

Finance Committee Meeting Minutes

September 19, 2017
TEAO Room 200
7:00 P.M.

Attending all or part of the meeting:

Board Committee Members: Todd Kantorczyk, Chair, Kevin Buraks, Roberta Hotinski, Rev. Scott Dorsey

Other Board Members: Douglas Carlson, Edward Sweeney, Kate Murphy, Michele Burger, Virginia Lastner

T/E School District Representatives: Dr. Rich Gusick, Chris Groppe, Jeanne Pocalyko, Art McDonnell, David Francella, Marianne Cleary, Dr. Oscar Torres, Dr. Mike Szymendera, Dr. Wendy Towle

Other: None

Community Members: Heather Ward, Tina Whitlow, Ray Clarke, Travis Hartley, Peg Layden, Doug Anestad, Christine Wright, Liliane Min

Approval of Minutes:

- The Committee approved the minutes of the May 31, 2017 meeting.

Monthly/Year to Date Financial Report – May/July/August 2017:

- The Committee reviewed the Treasurer's Report for August 2017 as the most recent month. Mr. Francella reported that revenue is consistent with the prior year, with delinquent taxes trending slightly lower. Spending is slightly behind last year, primarily due to the timing of the expenditures.

Property Tax Appeals Update:

- Mr. Francella reviewed the tax appeals filed by taxpayers that will impact the 2018-19 fiscal year. The eighty-three (83) residential properties appealed have a potential tax revenue loss of \$51,575; the six (6) commercial properties appealed have a potential tax revenue loss of \$44,746.
- Mr. Kantorczyk reviewed the July 2017 ruling by the PA Supreme Court regarding District initiated appeals. He explained that based on this case, the decision was made not to file any District-initiated tax appeals this year. Mr. Francella and Mr. McDonnell reviewed the parameters used to identify these appeals and how they could be used for both residential and commercial properties based on the PA Supreme Court ruling in the future. The revised parameters identified 15 residential and commercial properties for appeal, which would have provided an estimated \$293,546 in additional tax revenue for the District. The Committee discussed revisiting this case and its impact on tax appeals prior to next year's filing deadline to determine next steps.

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Back to School Transportation Report:

- Mrs. Cleary provided the annual back to school report for the Transportation Department. During 2016-17, District buses traveled 1.6 million miles. For 2017-18, the District has over 6,000 bus stops transporting students to eight (8) District, 39 non-public and 23 special needs schools.
- Mrs. Cleary also stated that the District is in the process of fitting 10 more buses with cameras this year, with the long-range goal of having cameras in all buses by the end of 2019 school year.

2018-19 Budget Development Calendar:

- Mr. McDonnell reviewed the District's 2017-18 budget calendar, Act 1 deadlines, school code deadlines and election dates.
- Mr. McDonnell reported that the State released the 2018-19 Act 1 index of 2.4%. This would equate to approximately \$2.6M in property tax revenue if applied to the District's current millage rate and the assessed property values from Chester County.

Committee Goals:

- Mr. Kantorczyk reviewed the Committee Goals for the upcoming year, with the Committee agreeing on a new goal concerning the District initiated appeal procedure. Mr. McDonnell added that the Capital Improvement Plan goal could translate to transfer to the capital fund in support of infrastructure projects.

Public Comment:

- Douglas Anestad commented on the Treasurer's Report.
- Christine Wright commented on negotiations.
- Ray Clarke commented on the budget calendar.
- Liliane Min commented on the Transportation Report.

Adjournment:

- The meeting adjourned at approximately 8:16 P.M.

Next Meeting:

The next meeting is Monday, October 16, 2017.