

Tawas Area Schools
Regular Board of Education Meeting
And
Public Hearing of the Proposed 2023-2024 Budgets
June 12, 2023

Mr. Klinger convened the Public Hearing of the proposed 2023-2024 budgets at 7:00 p.m. He presented the proposed budgets.

Mr. Klinger said we anticipate we will receive approximately \$16,759,115 in revenue for the 2023-2024 school year. The revenue amount includes monies from local, state, and federal sources along with incoming transfers and other small transactions.

We expect our expenditures to be about \$16,682,393 in the next year. That means we will have an excess of revenue over expenditures of about \$76,722. Our projected fund equity in the general fund on June 30, 2024 is estimated at \$4,819,860.

Considering that the state budget has not been signed we have used a conservative scenario for budget predictions. Using the 90/10 student blend, the revenue budget is based on an estimated 1128 FTE (full time equivalents) next year which is down 12 FTE from the current 1140 FTE. Revenue estimates include a \$400 per pupil increase in the foundation grant. We have used current year allocations for next year's grants and Categoricals and included the portion of the ESSER III Federal Funds which have been released so far. The expense budget has been built based on assumed contractual obligations and expense estimates. Mr. Klinger said we also need to set the tax millage for the 2023-24 school year. He said we plan to levy 18.0000 mills for general fund operational, 1.0000 mill debt retirement to meet our ninth year of payments on our current bond issue and .4963 mills sinking fund for a total millage of 19.4963 mills.

Mr. Klinger then presented the Lunch Fund Budget. He said we anticipate total revenue of \$775,219 and total expenditures of \$756,263 leaving an estimated fund balance on June 30, 2024 of \$164,471 with a proposed program profit of \$18,956.

Mr. Klinger presented the Debt Retirement budget. We are expecting total revenue of \$596,278 based on the debt retirement tax levy of 1.00 mill. After paying our bond payment of \$582,663 it is expected that we will end the year on June 30, 2024 with \$119,777 in fund balance.

Mr. Klinger presented the Sinking Fund budget. We are anticipating total revenue of \$309,196 based on the sinking fund tax levy of .4963 mills. Expenditures of \$218,000 are estimated leaving a fund balance of \$582,162 on June 30, 2024.

Mr. Klinger presented the Student/School Activity Fund budget. Revenues of \$285,890 are expected with estimated expenditures of \$281,001 leaving a projected fund balance of \$243,635 on June 30, 2024.

Mr. Klinger asked if there were any questions and there were none.

President Klenow called the regular meeting to order at 7:06 p.m.

Mrs. Edmonds led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll Call:

Present: Butzin, Bruning, Jenkins, Ulman, Edmonds and Klenow
Absent: Lentz
Tardy: None

Administrators Present: Klinger, Mochty, Livingston, Danek, Clouse

POSITIVE HIGHLIGHTS

Mr. Klinger said Mrs. Mochty is being honored for tonight's positive highlight. Mr. Klinger expressed his gratitude to Mrs. Mochty for 27 years of dedicated service to the district. He thanked her for her mentorship to countless staff members and for the care and compassion she displayed to the students and families. He said this the end of an era for her, but also a new chapter as she begins a new position at Holy Family School. He wished her a happy retirement and the best of luck in her new role and presented her with an engraved plaque. The Board thanked Mrs. Mochty for all of her contributions to the district over the years and told her that she will certainly be missed.

PUBLIC COMMENTS – INFORMATION AND PROPOSALS

Mrs. Klenow asked if there were any public comments on agenda or non-agenda items. There were no other comments.

CONSENT AGENDA

Motion by Bruning, support by Butzin to approve the consent agenda items which included the approval of the May 16th regular and closed session meeting minutes and the payment of bills as follows: the monthly contractual and prepaid expenses for the general fund in the amount of \$960,393.23 and the lunch fund expenses in the amount of \$33,353.89. It also included payment of presented bills for the general fund in the amount of \$190,409.55. Letters of resignation were received from custodian, Mike Wood, educational assistants Eli Yanna and Celia Wixtrom, varsity boys' basketball coach, Todd Kaems, and junior high football coach, Gus Oliver. Motion carried unanimously.

RECOMMENDATIONS & REPORTS FROM THE ADMINISTRATION

Mr. Klinger said athletic director, Jonathan Mejeur, is recommending the following coaches for fall sports: Zachary Blanchard – varsity football head coach; Eric Haglund and Jonathan Warner – varsity assistant football coaches; Derek Moe – JV head football coach; Pete Scott – JV assistant football coach; Shane Plank – 7/8 football coach; Ken Cook – varsity boys' soccer coach; Carol Elowsky – varsity volleyball coach; Erica Russo – JV volleyball coach; Brianna Griffiths – cross country coach; Kelli King – cheerleading coach; Kelli Rau – 7/8 volleyball coach and Paul Vainer – girls' golf club coach. The freshman volleyball and a 7/8 football position are still open. Motion by Edmonds, support by Jenkins to hire the fall coaches as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Klinger said Mrs. Danek has interviewed candidates to fill the vacant 6-12 ELA position. At this time, she is recommending Mr. Marshal Jordan be hired to fill this position. Mr. Jordan holds a Master's degree in English and a Bachelor's degree in Communication and English. Motion by Bruning, support by Jenkins to hire Marshal Jordan as an ELA teacher. Motion carried unanimously.

OLD BUSINESS

Committee Reports – Mr. Klinger said the personnel/negotiations committee met on May 22nd with TAFT to continue negotiations discussions. Another tentative agreement was reached which was ratified by TAFT the following week and is now being presented to the board for approval later on the agenda. Mr. Klinger said the committee also reviewed the superintendent's merit pay, which they supported. They also discussed and supported building a transition plan for a retirement announcement in Central Office and supported the board's stance to follow the administrative contracts as written. The committee met again on June 6th to finalize the wage opener for non-certified and administrative staff.

Mr. Klinger said the budget committee met prior to Monday night's meeting to discuss the 2023-2024 budgets. It was explained that the current numbers are estimates based on the information we have at this time. Those numbers will change and they will be addressed through the budget

amendment process. The current budget adoption is needed so the tax levy can be set by the June 15th deadline.

Legislative Report – Mr. Klinger said there hasn't been much action with the legislature and the State budget has not yet been set. He continues to monitor for any new activity.

NEW BUSINESS

The board meeting schedule for the 2023-24 school year was presented and reviewed by the board. The regular meeting of the board will be held on the second Monday of each month at 7:00 p.m. in the boardroom at the administration building. If another meeting is needed during the month, a special meeting will be called with proper notification. Mr. Klinger is requesting the January 2024 meeting be moved back one week to January 15th, since the 8th is the first day back from Christmas break. The board was fine with the schedule as presented. Motion by Bruning, support by Butzin to adopt the meeting schedule as discussed and as set forth in the board packets. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Klinger explained that Huron Community Bank has been our depository for a number of years and he sees no reason to change. They have been very accommodating and have provided excellent service. Motion by Bruning, support by Butzin that Huron Community Bank be designated as the depository for the Tawas Area Schools for the 2023-2024 school year. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Klinger said the Board needs to designate the Federal Programs Director for the coming year. Mrs. Danek was assigned to oversee our Title programs several years ago and was named as our Federal Programs Director. Mrs. Danek has done a great job with the consolidated grant and has learned the system and rules of the program. Mrs. Danek is working to transition this duty to Mrs. Clouse, but several grant timeline changes at the state level have delayed this process. Mr. Klinger is recommending that Mrs. Danek be named again as the Federal Programs Director. Motion by Butzin, support by Jenkins that Sarah Danek be designated as Tawas Area Schools' Federal Programs Director. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Klinger said the 2023-24 budgets have been presented and reviewed and asked if there are any more questions. There were no other questions at that time. Mr. Klinger said there are still many unknowns and the budgets are based on anticipated numbers. Board secretary, Mrs. Ulman, made a motion to approve the Resolution for Adoption of the proposed 2023-24 budgets of Tawas Area Schools and set the 2023-24 tax levies as presented. The 2023-24 tax levies will be as follows: 18.0000 mills for General Fund Operations, 1.0000 mills for the Debt Retirement Fund, and .4963 mills for the Sinking fund, for a total millage to be levied of 19.4963 mills. Support to the motion by Butzin. The resolution was adopted unanimously.

Mr. Klinger said the board is required to adopt a resolution each year to allow us to officially become a member of the Michigan High School Athletic Association for the next school year. This allows Tawas Area Schools to participate in MHSAA meets and post season tournaments. Mrs. Ulman made a motion to approve the Resolution to Participate in the Michigan High School Athletic Association for the 2023-24 school year as presented. Support to the motion by Bruning. The resolution was adopted unanimously.

Mr. Klinger said as part of the Extended COVID-19 Learning Plan, the State of Michigan has asked that the district provide academic data on our K-8 students for both reading and math by the conclusion of the year. Mr. Klinger then reviewed the Achievement/Growth Data Template that outlines our mid-year and end of the year growth goals, and it provides the percentages of students who have met these goals. He said this data is being used to help determine how to support our students as we move forward. He said we will continue to administer our State approved assessments moving forward so we can collect data to provide the necessary interventions for the next several years. Mr. Klinger presented a slideshow with specific data for each grade level, K-8, showing areas that need to be academically focused on. Motion by

Edmonds, support by Jenkins to approve the information as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Klinger said last June the personnel committee met with him to develop his merit goal for the year. The merit goal was created to help make sure we have local assessments in place for science in middle school and high school so we can collect data to adjust our instructional practices to support students in this content area. Motion by Bruning, support by Ulman to approve the merit pay for Mr. Klinger as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Klinger said that TAFT voted to ratify the tentative agreement that was presented on May 20th. The negotiation process addressed wages only. Motion by Ulman, support by Bruning to approve and ratify the contract with TAFT per the tentative agreement. Motion carried unanimously.

The negotiations committee discussed the non-certified handbook on June 6th, which included a wage package for those employees. Motion by Ulman, support by Jenkins to approve the non-certified handbook as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

The negotiations committee also discussed a wage package on June 6th for administrative contracts. Motion by Edmonds, support by Bruning to approve the administrative contracts as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Klinger said he is recommending the board support administration to proceed with a collaborative effort that includes the Iosco County Sheriff's Department to provide a school resource officer for the entire district. Once the officer has been selected and the contract language has been finalized, the information will be presented to the board for their approval. He expects that will occur at the August board meeting. Motion by Bruning, support by Butzin to approve the recommendation as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

INFORMATION & PROPOSALS

Superintendent Report – Mr. Klinger said even though school is officially out for the summer, it is a very busy time, with year-end reports being completed and projects getting underway. He said the Career Development Coordinator position has been filled and Mr. Brian Colorite was chosen to fill the position. He has worked with our students in the past through the Trio Talent Search program. He will work with our students in grades 8-12 to help them build a path to reach their post high school goals. He said our transportation staff had over 133,000 miles of safe travel this year, our food service staff served over 167,000 meals and our technology department has overseen over 4,000 devices and technology equipment. He said the maintenance staff have begun their summer projects and are already moving along well. He said our sinking fund millage will be up for renewal this November and he will discuss that in more detail in August. Oscoda Schools will host the county-wide emergency drill on August 14th which will include several outside agencies being involved.

Student Representatives – Mrs. Danek introduced Ms. Gabrielle Whetstone who will serve as the new 11th grade student representative for next year.

Administration – Mrs. Danek said there were three applicants for the 11th grade board representative and the students not selected will comprise an executive board to confer with the board representatives. She said middle school summer school is underway and high school summer school will begin on July 10th. Mrs. Mochty said the curriculum purchases will be arriving soon. She thanked the board for honoring her tonight and said it has been an honor and a privilege to work in the district for the past 27 years. Mr. Mejeur said the golf team finished 4th in the state, just 2 strokes behind the 3rd place team. Senior Alex Kaems finished 6th and received All-State honors. He said football workouts began today with 35 players attending. The girls' basketball teams will be hosting a summer tournament here this Wednesday and Thursday. Mrs. Clouse said the teacher cadets planned and organized the annual track and field day and did a nice job. She said the Clara Bolen Elementary gymnasium painting began today and Ms. Griffiths

will host a track and field camp. Mr. Livingston said the year-end field trips were successful and said the middle school summer school will be held for three weeks in June and three weeks in July.

From the Board – Mrs. Jenkins congratulated the golf team, welcomed the new hires and thanked Mrs. Mochty for her service to the district. Mrs. Bruning echoed her comments and is excited to hear that Brian Colorite has been selected as the Career Coordinator. Mrs. Edmonds thanked Mrs. Mochty for her dedication, welcomed Ms. Whetstone and is pleased to hear we are offering credit recovery courses again this summer. She is pleased to see the student data and growth and congratulated the golf team. Mrs. Ulman thanked the budget and personnel/negotiations committees for their work and thanked the teachers in advance that will be teaching summer school. She also thanked Mrs. Mochty for her commitment to the district over the years and told her she will be missed. Mrs. Klenow is pleased that the contracts have all been settled and thanked Mr. Klinger for continuing to advocate on behalf of all of the employee groups. She thanked all of the administrators for everything they do to make the district great. She thanked Mrs. Mochty for her dedication and service. Mr. Butzin said he attended the IRESA biennial election and cast the votes for the two candidates running for the two positions.

ADVANCE PLANNING

Mr. Klinger said there will be a special board meeting on June 26th at 7:00 p.m., a personnel committee meeting that same day at 5:00 p.m., followed by a budget committee meeting at 6:00 p.m.

Motion by Butzin, support by Ulman to adjourn at 8:02 p.m. Motion carried unanimously.