BUDGET WORK SESSION
MARCH 22, 2022
(Not to be used for quotation purposes)

1. OPENING OF MEETING
Tuesday, March 22, 2022
Meeting Place:
Williamsville Central School District Board of Education
105 Casey Road, E. Amherst, NY 14051

Present:
Mrs. Teresa Leatherbarrow, President;
Mrs. Suzanne Van Sice, Vice President;
Mrs. Crystal Kaczmarek-Bogner, Parliamentarian;
and other Board Members:
Mrs. Bieger, Mr. Michael Buscaglia, Dr. Michael Littman, Dr. Susan McClary, Ms. Maureen Poulin, and Dr. Swaroop Singh

Also present:
Dr. Darren Brown-Hall, Superintendent of Schools;
Mr. Thomas Maturski, Assistant Superintendent for Finance and Management Services;
Mr. Nick Filipowski, Director of Communications;
Mrs. Lynn Carey, District Clerk; and visitors.

1. OPENING OF BUDGET WORK SESSION
A. Information for Budget Work Session
Information: 1. A.
The District will continue to livestream and record the meetings via WCSD YouTube channel.
Livestream-WCSD YouTube Channel - Click link HERE or HERE for BoardDocs link.

B. Budget Work Session Call to Order (7:01 PM)
Procedural: 1. B.
The Budget Work Session of the Board of Education was called to order at 7:01 PM by Mrs. Leatherbarrow.
All members of the Board were present.

C. Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag-Mrs. Bieger will lead us in the Pledge
Information: 1. C. Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag, Mrs. Bieger led those present in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

D. Announcements
Information: 1. D. Announcements

2. 2022-2023 BUDGET WORK SESSION - DEVELOPMENT PRESENTATION - PUBLIC FORUM BUDGET ONLY
A. 2022-2023 Budget Planning Presentation
Information, Discussion: 2. A.
Background Information:
The District is presenting and discussing the preliminary 2022-23 budget at this work session. The Program Continuation - Required Expense Increases reflect budgetary changes that are necessary to support our current instructional programs. The information in the presentation also includes a program support addition and a budget reduction page. The preliminary revenue budget equals the expense budget resulting in a balanced budget for the 2022-23 school year.

Pertinent Information:
Expense Budget
Total Program Continuation - Required Expense Increase = $7,602,119
Total Program Support - $160,000
Budget Reductions - ($255,000)
Total 2022-23 Working Program Continuation Budget = $212,528,086 or +3.66% increase over the current year budget

Revenue Budget
The preliminary revenue budget continues to provide for a state aid increase of $1,932,551 over the prior year. It is important to reiterate that the 2021-22 state aid budget included $3,036,162 in federal dollars. The state aid budget in 2022-23 does not include any federal aid. This results in New York State aid actually increasing $4,968,713.

The preliminary budget includes two other major additional revenue category increases, Payment in Lieu of Taxes (PILOT) and sales tax. The payment in lieu of taxes (PILOT) is increased by $517,542 and sales tax revenues have been increased $1,600,000. The sales tax revenue budget increased $600,000 from what was presented in the February budget presentation. There are three smaller revenue budget increases totaling $47,026.

Tax Cap
The tax cap calculation for the 2022-23 year allows the District a tax levy of $137,200,000. The levy increase is $3,410,000. The change in levy is 2.55% and it is $46,892 under the tax cap. The New York State tax cap calculation utilizes a tax levy growth factor of (1.0091). The consumer price index (CPI) used in the tax cap calculation is 2.00%. The CPI rate is capped by New York State law at 2.00% for the 2022-23 calculation. It is important to state that the 2021 CPI rate for the Northeast All Urban Consumers was 6.58%.

**Total 2022-23 Preliminary Budget Total = $212,528,086**
February Revenue Budget = $212,528,086
February Expense Budget = $212,528,086
February Budget Position = 0 (Balanced Budget)

Budget Increase = $7,507,119 or 3.66% over the 2021-22 budget

**Tax Bill Estimates (Based on 2021 town equalization rates)**

- Tax rate estimated at $18.14, represents a $0.31 increase or 1.73%
- Estimated tax bill increase for a $250,000 assessed home with Basic STAR = $68.35

**Timeline:**
Presentation of this Preliminary 2022-23 budget information complies with the District’s budget development timeline.

(Budget presentation starts in video at 1:35 until 15:55 with Board member questions and comments)

### B. 2022 Elementary School Air Conditioning Capital Project
Information, Discussion: 2. B.

**Pertinent Information: 2022 Elementary School Air Conditioning Capital Project**

The purpose of this capital project is to improve the classroom environment for student instruction. The rise in temperatures in fall, spring and summer have resulted in heat and humidity levels that were not common to our geographic area ten years ago. The ability for students to focus mentally on their classroom instructional program is compromised when the classroom environment has a heat index above 80 degrees. The rise in temperatures in the Buffalo, New York area is documented by GLISA, a NOAA RISA team.

The ability to add air conditioning to school classrooms is essential for the future of our education programs. Presently, 81% of our school buildings are not air conditioned and this fact illustrates the difficulty the District faces in the future when it comes to providing an accommodating learning environment for students. The District realizes that this air conditioning capital project is a significant financial investment in our schools. As a result of both of these factors, the District is completing this capital project in a phased approach. Upon prioritizing the project work it has been decided to begin with our six elementary schools. The first phase of this project will address our youngest students who can be considered the most impacted by the environmental factors in their learning development.

**Planning Process for this Elementary School Air Conditioning Project**
The planning process began after the District provided information to the Board of Education and the Community at the September 2021, Board of Education meeting.

**September:**
The District met several times with the architect and engineering firm with the purpose of developing a scope of work for this project. Discussions reviewed the current heating and ventilation systems that are in each school and the relevance of various air conditioning systems that could be used in our schools. These meetings also resulted in the initiation of a school building energy audit that would be submitted to the New York State Energy Research Development Authority (NYSERDA) for grant funding. This report will be a reference document that will be used throughout the District’s planning and design process for this project.

**October:**
The District received information from the architect concerning potential air conditioning systems for use in the project. Architect and engineering firm personnel visited our schools to review the current heating systems, building envelope, and electrical system capacity.

**November:**
The Board of Education approved the assignment of a construction manager to this project. The recommended firm was Campus Construction Management. This appointment occurred after a Request for Proposal process was completed for this service. There were several meetings during November with the design team, construction manager and the District. A timeline for the preliminary design was clearly defined and it required an initial cost estimate to be provided to the District in early January 2022.

**December:**
The design team reviewed four air conditioning systems with the District. A decision was made to utilize the ducted variable air volume system as the basis of design for the project. This system is the most proven, reliable, and balances
maintenance, energy efficiency, and cost. It was agreed that this system would be the best fit for use in our elementary schools. This system is the basis used in developing the cost estimate for this capital project.

**January:**
The first cost estimates were received from the construction manager. These estimates were initially discussed by our entire design team. Additional meetings between the architect, engineer, and construction manager occurred throughout the month to review the specific items listed in the cost estimates. Our District facility director also reviewed the information and communicated with both groups about questions on components of the preliminary design as well as providing additional information relevant to building structure that would require design adjustments.

**February:**
The design team continued to review specific equipment and construction processes that would be required to be installed in the school air conditioning systems. The project plan was presented at the February Board of Education meeting. The significant cost for installing air conditioning in all schools resulted in a District recommendation to develop a phased project approach. The first phase would be to air condition our six elementary schools. The phased approach as well as general questions regarding the project were presented and discussed at the February meeting. The Board of Education approved of a phased approach plan with the first phase being to air condition our elementary schools.

**March:**
Final cost estimates are provided to the Board of Education and the Community. A detailed presentation is being provided at the board meeting on what will be referred to as the Elementary School Air Conditioning Capital Project. All six elementary schools will be included in this project: Country Parkway, Forest, Maple West, Maple East, Heim, and Dodge.

**Timeline:**
A proposition will be provided to the Community on May 17, 2022. If approval is received it will result in the installation of air conditioning in all elementary school classrooms, libraries, cafeterias, multi-purpose rooms (where applicable), auditoriums (where applicable) and the dehumidification of the gyms. The project will also include replacing the main electrical service at East High school. This service was originally installed in 1975. It is past its life expectancy and repair of the transformers and switches is becoming impossible due to their age and our inability to obtain parts for the repairs.

**Elementary School Air Conditioning Capital Project Presentation and Discussion - March 22, 2022**
**Elementary School Air Conditioning Capital Project Proposition Vote on May 17, 2022**

**Prepared By:**
Thomas R. Maturski
Assistant Superintendent for Finance and Management Services

**C. Budget Discussion**
Information, Discussion: 2. C.

**D. Public Forum - Budget Only**
Discussion: 2. D.
Ms. Mekker approached the Board with concerns about lead paint during construction in schools, will it be done safely. Dr. Brown-Hall responded that a great deal of testing will be ongoing during construction in the buildings to keep students and faculty safe. Ms. Mekker also asked about the cost of environmentalist, is it in the budget, Dr. Brown-Hall responded yes.

(Elementary School Air Conditioning Capital Project presentation starts in video at 16:16 until 38:32 with Board member questions and comments and public forum community member question)

**3. ADJOURNMENT (7:41 PM)**
**A. Adjourn Budget Work Session**
Action: 3. A. Adjournment Motion
That the Budget Work Session of the Board of Education adjourns.

Motion by Dr. McClary, second by Dr. Littman.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried Unanimously
Yes: Mrs. Leatherbarrow, Mrs. Van Sice, Mrs. Kaczmarek-Bogner, Mrs. Bieger, Mr. Buscaglia, Dr. Littman, Dr. McClary, Ms. Poulin, and Dr. Singh

Respectfully submitted,

Lynn Carey
District Clerk

Approved: April 19, 2022