



Budget Development and Input Committee Meeting Minutes

August 1, 2024; 9:00 a.m.

Central Administration Office – Board Room

Present: Brent Seaks (chair), Jason Rodakowski, Superintendent Marcus Lewton, Assistant Superintendent Keith Harris, Business Manager Stephanie Hunter, and Naomi Obrigewitch

Called to Order – The meeting was called to order at 9:02 a.m. by Chair Brent Seaks.

Additions/Deletions to Agenda Items – No additions or deletions to the agenda.

Old Business – No Old Business was reported.

New Business

- **2023 – 2024 Preliminary Ending Fund Balance** – Business Manager Hunter informed the committee the general fund expenditure budget will need to be amended from \$61,133,174 to approximately \$64,449,744.26 to account for the increase in health insurance and other items that were not budgeted for in the fall of 2024. The District did end with a positive balance after revenues were received of approximately \$304,978.67, which means the District has the necessary revenue to cover the increased expenses. **The recommendation to the board is to amend the general fund budget at the August 2024 board meeting.**
- **Property Tax Elimination Measure Update** – Over 40,000 signatures were received in support of adding the property tax elimination measure to the November 2024 ballot. The State has committed to verifying those signatures on or before Friday, August 2, 2024.
- **2024 – 2025 Preliminary Certificate of Levy** – The preliminary Certificate of Levy is due August 9, 2024, with the final levy due October 9, 2024. Business Manager Hunter stated the district currently levies 113.7 mills. Due to the taxable valuation, the value of a mill has increased from \$172,683 before adjustments to \$181,661 before adjustments for the 2024-2025 fiscal year. This is a 5.2% or \$8,978 per mill increase. The committee discussed additional mills available to the district, which include: 6 miscellaneous mills, 4.56 tuition mills, and 3 special reserve mills. 117.47 mills are needed to cover incurred indebtedness, which includes the additional 5.6 mills for the \$15 million construction loan that is part of the \$69,000,000 bond referendum our voters passed in October 2023. The amount of 140.62 mills is needed to cover current indebtedness and the total voter approved bonds needed for the secure elementary school entrances and the new high school and is an estimated increase of 28.75 mills to the existing 26.17 mills levied for the middle school debt for a total debt service levy of 54.92. **The recommendation to the board for the preliminary certificate of levy is 140.92 mills.**
- **Bonding and sale of Bonds for 2024-2025** – If the property tax elimination measure is on the ballot, Business Manager Hunter was advised by Dickinson Public School's attorney and

bonding agent to sell the bonds for the secure elementary school entrances and the new high school as soon as possible. As the property tax elimination measure reads all indebted debt will be allowed to be levied until paid off in future years. The debt is not actually indebted unless the Board authorizes and approves the sale of bonds for the amount of the referendum that was passed in October 2023. The risk is too high to not sell all the bonds at this time, because if the measure passes there would not be enough time to sell bonds prior to the measure going into effect 30 days after its passage. The sale of the remaining \$54,000,000 approved bonds is equal to approximately 23.15 mills. **The recommendation to the board is to sell the remaining \$54,000,000 in bonds in September 2024.**

Other – A recommendation to the Board is to change the September 9th Board meeting to a later date in September to allow flexibility in the sale of the bonds. Business Manager Hunter will talk to our bonding agency to get a timeline and report to the board at the Board Workshop in August, the exact date the September Board meeting would need to be scheduled for.

Adjournment - At 10:30 a.m., Chair Seaks declared the meeting adjourned.