

**WELLSBORO AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT**

February 25, 2016 6:00 PM High School Faculty Room-High School

Start Time: 6:00PM

Present -

Bonnie Thompson, Business Manager; Pat Hewitt, Acting Superintendent; Matt Feil, Committee Chairperson and Board Member; Tim McCratic, Committee Member and Board Member; Christopher Gastrock, Committee Member and Board Member; Duane Cotner, Board Member; Amy Repard, Director of Special Education; Steve Adams, Elementary School Principal; Rob Kreger, High School Principal; Dr. Ben Largey, Coordinator of Online Programs / School Psychologist; Mike Pietropola, Middle School Principal; Daren Bryant, Building & Grounds; Bryan Murphy, Network Administrator; Diane Eaton, Sun Gazette, Reporter; Tammy Knowlton

Committee Chairperson, Matt Feil, opened the meeting at 6:00 pm and then turn the meeting over to Bonnie Thompson, Business Manager. Mrs. Thompson stated there has been no resolution to the 2015-2016 State Budget. The Ready to Learn funds have been distributed totaling \$191,691. Special Education state funding amount is unknown. The state is providing only 10 months of Social Security reimbursement. We will need to carry over 2 months into 2016-17 school year totaling \$70,000. For the 2016-17 State Budget, the Property Tax relief fund (Homestead/Farmstead) will remain in the state budget. For 2015-16 that amount was \$378,522. Mrs. Thompson noted that the state will be working on both budgets 2015-16 and 2016-17.

Current Status of 2015-16 General Fund Budget-

Mrs. Thompson gave out a Board Summary Report showing the current status of our General Fund expenditures and revenues. She stated the district may need to use reserves in May and June to get us through the school year if the state budget does not get resolved. In January, the district did receive 42% of Basic Education funding from the state.

2016-17 Budget-

Mrs. Thompson stated at the work session on February 2<sup>nd</sup> the budget reflected an overall budget shortfall of \$704,115 with utilizing Retirement reserves of \$496,696.

Mrs. Thompson gave an update and reported the amount of expenditures are \$25,720,840 and the amount of revenues of \$24,644,877 with a shortfall of \$1,075,963 with utilizing retirement reserves the overall shortfall has been reduced to \$579,267.

Review of Expenditures-

- The health insurance preliminary rate budgeted was 8% and was reduced to overall 1%.
- Dr. Ben Largey reviewed Wellsboro On-Line Academy budget;
- Mr. Adams, Mr. Kreger and Mr. Pietropola reviewed their Building Budgets;
- Mrs. Repard reviewed the Special Education budget;
- Mr. Kreger reviewed the Athletic budget;
- Mr. Murphy reviewed the Technology budget;
- Mr. Bryant reviewed the Building and Grounds budget;

Reductions to the Budget recommended by Administration to reduce shortfall:

	Projected Savings	Initial Deficit
		\$1,075,963
PSERS Reserves	\$ 496,696	579,267
Insurance Fund Reserves	\$ 109,000	470,267
Technology-Lease Servers instead of buy	\$ 60,000	410,267
Athletics – Links System (Timing System for track)	\$ 12,000	398,267
Athletics- Transportation	\$ 1,000	397,267
Athletics- Supplies	\$ 4,000	393,267
High School Building Budget	\$ 5,000	388,267
RLB Building Budget	\$ 5,000	383,267
DG/CL Building Budget	\$ 5,000	378,267
Special Ed (Transition/Darts/Publications/Membership)	\$ 33,500	344,767
Life Insurance Change of Company	\$ 4,164	340,603
Adjustments to HS Administration Salaries	\$ 41,812	298,791
PAETEP Program for Evaluations	\$ 5,119	293,672
Additional Deductions from Committed Reserves	\$ 293,672	0

Possible Early Retirement Incentive

Other Reductions not listed will involve cuts in programs

Discussion–

There is one retirement an Elementary Music position. The committee discussed class sizes, volunteer coach program, uniforms, pay to play, fees for games, Source 4 Teacher and the replacement of the Assistant High School Principal and elementary music position.

Mr. Feil requested a 2% cut for all areas of the budget. Mr. Gastrock requested Buildings and Grounds look into leasing a truck instead of buying.

Review Budget Timeline-

- May 3, 2016 Work Session
- May 10, 2016 Board Meeting – Adoption of Proposed Final Budget

Mrs. Thompson stated the adoption of the Proposed Final Budget must occur 30 days in advance of adopting the Final Budget.

- June 7, 2016 Work Session
- June 14, 2016 Board Meeting
  - Adoption of Final Budget PDE-2028
  - Adoption of Homestead/Farmstead Resolution
  - Adoption of Tax Levy Resolution

The next meeting is scheduled for March 31, 2016.