

Minutes of the Special Meeting/Budget Workshop #2 of the Oceanside Board of Education, Oceanside Union Free School District, duly called and held on Tuesday, March 1, 2016, at 7:30 p.m. in the Cafeteria of School #6, 145 Merle Avenue, Oceanside, New York.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION** – A motion was made by Mr. Maresca and seconded by Mrs. Schoell at 6:10 p.m. to move into executive session in the Board Room of the District Office to discuss personnel matters.

In attendance: President Transom, Vice President Maresca, Mr. Blau, Mr. D'Ambrosio, Mrs. McGrath-Mulhern and Mrs. Schoell. Also in attendance were Superintendent Harrington and Assistant Superintendents DeRosa, Fenter and Van Cott. Mrs. Garrity was not in attendance.

A motion was made by Mr. Maresca and seconded by Mr. Transom at 7: 36 p.m. to adjourn Executive Session and move into the Regular meeting.

### **CALL TO ORDER**

In Attendance: President Transom, Vice President Maresca, Mr. Blau, Mr. D'Ambrosio, Mrs. McGrath-Mulhern and Mrs. Schoell. Also in attendance: Superintendent Harrington and Assistant Superintendents DeRosa, Fenter, Van Cott and District Clerk Green. Mrs. Garrity was not in attendance.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE** – The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by Brodie Lucas and Jack Chasan, School #6 Kindergarten students.

### **ITEMS FOR INFORMATION**

Mr. Van Cott reviewed follow-up items from Budget Workshop #1 as follows: The Board had requested a list of purchases under periodicals for the Superintendent's office. Mr. Van Cott advised that the list consists of subscriptions to Newsday, the Herald, "On Board", Educational Leadership and the Councilgram. The Board requested a list of items included in the Service Contract code for Buildings & Grounds. Mr. Van Cott advised that some of the items included in this code are for the phone system, inspections of air conditioning, scoreboards, security surveillance and maintenance of the fire alarms.

Mr. Van Cott provided an explanation of the budget document presented this evening. He reviewed the columns and codes on each page for the 2015/16 school year and the proposed differences for the 2016/17 school year.

Budget Workshop #2 – Special Education, Technology, Athletics – Mr. Van Cott provided a PowerPoint presentation for Budget Workshop #2 (attached to the records of this meeting). He explained that districts are required to present the budget in three parts (Program, Administration and Capital). This evening he reviewed the Program Component of the proposed budget and noted that these are preliminary numbers which may change as the budget is developed.

Mr. Van Cott turned the meeting over to Dr. Harrington who presented an overview of the special education budget.

Page 13 – Program for Students with Special Needs/Technology/Business Education – Dr. Harrington explained that during the budget process, the district tries to decrease certain codes if other codes are increased while remaining within the tax cap. Dr. Harrington stated that Special Education is the one area where we are projecting increases. The total budget is \$13.6 million, which represents an increase of \$800,000 over two years and is 9.2% of our total preliminary budget. Students' needs are determined by the Committee on Special Education. The Committee takes their responsibility very serious and their

recommendations are well thought out and we cannot say no to them. There is an increase in independent evaluations requested by parents and an increase in requests for assistive technology. These increased recommendations are supported by the Committee on Special Education. In addition, out of district tuition has increased, which we have no control over, and special education transportation and one-on-one matron costs have increased as well. In addition, special education incurs legal costs (which we must budget for) and are reflected in other components of the budget. Questions were raised which Dr. Harrington and Mr. Van Cott addressed.

No changes were recommended.

Page 14 – Instruction – Special Schools – Mr. Van Cott provided information on the New Horizons, Summer School and Oceanside Learning Center Programs. – No changes were recommended.

Page 15 – Technology/Library Media – Mr. Van Cott advised that code 2630-160- 00-0000 has not been used and, is being removed. The computer equipment code has been reclassified from the Buildings & Grounds section of the budget. The increase in iPad repairs is due to the anticipated increase in the number of repairs needed as additional grades are added to our iPad initiative. – No change were recommended.

Page 18 – Interscholastic Athletics – Mr. Van Cott explained that the district is budgeting for a new boys’ swim team which includes expenses for supplies and coaching salary. We are still working with the organization and should costs become too high, we will have to review the program again. This page includes expenses for athletic program salaries as well as non-instructional salaries. It also includes the costs for interscholastic athletic equipment and game uniforms. No changes were recommended.

TAX CAP – Mr. Van Cott provided information on the variables that are used to determine Oceanside’s tax cap. Consumer Price Index for 2016/2017 is 0.12%, which will result in a very low allowable tax levy. Mr. Van Cott explained the impact the court’s ruling on the LIPA PILOT will have on the tax levy.

Dr. Harrington reviewed the upcoming budget meeting dates.

**ADJOURNMENT** - A motion was made by Mr. Transom to adjourn the meeting at 8:35 p.m.

Mary Ann Marino  
Secretary to the Board of Education

Robin D. Green  
District Clerk