September 25, 2019

The Brimfield Board of Education held its regular meeting on Wednesday, September 25, 2019 at 7:00 p.m. in the High School Library. Board President Thompson called the meeting to order with the following members present: Kenney, Updyke, Heinz, Graham, Hersemann and Johnson.

Heinz moved and Johnson seconded to open the Fiscal Year 2020 Budget hearing.

Motion carried.

Superintendent McNamara explained the difference between school finance and our everyday finances. Last year, Brimfield expected expenses to exceed revenues; Brimfield ended up with a slight surplus. This could be due to some expenses rolling into this year. This could be why we expect to our expenses to be greater than revenues this year as well. In addition, we have contingencies built into the line items and we are fulfilling the remaining cost of the AC project at the Grade School. McNamara then broke down each fund, what each represents, and why we are a little heavy on expenses. Hersemann inquired if the Tentative Budget could show the contingencies so the expenses could be better explained. McNamara said that it could be done.

With no questions from the audience, Heinz moved and Hersemann seconded to close the Fiscal Year 2020 Budget hearing. Motion Carried.

The Board erroneously voted on the FY2019 Budget, as brought forth by Dave Hicke.

Graham moved and Hersemann seconded to adopt the budget for Fiscal Year 2020. Roll Call: Hersemann – yes, Johnson – yes, Heinz – yes, Kenney – yes, Graham – yes, Updyke – yes, Thompson – yes. Motion carried.

Superintendent McNamara introduced Todd Kryzkowski from Mesirow Financial and explained that he was here to address bond refinancing. Mr. Kryzkowski elaborated on his presentation and explained the options the Finance Committee was previously presented. The goal is to stabilize the debt service. He then explained the timeline; a resolution needs to be drafted before and documents signed on or before December’s board meeting. Bond closing occurs in January. Hersemann inquired the cost of refinancing out for the 5 years being recommended. Per Mr. Kryzkowski, the District will actually be saving around $300,000. Dave Hicke asked about Mesirow Financial’s fees. Mr. Kryzkowski informed him that they are between 1.5 – 1.75% of Bond issuance.

The board recognized approximately eight community members: Dave Hicke, Amy Kepple, Todd Kryzkowski, Terry Towery, Kelly Walker, Sarah Moon, Joe Kelch, and Jerry Stewart.

Kenney moved and Hersemann seconded to approve the August 21, 2019 Regular and Closed session minutes as well as the September 11, 2019 Finance Committee Minutes and September 18, 2019 Policy Committee Minutes. Motion carried

Thompson reported some concerns brought to his attention (because they were shared by a grade school student): toilet paper quality, bus overcrowding, and a suggestion box.

Superintendent McNamara reported on his board report. He requested that we all keep Mr. Trotter in our thoughts and prayers as his father recently passed. Additionally, he elaborated on ESports. Kenney inquired about the technology bit in the report. McNamara informed him that this is a project that has yet to be completed. Once completed, the Federal Government will reimburse 50% of the cost.

Mr. Heinz inquired about the status of PRESSPLUS. Superintendent McNamara explained that at some point it was stopped. High School Principal Shinall elaborated. We have PRESS, just not PRESSPLUS; we are behind on updating. Kenney added that there will be an additional cost to catch back up. McNamara also explained policies (in general) and why certain policies require approval and that others are okay the way they are written.

Mr. Shinall reported on his High School board report. He announced that the Golf Team recently placed 2nd; a few players ranked in the top 10 (which was impressive considering the number of teams and players!) He also mentioned that (soon-to-be) Lt. Butterfield from the Peoria Co. Police Department walked them through an active shooter drill.

Mrs. Albritton reported on her Grade School report. She highlighted how $150 had been saved with the MyOn Program. The Grade School has received new copy machines; they were under contract. There are new one-way signs to better direct traffic.

There was no old business.

There was new business to discuss/approve.

Updyke moved and Johnson seconded to approve the purchase and/or planting of trees up to $1,000. Superintendent McNamara explained how the new trees will replace bad ones or ones that have been removed. There is a plan to relocate a few trees. Roll Call: Hersemann – yes, Johnson – yes, Heinz – yes, Kenney – yes, Graham – yes, Updyke – yes, Thompson – yes Motion carried

Kenney moved and Hersemann seconded to approve Policies:

* 6:130 – Physical Education Waiver
* 7:180 – Bullying Policy (No Changes)
* 7:185 – Teen Dating / Violence

A brief discussion ensued and resulted in ammending the motion. Kenney moved and Heinz seconded to amend the motion – waive the 1st reading of those policies and adopt the amended policy/policies. Roll Call: Hersemann – yes, Johnson – yes, Heinz – yes, Kenney – yes, Graham – yes, Updyke – yes, Thompson – yes Motion carried

Kenney moved and Hersemann seconded to move forward with preparing a Resolution for Bond Option #2 (in Todd Kryzkowski’s presentation packet). Roll Call: Hersemann – yes, Johnson – yes, Heinz – yes, Kenney – yes, Graham – yes, Updyke – yes, Thompson – yes Motion carried

Updyke moved and Johnson seconded to approve the Consent Calendar items. Roll Call: Hersemann – yes, Johnson – yes, Heinz – yes, Kenney – yes, Graham – yes, Updyke – yes, Thompson – yes. Motion carried

Heinz moved and Hersemann seconded to approve the Superintendent’s recommendation to accept the resignation of Terri Reeves from her two-hour Supervision position at the Grade School. Roll Call: Kenney - yes, Updyke – yes, Johnson – yes, Graham-yes, Hersemann - yes, Heinz-yes, Thompson-yes. Motion carried

Updyke moved and Hersemann seconded to approve the Superintendent’s recommendation to employ Camie Snyder to replace the vacant two-hour Supervision position plus 3 hours as a paraprofessional Assistant in 1st grade. Roll Call: Kenney - yes, Updyke – yes, Johnson – yes, Graham-yes, Hersemann - yes, Heinz-yes, Thompson-yes. Motion carried

Board President Thompson welcomed comments from the community members.

Jerry Stewart inquired on the status of the memorial wall. Superintendent McNamara shared that he has been attempting to contact a few monument companies; no phone calls have been returned.

At 8:28pm, Graham moved and Johnson seconded to leave open session and enter closed session to discuss the appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance or dismissal of an employee *Open Meetings Act, 5 ILCS 120, being Sec. 2 (c)* Roll Call: Kenney - yes, Updyke – yes, Johnson – yes, Graham - yes, Hersemann - yes, Heinz - yes, Thompson - yes. Motion carried

The board members returned from closed session at 10:02pm.

At 10:02 p.m. Heinz moved and Johnson seconded to adjourn the September 25, 2019 regular board meeting of the Brimfield CUSD #309 Board of Education. Motion carried

Board President

Board Secretary