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**GRAND LEDGE PUBLIC SCHOOLS  
*Board of Education***

Regular Meeting – June 25, 2018

**MINUTES**

President Shiflett called the meeting to order at 6:01pm. He led those present in the Pledge of Allegiance.

**ROLL CALL**

Roll Call by Superintendent Metcalf indicated the presence of **Board Members**: Ben Cwayna, Denise DuFort, Beverly Winstanley, Kim Mulvenna, Patrick McKennon, Sara Clark Pierson and Jon Shiflett. **Central Office Administrators**: Brian Metcalf, Steve Gabriel, Mike Johnson, Nancy Rasinske, Sara Sutherland and Mark Deschaine. **Others in Attendance**: Jay Bennett, John Ellsworth and Kim Manning

**TRUTH IN TAXATION / TRUTH IN BUDGETING HEARING**

**Motion by Mr. Cwayna, seconded by Mrs. Winstanley for the Grand Ledge Public Schools Board of Education to OPEN the Truth in Taxation / Truth in Budgeting Hearing.**

**ROLL CALL VOTE:**

<b>Mrs. DuFort</b>	<b>YES</b>	<b>Mr. McKennon</b>	<b>YES</b>
<b>Mrs. Winstanley</b>	<b>YES</b>	<b>President Shiflett</b>	<b>YES</b>
<b>Mrs. Mulvenna</b>	<b>YES</b>	<b>Mr. Cwayna</b>	<b>YES</b>

**The motion carried unanimously at 6:02pm.**

Chief Financial Officer Nancy Rasinske led the board in the Truth in Taxation / Truth in Budgeting Hearing reviewing the district's tax collection schedule, fund accounting rules for the General, Debt and Capital Improvement Funds, the millage rates noting non-homestead at 18 mills, commercial personal property at 6 mills and the State Education Tax at 6 mills. She further review the Debt Fund noting a total outstanding debt of \$39.8M, total taxable value of \$1.45B, Principal and interest payments of \$5.33M and the millage rate of 4.19 mills that is needed to make bond payments. She provided the history of the district's debt millage showing that since 2010 the millage rate has dropped from 5.55 Mills to 4.19 Mills. She provided an overview of comparative millage rates for Central Michigan School District noting Grand Ledge Public Schools has the lowest millage rate at 4.19. She reviewed the Capital Improvement Fund noting this is a .8 millage that was approved by the voters for 10 years, noting a Headlee reduction has taken the millage rate down to .7968 and is set to expire at the end of 2021. She advised there would be no change in tax rates for non-Homestead, debt service or capital improvement for fiscal year 19. She went on to advise the district ended the 2018 fiscal year with a fund balance of \$6,129,610, which equals 11.5% of the district's total expenditures. She noted this is the first time in 20 years the district has not had to borrow money to make its summer payroll, which saves the district money by not having to pay interest on the borrowed money. This is money that can stay in the classroom. She further

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reviewed the revenues the district receives noting the district anticipates an increase in the pupil foundation grant for the upcoming fiscal year but there is a projected decrease in our student population of 35 students. In closing she noted the district's total adopted revenue for 2018-2019 is \$53,162,011, which shows revenues down by \$489,132 over 2017-2018 revenues. District expenditures for 2018-2019 are anticipated to be \$52,125,457 noting an estimated ending undesignated funds balance of 11.6%.

**Motion by Mrs. DuFort, seconded by Mr. Cwayna to Close the Truth in Taxation / Truth in Budgeting Hearing at 6:32 pm.**

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA ITEMS**

**Motion by Mrs. Winstanley, seconded Mrs. Mulvenna by for the Grand Ledge Public Schools Board of Education to approve the June 25, 2018, 2018 Agenda Items, as presented. The motion carried unanimously.**

**APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS**

**Motion by Mrs. Winstanley, seconded by Mrs. Mulvenna for the Grand Ledge Public Schools Board of Education to approve the June 25, 2018 Consent Agenda Item, as presented.**

Included on the Consent Agenda were the meeting minutes of the May 14, 2018 Regular Meeting and the meeting minutes of the June 11, 2018 Work Session and Closed Session and the hiring of John Ellsworth as the district's Director of Communications.

It was noted that 16 applications were received for the Director of Communications positions. Ten candidates were invited to a first round interview, four were brought in for a second round interview and three were brought back for the third and final interview.

**The motion carried unanimously.**

Mr. Ellsworth thanked the board for the opportunity to help move our district forward. He commended the district on the selection process noting there was great consideration of the candidates. He expressed his excitement for the opportunity, noting he has already taken notes for communicating our message to our community, especially with regard to fiscal responsibility, academics and being a community committed to excellence.

**REPORTS**

- A. Capitol Connections Report** - Mrs. DuFort provided information to the members regarding current legislation including the budget being passed, the Marshall plan, Senate Bills 940-942, Hour Bills 5141-5142 and Senate Bill 685.
- B. Eaton RESA Report – Board** Representative Jay Bennett advised the Eaton RESA Board adopted a resolution approving a 4-year master agreement with teachers, approved the 2018-2019 budget, approved the summer and winter tax levy's, authorized the superintendent to renew a CTE contract with AIS Construction that provides students the opportunity to learn how to work and work on big tractors and back hoes. In closing he advised for the past six months the RESA has been working with a third party to conduct

a salary comparison and has brought administrative salary schedule into alignment with other RESA's and ISD's throughout the state.

- C. Grand Ledge Education Foundation Report** – Mrs. DuFort advised the Foundation met to prepare for the Comet Chase that took place last weekend. She noted there was a small number of participants but close to what has been the norm in previous years.
  
- D. Superintendent's Report** – Superintendent Metcalf announced Boys varsity lacrosse team captured the first CAAC Championship in program history - winning both the regular season and tournament titles. Jackson Alspaugh was named the LSJ's Boys Lacrosse Player of the Year. Girls varsity softball were also winners of the CAAC Blue with a perfect 14-0 league record. Grand Ledge captured the Division I District Championship and finished runner up in the Lansing Softball Classic. Senior Lindsay Goodman was named the LSJ's Girls' Softball Player of the Year. Girls Varsity Water Polo made an incredible run this season. Grand Ledge started the season with 25 consecutive victories and rose to a Number 2 ranking in the state. Varsity Baseball had their best season in a decade with conference, district and regional championships. Grand Ledge also captured the Diamond Classic title, the 25th title for Coach O'Keefe. Grand Ledge ended the year with a 37-4 record including a perfect 14-0 mark in the CAAC Blue to mark their fourth straight league title. Sophomore Kavion Autrey was named All-State in Division I Track and Field after placing 2nd in the long jump at the state finals.

**PUBLIC COMMENT ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS**

Jay Bennett advised he works for MASB and wanted to remind everyone there are several good trainings coming out in August and the Annual Conference is scheduled for November 2018.

**OLD BUSINESS**

- A. Approval of Final 2017-2018 Budget Amendment Resolution**  
**Motion by Mrs. Mulvenna, seconded by Mrs. Winstanley for the Grand Ledge Public Schools Board of Education to approve the Final 2017-2018 Budget Amendment Resolution, as presented.**

**ROLL CALL VOTE:**

Mrs. Winstanley	<u>YES</u>	President Shiflett	<u>YES</u>
Mrs. Mulvenna	<u>YES</u>	Mr. Cwayna	<u>YES</u>
Mr. McKennon	<u>YES</u>	Mrs. DuFort	<u>YES</u>

The motion carried unanimously.

- B. Approval of 2018-2019 Debt Service & General Fund Budget Resolution**  
**Motion by Mr. McKennon, seconded by Mr. Cwayna for the Grand Ledge Public Schools Board of Education to approve the 2018-2019 Debt Service, Food Service, Community Education, School Store, Athletics, Adventure Club, Capital Improvement, Technology Replacement and General Fund Budget Resolution, as presented.**

**ROLL CALL VOTE:**

Mrs. Mulvenna	<u>YES</u>	Mr. Cwayna	<u>YES</u>
Mr. McKennon	<u>YES</u>	Mrs. DuFort	<u>YES</u>
President Shiflett	<u>YES</u>	Mrs. Winstanley	<u>YES</u>

**The motion carried unanimously.**

**C. Approval of Purchase Agreement Resolution**

**Motion by Mr. Cwayna, seconded by Mrs. DuFort for the Grand Ledge Public Schools Board of Education to approve the Purchase Agreement Resolution, as presented.**

**ROLL CALL VOTE:**

Mr. McKennon	<u>YES</u>	Mrs. DuFort	<u>YES</u>
President Shiflett	<u>YES</u>	Mrs. Winstanley	<u>YES</u>
Mr. Cwayna	<u>YES</u>	Mrs. Mulvenna	<u>YES</u>

**The motion carried unanimously.**

**D. Approval of Application for Preliminary Qualification**

**Motion by Mrs. DuFort, seconded by Mrs. Winstanley for the Grand Ledge Public Schools Board of Education to approve the Application for Preliminary Qualification as presented by the Administration and that the Board Secretary sign and cause that Application to be filed with the Michigan Department of Treasury, as presented.**

**ROLL CALL VOTE:**

President Shiflett	<u>YES</u>	Mrs. Winstanley	<u>YES</u>
Mr. Cwayna	<u>YES</u>	Mrs. Mulvenna	<u>YES</u>
Mrs. DuFort	<u>YES</u>	Mr. McKennon	<u>YES</u>

**The motion carried unanimously.**

**E. Approval of Board Policy FD300 – Facility Naming**

**Motion by Mrs. Winstanley, seconded by Mrs. Mulvenna for the Grand Ledge Public Schools Board of Education to approve Board Policy FD300 addressing Facility Naming, as presented.  
The motion carried unanimously.**

**NEW BUSINESS**

**A. Approval of 2018-2019 MHSAA Membership Resolution**

**Motion by Mrs. Mulvenna, seconded by Mr. McKennon for the Grand Ledge Public Schools Board of Education to approve 2018-2019 Michigan High School Athletic Association Membership Resolution, as presented.**

**ROLL CALL VOTE:**

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<b>President Shiflett</b>	<u>YES</u>	<b>Mrs. Winstanley</b>	<u>YES</u>
<b>Mr. Cwayna</b>	<u>YES</u>	<b>Mrs. Mulvenna</b>	<u>YES</u>
<b>Mrs. DuFort</b>	<u>YES</u>	<b>Mr. McKennon</b>	<u>YES</u>

**The motion carried unanimously.**

**PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS**

Jay Bennett commended the board and administration on the district's fund balance noting that not having to take out a loan to make summer payroll in a big deal. He commented there are not a lot of district in the state that can say they have this luxury. He noted he has taken a quick look at the survey results and encouraged the members to take a good look at the results and take everything into consideration to make sure our community is going to support a bond proposal.

**COMMENTS FROM STAFF AND BOARD**

Dr. Metcalf advised in response to Mr. Bennett that the district stated with focus groups at elementary buildings where we encouraged input. The survey provided one more opportunity to our students, parents, community and staff, to make sure we didn't miss something. He advised that neither he, nor members of his cabinet attended these focus groups because the intent is to make sure our parents, students, and staff drive this proposal. All the information received in the focus groups and through the survey is what is driving this proposal and we sincerely hope it is something our community does embrace. It wasn't started by the board or the administration, it was started from the parents, staff and community.

Ms. Sutherland advised Ken Wright was named the Lacrosse coach of the year.

Dr. Johnson noted several new teachers will be brought to the board in July for approval to hire.

Dr. Metcalf noted the district had another good year financially and thanked Nancy and her staff. She noted the Audit will back up the numbers and a lot of this is due to work of her and her staff.

Mrs. McKennon congratulated Mr. Ellsworth noting he believes the district got a little better bringing him on as Communications Directors and stating he is glad it is a Social Studies teacher running the show for communications.

Mrs. Mulvenna echoed Dr. Metcalf with regard to budget, noting and 11.5% fund balance is remarkable. It indicates how fiscally efficient this district is in using its resources. In closing she noted that even though there is a pretty good fund balance she appreciates that the district continues to move cautiously.

Mrs. Winstanley welcomed Mr. Ellsworth advising him that telling the story of Grand Ledge Public School will buy a lot of confidence.

Mr. Cwayna also welcomed Mr. Ellsworth and advised him to let the board know if there is anything they can do.

President Shiflett welcomed Mr. Ellsworth and again noted that the fact the district does not have to borrow money to make summer payroll this year is huge and he appreciates everyone that has worked to get the district to this place.

**CLOSED SESSION – Negotiations**

**Motion by Mrs. DuFort, seconded by Mrs. Winstanley for the Grand Ledge Public Schools Board of Education to move into Closed Session for the purpose of discussing Negotiations Strategies, as per Section 8(c) of the Open Meetings Act, PA 267 of 1976.**

**ROLL CALL VOTE:**

Mr. Cwayna	<u>YES</u>	Mrs. Mulvenna	<u>YES</u>
Mrs. DuFort	<u>YES</u>	Mr. McKennon	<u>YES</u>
Mrs. Winstanley	<u>YES</u>	President Shiflett	<u>YES</u>

**The motion carried unanimously at 7:06pm.**

**The meeting reconvened in Open Session at 7:21 pm.**

**APPROVAL OF EMPLOYEE CONTRACT – Maintenance & Grounds**

**Motion by Mrs. Mulvenna, seconded by Mrs. Winstanley for the Grand Ledge Public Schools Board of Education to approve the contract with the Maintenance & Grounds Association, as presented. The motion carried unanimously.**

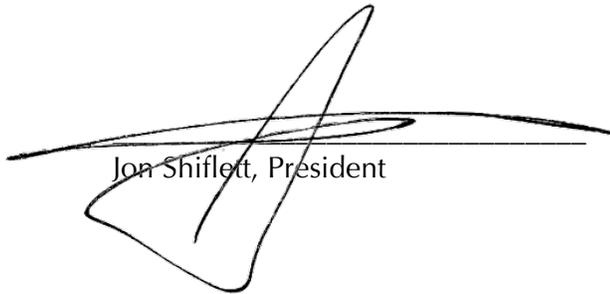
**ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 7:22pm.

Respectfully Submitted:

Attest:

  
Patrick McKennon, Secretary

  
Jon Shiflett, President