Public Hearing - Proposed 2019-2020 Budget (Monday, May 13, 2019)
(Minutes are considered DRAFT until approved by the Board of Education)

Board of Education Members Present: Jay Wilson, Tammy Neumann, Seth Haight, Elizabeth Huneke, Lucy Kelly, Mark Schneider, and Kenneth Aikens.

1. Opening of Meeting:
A. Call to Order:
President, Jay Wilson called the Public Hearing for the Proposed 2019-2020 Budget to order by the Board President with the Pledge of Allegiance at 7:03 p.m.

2. Presentation
A. Presentation of Proposed 2019-2020 Budget:
President Jay Wilson turned the floor over to Mr. Carey Shultz, Business Administrator. Mr. Schultz gave a PowerPoint presentation of the proposed budget for 2019-2020.

Note: The presentation for tonight's meeting is available online. The budget hearing was also televised by Delhi Telephone Company.

3. Public Comments:
President, Jay Wilson opened the floor to public comments. A brief question and answer session was held:

Question: What didn't make the budget?

Answer: Equipment, a bus wash, and some repairs to the legion. The deletions were based on the first aid run.

Mr. Shultz reported there were some savings in some areas and this will enable the district to purchase a new plow truck.

4. Board of Education Comments:
Tammy Neumann thanked everyone for attending the budget hearing this evening. She said the budget proposal is a collaborative effort. Ms. Neumann thanked Mr. Shultz for his guidance and encouraged everyone to vote on May 21, 2019. She wished the candidates luck.

Mark Schneider stated he supports the proposed budget for 2019-2020. He feels it is a responsible budget and encouraged everyone to vote yes on the proposed budget.

Seth Haight commented he supports the proposed budget and there was a lot of collaborative time spent in the preparation. He commended Mr. Shultz on his trustworthiness in giving the Board accurate answers when they've asked for his guidance. The Catskill Area School Employee Benefit Plan (CASEBP) is a practical health program as our healthcare percentage increase is zero this year, where others are often in the double digits when it comes to percentage increase. CASEBP is an excellent program. The Medigap portion of the program has saved our district a lot of money. No one wants to see high increases and the Board doesn't want to cut. There are a few additions, but good ones. It was a nice approach to the budgeting process. Mr. Haight encouraged the public to ask questions regarding the budget and the process.

Elizabeth Huneke encouraged everyone to vote yes on the proposed budget on May 21, 2019, and to bring a friend with them when they come to vote. The Board encourages more community involvement. Ms. Huneke thanked the Board of Education for their hard work as there were many Monday evening meetings where they spent time together hashing over the budget line items. She also agrees that our children's mental health is very important, and we need to address it as best we can.

Lucy Kelly concurred with the other Board of Education member's comments. She encouraged everyone's support on the proposed budget. She feels the proposed budget is a sound budget with minimal increase and it allows us to offer quality programs. She thanked everyone for allowing the Board to continue to offer quality programs; the outcome is for the future of the students.

Kenneth Aikens encouraged everyone to come out to vote yes on the proposed budget. He said he feels good about the budget, and he agrees with the other Board member's comments.

5. Enter Executive Session:
On a motion made by Tammy Neumann, seconded by Elizabeth Huneke, the Board of Education entered Executive Session for the purpose of reviewing the employment history of one or more employees, with no action to be taken. The Board entered Executive Session at 7:40 p.m.

6. Leave Executive Session and Adjourn:
On a motion made by Lucy Kelly, seconded by Kenneth Aikens, the Board of Education left Executive Session and adjourned the meeting at 9:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,