

Litchfield Community Unit District No. 12
Board of Education Meeting
Basement of G.A. Sihler School
601 South State St. Litchfield, IL. 62056
Thursday, August 20, 2020
6:00p.m.

The Litchfield Board of Education held their regular monthly meeting beginning at 6:00p.m. at G.A. Sihler School ,601 South State Street, Litchfield, IL. 62056. Board members in attendance included: Julie Abel, President; Ron Anglin, Vice President, Valerie Cain, Secretary, David Belusko; Mark Bloome, and Gregg Hires. Mike Fleming was absent. Also in attendance were: Dr. Gregg Fuerstenau, Superintendent; Kris Adamson, recording secretary. Administrators: Doug Hoster; Jennifer Thompson; Russ Tepen; Jeremy Heigert; and Adam Favre. John Hanafin of News Herald and Mary Herschelmann, Journal News.; Amy Newkirk LEA representative; and Kendall King a representative from Kings Financial Consulting, Inc. Concerned parent and citizen. Masks were worn and social distancing was adhered to the guidelines.

Public Hearing

A PUBLIC HEARING concerning the intent of the Board to sell \$4,000,000 Working Cash Fund Bonds to increase the District's working cash fund, \$12,000,000 Alternate Revenue Bonds for certain capital projects and \$9,000,000 School Fire Prevention and Safety Bonds to finance school fire prevention and safety projects was called to order at 6:00p.m. Julie Abel called for any public input at that time. Seeing as none, a motion was made by Valerie Cain and seconded by Ron Anglin to adjourn the public hearing at 6:02p.m. Voice Vote: AYE: Abel, Anglin, Belusko, Bloome, Cain and Hires. Motion carried 6-0.

Regular meeting

The regular monthly meeting of the Board of Education was called to order at 6:03pm. Mike Fleming was absent. No one has contacted Dr. Fuerstenau to address the board prior to the agenda being posted. No public input at this time.

Consent agenda

A motion was made by Ron Anglin and seconded by Mark Bloome to approve the consent agenda as follows:

- Approve minutes from public hearing July 16, 2020
- Approve regular and closed session minutes from meeting July 16, 2020
- Approve minutes from special meeting August 5, 2020
- Approve minutes from special meeting August 10, 2020
- Approve bills
- Approve Treasurer's report

Bills payable for August 2020 total \$600,534. Total from Education fund is \$361,689; from Operations & Maintenance \$64,793; from Transportation \$22,991; from Capital Projects \$147,782; from Tort \$3,277. Total of ending balance in

all funds at July 30, 2020 is \$11,057,580. Total in Operating Funds is \$5,778,455; total in Capital Projects is \$932,850.

A roll call vote: AYE: Abel, Anglin, Belusko, Bloome, Cain, and Hires. Motion carried 6-0.

Old Business

A motion was made by Ron Anglin and seconded by Mark Bloome to approve the second reading of board revisions to Policy, Administrative Procedures, and exhibits:

2:150-AP; 2:220; 2:220-EP

4:180;4:180-AP3

5:170-AP4

6:20-AP

7:40; 7:190;7:190-AP2;7:190-AP4;7:190-AP5;7:190-E2;7:220-AP;7:340;7:340-AP1,E1;7:345;

7:345-AP;7:345-AP,E1;7:345-AP,E2; 7:345-AP,E3

A Voice vote: AYE: Abel, Anglin, Belusko, Bloome, Cain. NAY: Hires Motion carried 5-1.

New Business

A motion was made by Ron Anglin and seconded by Valerie Cain to approve a budget hearing for the 2020-2021 fiscal year (beginning July 1, 2020) for Tuesday, September 22, 2020 at 6:00 p.m. at the G. A. Sihler School, and that the budget as prepared by the district's chief fiscal officer, Superintendent Dr. Gregory Fuerstenau, will be available for public inspection for at least thirty (30) days prior to its adoption on September 22, 2020; and that proper notice be given. School code requires that the tentative budget be on display thirty (30) days prior to final action taken on the budget. The budget must be adopted within the first quarter of the fiscal year, which ends September 30, 2020. The September 22nd budget hearing will be in compliance with the required amount of time between public review of the budget and adoption of the 2020-2021 fiscal year budget. A roll call vote: AYE: Abel, Anglin, Belusko, Bloome, Cain, and Hires.

Motion carried 6-0.

A motion was made by Ron Anglin and seconded by Mark Bloome to approve the purchase of property located at 120 West St. John St. Litchfield, IL. 62056 from Litchfield Unlimited Corporation (LUC) for the amount of \$ 150,000. The Administration and counsel have reviewed the real estate purchase agreement to purchase the property from Litchfield Unlimited Corporation. A roll call vote: AYE: Abel, Anglin, Belusko, Bloome, Cain, and Hires. Motion carried 6-0.

A motion was made by Ron Anglin and seconded by Mark Bloome to approve the first reading of board revisions to Policy, Administrative procedures, and exhibits. The following revisions will need to be reviewed for a first reading:

2:150-AP; 2:250-E2; 2:260;2:260-AP1;2:260-AP2;2:265; 2:265-AP1;2:265-AP2;2:265-E

4:180-AP1;4:180-AP2

5:10;5:20;5:90-AP;5:100;5:200;5:220; 5:330

7:10;7:10-AP1;7:20;7:20-AP; 7:180; 7:185;7:190-E2;7:345-AP

A Voice vote: AYE: Abel, Anglin, Belusko, Bloome, Cain. NAY: Hires Motion carried 5-1.

Information

Dr. Fuerstenau started the discussion off by reading an email from Jason Cooper, a parent with students in the district. Mr. Cooper wanted to reach out to the teachers and administration letting them know what a great success the first week of school had been for his students. Mr. Cooper's students are registered in the hybrid model. Dr. Fuerstenau and the administrative team are very proud of the entire staff for making this week a success above and beyond expectations. Areas of improvement have come forward since actually having the students in attendance. Students and all staff are following the guidelines by wearing masks, hand washing, and social distancing. Dr. Lett, the district's career and technical education coordinator and member of the Illinois State Board of Education, took tours of the buildings. Mr. Favre publicly thanked the anonymous donor of \$4,000.00 to be used for remote learning needs. South side Church and the Litchfield Baptist Church are working on a plan to host learning/help

sites for students. It is in the planning stage with more information to be presented at a later date. Jennifer Thompson announced that she is applying for grants to cover approximately 250 WI-FI hot spots for families. Families without internet at all will be a first priority. Mr. Heigert reiterated from his staff that it was great to have the kids back. School goes on, even in the midst of the pandemic, MAP Testing is moving forward. Dr. Tepen thanked Union Avenue Christian Church for the donation of 400 clear backpacks for students. Staff is working hard to make easy transition for students. Middle School worked with Bob Witter, Building and Grounds/Transportation Director, to work out busing issues. Finally, Mr. Hoster, addressed the Board. He stated, "the first week went better than expected.". The Administration with input from all staff will adjust areas of concern for the next week. Dr. Fuerstneau asked that everyone be patient and flexible during this uncharted territory.

A special meeting is set for Monday, September 31, 2020 to discuss the next plan for school and a presentation by FGM Architects and Poettker Construction.

Personnel

A motion was made by Valerie Cain and seconded by Ron Anglin to approve the following personnel report: (All new district personnel, including substitutes, are subject to successful completion of all state and local employment requirements.)

- Accept the resignation of Ronda Lawson, aide for the District, effective immediately.
- Approve the hire of Alexandria Plovich as Special Education Classroom Aide at Colt School for the 2020-2021 school year.

A roll call vote: AYE: Abel, Anglin, Belusko, Bloome, Cain, and Hires. Motion carried 6-0.

Closed Session

The Board would not go into closed session.

Seeing no further action to be taken, a motion was made Ron Anglin and seconded by Mark Bloome to adjourn the meeting at 6:58 p.m. Voice Vote: AYE: Abel, Anglin, Belusko, Bloome, Cain and Hires. Motion carried 6-0.