

BOARD OF EDUCATION
SPECIAL BOARD MEETING
February 21, 2023
5:00 p.m.
Forum Room, Secondary Building
Crosby, MN

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Special meeting of the Board of Education was held in the Forum Room, Secondary building at 5:00 p.m. on February 21, 2023 with Chair Mike Domin presiding.

Members Present: Mike Domin, Laura Lee, Beth Hautala, Tommy Sablan, Kim Coughlin and Superintendent Jamie Skjeveland. Board member Barb Neprud was absent.

Chair Domin called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.

Approve Agenda-Motion by Sablan, second by Hautala to approve the agenda. All voting aye, and the motion carried.

Budget Assumptions and Projected Budget Deficit for 2023-2024 and/or 2024-2025, Including Criteria for Potential Operating Referendum – The Board discussed a variety of budget related items, including planning schedules; presently unknown items that will impact the budget, including the state legislative process and negotiations; the impact in recent fiscal periods of federal COVID funding; and three options that might be utilized to alleviate projected deficits.

Tommy Sablan left the meeting at 5:30 p.m.

The three options included working through a list of potential reductions, possible revenue increases as a result of state legislative action between now and legislative adjournment in May 2023, and the potential for an operating referendum election. The operating referendum election may be a possibility in November of 2023, in alignment with the expiration of federal COVID funding in September 2024, which creates a long-identified funding cliff, and the timing to get operating referendum election results included on the 2023 Payable 2024 Final Levy which is used to fund the 2024-2025 school year. If part of the solution to projected ongoing deficits includes a decision to ask the voters to approve an operating referendum, very preliminary discussions about a communications plan were discussed. A final decision regarding a November 2023 operating referendum will need to be made in June or July 2023 in order to meet election timelines.

It is likely that a combination of each of the three options may need to be implemented, utilizing a combination of expenditure reductions and revenue increases. One goal might be to consider setting budget deficit projection criteria that would be used to initiate or trigger an operating referendum.

The process was referred back to the finance committee for further discussion and development of recommendations.

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Track and Tennis Court Summer Maintenance – The School Board was provided with an update on maintenance needed on both the track and tennis courts, which is part of a normal cycle of maintenance required over the life of each of those facilities.

Track – The track underwent major reconstruction in the summer of 2016. Standard preventative maintenance need to be completed every five (5) to seven (7) years. The track is in need of that first cycle of preventative maintenance in the summer of 2023. This will include crack fill and seal, fixing any delaminated areas, applying a structural spray coat, and restriping. Cost is estimated at \$90,000 to \$92,000. This funding will come from Long Term Facilities Maintenance (LTFM) or Operating Capital. This process provides an outcome that should be good for the next six (6) to eight (8) years.

Tennis Courts – The tennis courts underwent an upgrade and expansion from four to eight courts in 2017. Preventative maintenance is generally needed every four (4) to six (6) years. The tennis courts are in need of that first cycle of preventative maintenance in the summer of 2023. This will include routing out the cracks, refill cracks, and repaint the entire surface. Cost is estimated at \$56,000 plus the cost of routing and crack filling. LTFM or Operating Capital will be used to fund the project. This process provides an outcome that should be good for another four (4) to six (6) years.

These items are for informational purposes only, as they are included in the capital budget.

The next regular Board meeting will be February 27, 2023 at 6:30 p.m. in the Forum Room.

Adjourn-Motion by Coughlin, second by Lee to adjourn the meeting at 7:17 p.m. All voting aye, and the motion carried

Recorded by Wm Tollefson

Laura Lee, Clerk