

Finance Committee Special Meeting

March 13, 2019 5:30 PM
Central Office
35 Fifth Street

Attendance Taken at 5:30 PM:

Present Board Members:

Mrs. Casey Picheco
Mrs. Rebecca O'Hara
Mr. George Kurtyka

Others Present:

Mr. Jim Gildea
Mrs. Laura Harris
Mr. Mark Izzo
Dr. Conway

I. Call to Order

I.a. Opening Ceremonies

I.b. Roll Call

Discussion:

II. Public Participation

Discussion:

No one was present from the public.

III. Track Equipment Grant

Discussion:

Mrs. Hyder reviewed the Track Grant that she would like to apply for through the Valley Community Foundation. In the event the grant is not awarded, other sources of funding would be required.

IV. FY20 Budget Review

Discussion:

The Finance Committee convened to discuss the FY20 Superintendent's budget; major cost driver is Special Education outplacement costs projected for FY 20 Budget.

The Superintendent's proposed budget is an increase of 2.97% over last year. As we have budgeted net outplacement costs, there is no buffer from Excess Cost grant funds going into next year. There has been a consistent increase to our special education students for out placement over the last three years:

2016 - 2017 23 students
2017 - 2018 30 students
2018 - 2019 37 students

Mr. Gildea would like the Board to present its budget to the Tax Board with a strong presentation on special education costs. The Board of Apportionment and

Taxation needs to understand that we do not have control of the number of special education students that move to Derby, however, we are responsible for educating them.

Mrs. Harris thought the Board should go to the Board of Apportionment and Taxation (BoAT) with our 2.97%. In addition, the recommendation was to request the City to hold a contingency of \$240,000 for the Board of Education in the event additional students move to the district and require out-placement. If the Board does not need the funds, they will stay in the City's budget.

Mrs. O'Hara had concerns that the City would not give the Board the funds even if they state that they intend to do so. Mr. Gildea felt that if the City agreed to this and there was a public vote, they would keep their word about funding.

Mr. Izzo's recommendation is to go to the City with the \$19,168,000 / 2.97% increase. In addition the Board will formally request, via the letter presenting the budget to the BoAT, that the City consider the \$240,000 be held by the City for the Board in case needed due to increased special education costs.

The committee agreed with Mr. Izzo's recommendation.

V. Adjourn

Motion Passed: The Finance Committee adjourn its meeting. Passed with a motion by Mrs. Casey Picheco and a second by Mrs. Rebecca O'Hara.

Mrs. Casey Picheco	Yes
Mrs. Rebecca O'Hara	Yes
Mr. George Kurtyka	Yes

Dina Gotowala
Recording Secretary

Minutes are subject to approval at the next Board meeting.