

BUDGET ADVISORY COUNCIL
Meeting Minutes - Monday, November 27, 2017

Members Present: Chuck Allen, Karen Arthmann, Ashish Behal, Bob Bower, Sheila Buck, Andrea Catena, Rhonda Delaney, Dave Drury, Mary Ann Exler, Steve Fazio, Maria Hamilton, Dan Hentschel, Paul Hoak, Bob Logel, Marissa Logue, Cheryl Lomedico, Robert Marks, Ken Nelson, Theresa Ottman, Tracy Peters, Norai Pisano, Jamye Potucek, Pam Reinhardt, Heather Roth, Jay Schickling, and Dina Stathopoulos

Members Absent: Chris Barker, Sara Cosgrove, William S M Hall, Clay Harris, Brandi Mercado, Eliseo Mercado, Randy Naughton, Millie Sefranek and Heather Towne

Ex-Officio Members: J. Kenneth Graham Jr., Paula Sharlow, Sue Smith and Andy Whitmore

The meeting was called to order at 7:02 p.m.

WELCOME, INTRODUCTIONS & CHARGE TO THE COUNCIL

Bob Logel has graciously accepted the position of Council Chairperson again for 2017-2018. Bob began the meeting by asking all in attendance to introduce themselves, and he reviewed the Charge to the Council.

BUDGET DEVELOPMENT PROCESS, PLAN OF WORK & OVERVIEW

Andy Whitmore walked the group through the budget development process and meeting agendas, and the Five Year Financial Plan. Revenue highlights included a discussion on the potential increase in revenue for the 2020-2021 budget year, due to the VA Hospital and new RG&E substation coming online and on to the tax rolls.

He went on to explain some highlights on the expense side of the budget. Future contract settlements, along with health and pension costs (which represent 70% of the budget) contribute to a structural imbalance between revenue projections and expense projections.

EXPENSE CONSIDERATIONS

Dr. Graham thanked those in attendance for agreeing to serve on this year's Council. Dr. Graham spoke on the importance of delivering a budget that is both educationally sound and fiscally responsible. We must keep essential programs and services intact by sustaining what we have by providing the necessary resources to keep moving forward.

The budget must also be fiscally responsible - people want to know that their tax dollars are being spent wisely. Our budget must account for new State and Federal mandates - many of which are either unfunded or underfunded. In order to be fiscally responsible, all aspects of the budget are reviewed to find ways to do more with less, without undermining the basic infrastructure.

We will have our fiscal challenges again this year - however, there were commitments made last year to balance the 2018-2019 budget. These items include:

- Instructional Technology (\$200,000)
- Capital Reserve Funding (\$150,000)
- Summer Programs - Participation in the BOCES program

Dr. Graham went on to say that conversations with the Board of Education have indicated that the District will aggressively use reserve funds as a source of revenue to balance this year's budget process for 2018-2019. Andy Whitmore reviewed the reserve fund utilization chart with the Council.

The meeting adjourned at 9:05 p.m.

Our next meeting will be held at the Dee Strickland Conference Room on Monday, December 11, 2017.

Respectfully submitted,

Paula Sharlow