

LINWOOD, NEW JERSEY
May 2, 2018

In compliance with the "Open Public Meetings Act" of the State of New Jersey adequate notice of this Special meeting has been provided. On January 19, 2018, written notice of this meeting was posted in two schools, City Hall, and the Linwood City Library. On that same date written notice was faxed and mailed to The Press and The Current.

The meeting of the Linwood Board of Education was called to order by Mrs. Ziereis, Board President, in the Schiavo Auditorium, Belhaven Middle School, Linwood, New Jersey, Wednesday, May 2, 2018 7:03 PM.

Mrs. Ziereis led all present in a flag salute.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Mrs. Ziereis, Judge Todd, Mr. McLaughlin, Mrs. Scannell, Mr. Kahn, Mr. Goldstein, Mrs. DeMorat, Mrs. Lowry, and Mrs. Barrera

MEMBERS ABSENT: none

OTHERS PRESENT: B. Pruitt, Superintendent, T. Weeks, School Business Administrator, S. Speirs, Principal, G. Meister, S. Tahsin, M. Bansal, L. Gibson, A. Smith

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC - A. Smith commented on the Board Retreat she attended last night on the budget.

ACTION REQUIRED

PUBLIC HEARING ON SCHOOL BUDGET - Motion made by Mr. Goldstein, seconded by Mr. McLaughlin to open the public hearing on the 2018-2019 school district budget.

Motion carried by roll call vote with all members present voting yes.

Motion approved.

Presentation made by Mr. Pruitt to review changes to Advertised Budget

Change in Appropriations

Increased Security Project	\$3,500
Special Education Tuition and Transportation	\$49,257
Library Media Specialist	\$75,000

Change in Revenue

Tax Levy General Fund	\$115,087
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Use of Fund Balance	\$9,170
Withdrawal from Maintenance Reserve	\$3,500

Discussion: Mr. Pruitt reviewed the changes in the revised budget, the impact on the tax rate, discussed ongoing concerns with state aid, fund balance, and the fiscal responsibility of the district over the past five years highlighting the less than 1% overall growth in tax levy since 2014-2015. Also reviewed were the special review and debt service funds.

Judge Todd commented on the decrease in ratable and the \$0.014 tax rate impact due to the loss.

Mrs. Ziereis commented on the overall all growth of less than 1% over the past five years and the continued fiscal responsibility.

Mrs. Barrera thanked the Administration and the Board for all of the valuable input during this process.

Mr. Pruitt thanked the administration for their support during this process.

Mrs. Ziereis opened up the floor for public comment.

Mrs. Gibson inquired about the debt service, the length and impact on the tax rate.

CLOSE PUBLIC HEARING ON SCHOOL BUDGET - Motion made by Mr. Goldstein, seconded by Mrs. Barrera, to close the public hearing on the 2018-2019 school district budget.

Motion carried by roll call vote with all members present voting yes.

Motion approved.

2018-2019 SCHOOL DISTRICT BUDGET ADOPTION- Motion made by Mr. Goldstein, seconded by Mr. McLaughlin, approve the following school district budget resolution modified after the County Executive Approval:

BE IT RESOLVED that the Linwood Board of Education, Atlantic County approves for the year 2018-2019 a school district budget for approval as follows:

	Budget	Local Tax Levy
General Fund	\$14,346,455	\$11,486,749
Special Revenue Fund	252,525	
Debt Service Fund	40,000	40,000
Totals	\$14,638,980	\$11,526,749

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Linwood Board of Education has revised the total amount

of the budget after approval by the Executive County Superintendent by \$127,757.

This amount included the addition of a Library Media Specialist, Special Education Tuition and related Transportation, and an increase to Security Projects.

This proposed budget includes sufficient funds to implement the proposed planning process as described in this districts Annual Report pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:7A-11 and to provide curriculum and instruction which will enable all students to achieve the New Jersey Student Learning Standards.

Furthermore, the school district has proposed programs and services in addition to the New Jersey Student Learning Standards adopted by the State Board of Education.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED to acknowledge that the 2018-2019 budget as described results in a tax levy of \$11,526,749 for all funds.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED to set the maximum General Fund Travel Budget for the 2018-2019 school year per NJAC 6A:23A-7.3(a) efficiency regulations at \$42,825.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED to set the maximum general fund professional service budget for the 2018-2019 school year per NJAC 6A:23A-5.2 efficiency regulations at \$200,450.

Capital Reserve Deposit

Included in the general fund appropriations is \$1,000 which is designated for deposit into the Board of Education's approved Capital Reserve Account for future funding of district other capital projects as detailed in the district's Long Range Facility Plan. This deposit is for excess costs of the stated school facilities projects or other capital projects and represents expenditures for construction elements or projects that are in addition to the facilities efficiency standards necessary to achieve the New Jersey Student Learning Standards.

Maintenance Reserve Deposit

Included in the general fund appropriations is \$500 designated for deposit into the board of education's approved Maintenance Reserve Account for Maintenance Projects outlined in the district's Comprehensive Annual Maintenance Plan.

Maintenance Reserve Withdrawal – Required Maintenance Projects

Included in the general fund Budget is \$123,900 to be withdrawn from the Board of Education's approved Maintenance Reserve to fund the cost of the Belhaven Middle School bleacher replacement project, district wide security projects, and Belhaven Middle School grounds improvement projects. The additional Maintenance Reserve funds are needed in addition to fund required maintenance projects.

Motion carried by roll call vote with all members present voting yes.

Motion approved.

Communication – Included in the packet

OLD BUSINESS – None.

NEW BUSINESS – None.

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC – M. Bansal thanked the board for allocating funds toward a library media specialist. She stated this action proves commitment to quality education.

COMMENTS FROM THE BOARD – Judge Todd commended that the board have been good sheppards and have been able to hold the spending to a \$0.028 increase in tax levy. All committee are involved in the process and that this budget is a compromise after much debate.

ADJOURNMENT - Motion made by Mr. McLaughlin, seconded by Mrs. Lowry, to adjourn. (7:26 PM).

Motion carried by roll call vote, all members present voted yes.

Respectfully submitted,

Teri J. Weeks, Business Administrator,
Board Secretary