

SPECIAL MEETING
Tuesday, May 24, 2016 @ 4:30 pm

Attendees - voting members

Alan Barone	President
Tom Miller	Vice President
Mike Bakatsias	Board Member
Sue Gilmore	Board Member
Ed Meisel	Board Member
Debbie Pagano	Board Member
Heather Welch	Board Member

Attendees - other

Deborah Haab	Superintendent
Lisa Cerniglia	District Clerk
Sarah Dudley-Lemek	Assistant Superintendent
Louise M Lynch	Business Administrator

I. CALL TO ORDER AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Board President Alan Barone called meeting to Order at 4:45 pm. The Pledge of Allegiance was then recited.

Attendance

Pete Harris, High School Principal; Dan S. Wetzel, Middle School Principal; Joel Freer, Elementary School Principal; Carol Potash, Director of Technology; Douglas Carter, Interim for Transportation; Pete Miller, Director of Facilities; Maria McCarthy, Director of Food Services; Frank Alfonso, Director of Transportation

Opening Comments:

Alan Barone thanked community for casting their votes at the last budget vote. Unfortunately, it was a disappointment that the budget did not pass due to a required 60% supermajority approval.

II. PUBLIC COMMENTS

The floor was open for public comments. No comments were made at this time.

III. BOARD OF EDUCATION

i. Budget Discussion for the 2016-2017 School Year

Louise Lynch, Business Administrator, presented a power point presentation of three budget proposals for the 2016-2017 budget re-vote as well as the budget revote calendar.

Several options were discussed among Administrators and Board members:

1) Scenario 1

Levy Increase Percentage 0.5861%

Total budget: \$41,522,885

Requires a 50%+1 vote to pass

2) Scenario 2

Levy Increase Percentage 1.7585%

Total budget: \$41,656,096

Requires a super majority vote (60%)

3) Scenario 3

Levy Increase Percentage 1.9869%

Total budget: \$41,656,096

Requires a super majority vote (60%)

4) Scenario 4

Contingency Budget

No increase in tax levy

No extra-curricular activities

No free use of buildings for host events

No after school activities

Deborah Haab encourages community members to continue lobbying state office, by June 16th, to request release of funds that the state is holding. Further discussion took place about Scenario 1 (staying within the tax cap).

After discussion the Board agreed to propose to community Scenario 1. June 14th is the date for Budget Hearing. The June 14th Board of Education meeting will also recognize the tenure employees and retirees from the 2015-2016 school year.

Closing Comments:

- Alan Barone reminded the community that Highland Central School District has the lowest school budget in Ulster County.
- The Board thanked the staff and administrators for all their extra work with having a limited budget over the past several years.
- Encouraged the community and staff to vocalize their thoughts on the proposed budget for the 2016-2017 school year.
- Next Board meeting is scheduled May 31st at 4:30 pm.

IV. PUBLIC COMMENTS

The floor was open for public comments. No comments were made.

Motion made at 5:50 pm by Tom Miller to go into Executive Session; Seconded by Mike Bakatsias; Motion carried.

V. EXECUTIVE SESSION

BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education of the Highland Central School District conduct an Executive Session to discuss the following topics:

The medical, financial or credit, employment history of a particular person or corporation, or matters leading to the appointment, employment, promotion, demotion, discipline, suspension, dismissal or removal of a particular person or corporation.

V. ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned at 7:15 pm.

Motion made by: Ed Meisel

Motion seconded by: Tom Miller

Voting

Unanimously Approved

District Clerk