

PUBLIC BUDGET HEARING

March 22, 2012

The Public Budget Hearing of the Stafford Township Board of Education was held on March 22, 2012 at 7:00pm at the Administration Building.

CALL TO ORDER

The Stafford Township Board of Education is called to order in compliance with the Open Public Meeting Act Law - 1975 Chapter 231 (P.L. 1975-231C). This meeting was advertised in the Atlantic City Press, Asbury Park Press, and the Beacon. Notice has been posted in the office of the Stafford Township Clerk and all school buildings.

ROLL CALL

Sharon Bialecki	Member
Wendy Cotter	Member
Christine English	Member
Kevin Leonard	Member
Gregory Quille	Member
Joseph Sauer	Member
Susan Spaschak	Member (absent)
Tammy Nicolini	Vice President
Samuel Fierra	President

ALSO PRESENT

Judith DeStefano-Anen, Ed.D	Superintendent
Enrico D. Siano	B.S./S.B.A.
Tracey Schneider, Esq.	Board of Education Attorney

FLAG SALUTE

PRESENTATION

The 2012-2013 Budget as presented by Dr. Judith DeStefano-Anen, Superintendent of Schools.

COMMUNICATION FROM THE PUBLIC (AGENDA ITEMS ONLY)

- Election cost savings
- Question as to whether summer savings are a part of the 2012-2013 budget

BOARD BUSINESS

1. To approve the tentative 2012-2013 district budget.

	Budget	Local Tax Levy
Total General Fund	\$33,899,469	\$23,717,051
Total Special Revenue Fund	\$224,400	N/A
Total Debt Service Fund	\$2,834,358	\$2,458,431
Totals	\$36,958,227	\$26,175,482

Whereas, school district policy and NJAC 6A:23B-1.2(b) provides that the Board of Education shall establish in the annual school budget a maximum expenditure amount that may be allotted for such travel and expense reimbursement for 2012/2013 school year,

Now Therefore Be It Resolved that the Stafford Township Board of Education hereby establishes the school district travel maximum for the 2012-2013 school year is not to exceed \$50,000,

Be It Further Resolved that travel expenses for the 2012-2013 school year not exceed \$50,000, that the maximum amount established in the pre-budget year was \$50,000 and that as of March 1, 2012, \$4,697 has been expended on travel.

2. To approve the General Fund Regular Question:

RESOLVED, that there should be raised in taxes for the General Fund \$23,717,051 for the ensuing school year 2012-2013.

The school district has proposed programs and services in addition to the core curriculum content standards adopted by the State Board of Education. Information on this budget and the programs and services it provides is available from the school district.

A motion was made by Kevin Leonard and seconded by Christine English to approve Board Business items #1-2. Roll call vote: eight (8) members present voted yes; motion passed.

CLOSED SESSION (Potential Contract)

We are looking for a motion to enter into closed session for the purposes of discussing strategy for potential contract negotiations with a future attorney.

Pursuant to the Open Public Meetings Act, the public will be excluded from this discussion. However, results of the discussion will be made public at a time when the Board feels the matter has been resolved.

A motion was made by Gregory Quille and seconded by Joseph Sauer to move on the above Resolution. Roll call vote: eight (8) members present voted yes; motion passed.

A motion was made by Wendy Cotter and seconded by Christine English to exit closed session and resume the regular meeting. Roll call vote: eight (8) members present voted yes; motion passed.

TIME IN: 7:18pm

TIME AT CONCLUSION OF CLOSED SESSION: 8:24pm

ADVANCED PLANNING

1. To approve a special board meeting on April 16, 2012 at 6:00pm in the Administration Building for the purpose of interviewing board attorney candidates.

A motion was made by Joseph Sauer and seconded by Christine English to approve Advanced Planning item #1. Roll call vote: eight (8) members present voted yes; motion passed.

At the conclusion of the board meeting, Mr. Samuel Fierra resigned his position as board president, though Mr. Fierra remains on the board as a board member.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Tammy Nicolini and seconded by Gregory Quille to adjourn the meeting at 8:25pm. Roll call vote: eight (8) members present voted yes; motion passed.

PUBLIC COMMENT NOTICE - STAFFORD TOWNSHIP BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETINGS

The Stafford Township Board of Education welcomes the opportunity to hear what members of the public have to say about matters of public interest. However, we do have specific procedures in place for you to bring your concerns to the proper personnel. We refer to this as the chain of command. For example, if you have a concern involving something within the classroom, we would ask that you first speak to the teacher, and if necessary, the principal. If you have not utilized the chain of command, we would ask that you please do so prior to addressing your concerns in this meeting so that the district personnel are given the opportunity to resolve these matters to your satisfaction. If, after utilizing the chain of command, you feel your concerns have not been addressed, we welcome you to return to the next Board meeting to voice your concern. If you have any questions about the chain of command (or the appropriate person to whom you should address your concern), please feel free to ask any member of the Board at the break or when this meeting concludes. We would also like to make you aware that there are certain matters that the Board can only discuss in closed session. Thus, if your comments touch upon an issue that is only to be discussed in closed session or one where certain notices must be provided prior to the Board conducting any discussions, the Board will not be able to respond to your comments at this time. We will inform you if this is the case when you have finished speaking. Specifically, this situation may arise if you are discussing a particular employee (or employees) of the district or a particular student (or students).

Enrico D. Siano – BS/SBA