mr. Blundell, to approve the consent agenda. All present voted yea on a roll call vote.

Reports from the Public

The public reports included a power point presentation from the staff members representing the Alternative Revenue Committee. Ms. Wendy Vogel made the presentation on behalf of the committee. The presentation included the recent history of district finances, lack of state funding, a comparison of area school districts' tax rates, and the support for an Education Fund referendum. A copy of the power point has been included with the minutes.

Mr. Davis Pistorius from First Midstate, Inc. presented information on the issuance of Working Cash Bonds for the district.

After the respective presentations were completed, several members in the audience asked questions of the Board of Education. The voice of the public in attendance clearly favored the need to seek and Education Fund referendum, with the request to have it placed on the March 2016 ballot. A petition was presented to the Board in support of the referendum. Additional conversation included larger class sizes, and the looking into various ways to research revenue for the district. The Board of Education engaged in dialogue with the audience, and at this time they do not support the referendum. It was stated by the Board that they are not opposed to a referendum, but that want to explore other revenue areas first, including the issuance of Working Cash Bonds.

Truth-in-Taxation Public Hearing

Motion by Mr. Edwards at 8:40 p.m., seconded by Mr. Blundell for the purpose of a truth-in-taxation public hearing regarding the 2015 tax levy. All present voted yea on a roll call vote.

Motion by Mrs. Sikkema, at 8:41 p.m., seconded by Mr. Blundell, to close the public hearing and return to open session. All present voted yea on a roll call vote.

Action Items

A. Discussion and Approval of the Metamora CCSD #1, 2015 Tax Levy

Motion by Mr. Ward, seconded by Mr. Blundell, to approve the tax levy as presented. Those vote aye: Blundell, Sikkema, Strawn, Ward, Wernsman, and Fisher. Those voting nay: Edwards. Motion passed.

B. Discussion and Approval of a bid from Standard Heating and Cooling at \$31,150 to replace the HVAC System in the main office.

Motion by Mrs. Sikkema, seconded by Mr. Edwards to approve the bid. All present voted yea on a roll call vote.

C. Discussion and Approval of a Continued Contractual Agreement for Lawn Mowing Services

Motion by Mr. Wernsman, seconded by Mr. Blundell, to approve the bid at the same rate per mowing. All present voted yea on a roll call vote.

D. Resolution Declaring the Intention to issue Working Cash Bonds for the District for the Purpose of Increasing the Working Cash Fund of Said School District, and Directing that Notice of Such Notice be Published in the Manner Provided by Law

Motion by Mr. Strawn, seconded by Mr. Wernsman to approve the Intent to Issue \$2,000,000 in Working Cash Bonds. All present voted yea on a roll call vote.

Discussion Items

A. Joint Annual Convention

Those Board members who attended the convention shared comments from the respective sessions they attended.

Information Items

A. Committee Reports

1. Building Committee
2. Education Committee
3. Executive Committee
4. Finance Committee
5. Negotiations Committees
6. Policy Committee
7. Transportation Committee
8. Alternative Revenue Committee – report provided during the “Reports from the Public” section of the agenda

B. Administrative Reports

Action was not required for this agenda item

Acknowledgement of Cards and Letters

Action was not required for this agenda item

Executive Session for the Purpose of Appointment, Compensation, Discipline, Dismissal, or Performance of Employees, and for the Purpose of Collective Negotiation Matters between the Public Body and its Employees

Motion by Mrs. Sikkema (at 9:05 p.m.), seconded by Mr. Blundell, to enter into Executive Session. All present voted yea on a roll call vote.

Motion by Mr. Blundell (at 9:58 p.m.), seconded by Mrs. Sikkema to adjourn the Executive Session meeting and return to Open Session. All present voted yea on a roll call vote.

Action Taken after Executive Session

Motion by Mr. Edwards, seconded by Mr. Blundell to approve a 2% increase for non-certified employees, effective January 1, 2016, with the compensation to be effective from that point forward. All present voted yea on a roll call vote.

Adjournment

Motion by Mr. Edwards, (at 10:00 p.m.), seconded by Mrs. Sikkema to adjourn the December 9, 2015 meeting of the Board of Education. All present voted yea on a voice vote.

Bob Fisher
President

Jeff Wernsman
Secretary