

Budget Hearing of the Houghton Lake Community Schools Board of Education was held Monday, June 30, 2008 in the Board of Education office.

Members Present: Haf, Harned, Burger, Dean, Maiani, and Duquette.

Members Absent: None

Administration/Staff: Superintendent Injasoulian/Gail Harned, Stan Gardner, Patti Caswell, Bob Barney, Russ Post, Darlene Roberts, Susan Tyer, Helen Wiggins, Dan Thayer, and Cathy Nellist, Scott Harding, Deb Markiewicz, Sally Cotterman, Kathy Inhulsen, Jill Songer, and Gloria Owaski.

Visitors: Rod Lewis, Ann Barney, Wendy Heinig, Mr. Dietrich

Press: Cheryl Holladay, Houghton Lake Resorter
Jeff Petrucci Roscommon County Herald News

President Harned called the hearing to order at 6:30 p.m.

Superintendent Injasoulian updated the Board and public that all school districts in the state are waiting to hear what the amount of state aid will be for this upcoming school year. Stating that until then, it is very difficult to establish a balanced budget. He then turned the hearing over to Business Manager, Matt Lewis.

Matt stated that the budget has many variables and is actually a work in progress with out knowing what the state aid will be. The budget has been set up with the concessions from the custodial staff, 5 less teaching staff, and 3 less teacher assistants. The district will again need to borrow money to cover the cash flow through July and August. Houghton Lake Community School operates on approximately 40% of state aid and 60% property tax funds, which is fortunate for the district, many other districts are at 80 to 90 % state aid, so they really have to wait and see what the state is going to do to build their budget. Also, those budgets are tied very closely to state decisions.

Discussion and questions followed. President Harned explained that the motion to adopt the budget will take place during the regular portion of the Board of Education meeting.

Motion by Duquette, support by Dean, to adjourn the Budget Hearing at 6:57 p.m.

Motion Carried. Yes 6, No 0.

Special Meeting of the Houghton Lake Community Schools Board of Education was held Monday, June 30, 2008 in the Board of Education office after the Budget Hearing.

Members Present: Haf, Harned, Burger, Dean, Maiani, and Duquette.

Members Absent: None

Administration/Staff: Superintendent Injasoulian/Gail Harned, Stan Gardner, Patti Caswell, Bob Barney, Russ Post, Darlene Roberts, Susan Tyer, Helen Wiggins, Dan Thayer, and Cathy Nellist, Scott Harding, Deb Markiewicz, Sally Cotterman, Kathy Inhulsen, Jill Songer, and Gloria Owaski.

Visitors: Rod Lewis, Ann Barney, Wendy Heinig, Mr. Dietrich

Press: Cheryl Holladay, Houghton Lake Resorter
Jeff Petrus Roscommon County Herald News

President Harned called the meeting to order at 6:59 p.m. and stated that it was necessary to appoint a temporary Board Secretary, since the resignation of Board Secretary Stuck. He then appointed Board member Merry Maiani to be the temporary Board Secretary.

Citizen's Request to Address the Board of Education - None

Superintendent's Report

Superintendent Injasoulian informed the Board on the following:

- ✓ Patricia Dietrich has retired from the district after 30 years of service.
- ✓ Examined a chart detailing the fund balance of the district for the last 6 years.
- ✓ All other school districts throughout the state are now making cuts.
- ✓ Shared a document listing all of the accomplishments done at the Middle School.(Good job!)
- ✓ Interviews to take place tomorrow for: 2nd Chance Academy and 8th grade Social Studies.
- ✓ There was a fire and vandalism the day after school was out for the summer at the high school.
- ✓ The Bond Issue will take center stage after the 4th of July – establish a citizens group for support.
- ✓ Gave thanks to the custodial staff – grateful for the concessions they made.

President Harned stated that he wanted to give thanks and said he appreciates the support from all the staff, they have been giving and giving – and they have helped turn the district around.

Discussion Items

Second reading took place on the Board of Education adopted curriculum support. Board member Haf clarified the resolution detailing the background and the information that lays out the implementation plan. He then stated that if the district needed any help with this, that he would be willing to return to the district to assist.

Board Vice-President Dean stated that he would like to table the adoption of the Technology Plan until the Board has more time to review.

Citizen's Second Request to Address the Board of Education

Deb Markiewicz – addressed the Board to give thanks to Jim Haf for serving on the Board of Education and for all the work he did.

Patricia Dietrich – addressed the Board stating that she is really really sad to see what is happening to the school district. Also, that it is scary – and that she does not want to go (retire), so to please reconsider privatizing the custodial staff. She then stated that if the Board does reconsider, she will rescind her letter of retirement.

Richard Dietrich – addressed the Board to ask when they would be making a decision. Stating that his wife spent \$11,000.00 last year to purchase one year, because the Board talked about privatizing last year and now she has 31 years.

Board Vice-President Dean stated that it is the intent of the Board not to privatize the custodial services operation for the 2008-2009 school year, contingent upon making official the concessions that have been tentatively offered. Those concessions include: a \$3.50 decrease in the hourly rate of custodians; a decrease of five vacation days for each custodian; a reduction of five days of work throughout the year, dates yet to be determined; elimination of longevity pay; and the replacement of three current district employees (two by retirement and one by resignation) with workers contracted through a custodial services company – the retiring custodians will have the option of working in the contracted positions. The concessions will need to be officially made in writing and submitted to the Superintendent by Monday, July 7, 2008.

Action Items

Amendment to the 2007/2008 Budget

Motion by Duquette, supported by Maiani to approve the attached 2007/2008 budget amendment as presented. Motion carried. Yes 6, No 0.

Adoption of the 2008/2009 Budget

Motion by Duquette, supported by Maiani that the 2008-09 school year budget, for General Fund Operations of the Houghton Lake Community Schools, Roscommon and Missaukee Counties, having been duly advertised and having held a public hearing June 30, 2008 be approved as presented.

Motion carried. Yes 6, No 0.

Annual Food Service Agreement

Motion by Duquette, supported by Maiani to approve continuing our agreement for management and purchasing services with Chartwells Food Services for the 2008-2009 school year.

Motion carried. Yes 6, No 0.

2009-2012 District Technology Plan

Motion by Dean, supported by Maiani to table adopting the 2009-2012 Technology Plan for Houghton Lake Community School District until the next regular Board meeting to allow additional time for the Board to review. Motion carried. Yes 6, No 0.

Tax Anticipation Notes

Motion by Dean, supported by Duquette to approve the attached resolution authorizing issuance of Tax Anticipation Notes as presented. Motion carried. Yes 6, No 0.

Board of Education – Curriculum Support

Motion by Maiani, supported by Dean to approve the Resolution for Board Support on Adopted Curriculum for the Houghton Lake Community School District as presented (with the small typographical corrections).

Motion carried. Yes 6, No 0.

President Harned again gave thanks -stating the Board appreciates the concessions the custodial staff has made. He then gave thanks to Dr. Haf for his service on the Board of Education.

Motion by Haf, supported by Maiani to adjourn the meeting at 7:45 p.m. Motion carried. Yes 6, No 0.