The Hitchcock County School Board of Education’s 2020-2021 budget hearing on September 14, 2020 was opened at 6:50 PM at the Hitchcock County Junior/Senior High School in Trenton. Board President Scott reviewed the budget document with the board, with the General Fund totaling $3,784,881.00. There was no public comment or questions. The hearing was declared closed by President Scott at 6:53.

Craig Scott, President Casha O’Byrne, Secretary

The 2020-2021 property tax request hearing for the Hitchcock County Schools was opened on September 14, 2020 at 6:54 PM. The request of 0.919095 per $100 of valuation for a total asking of $3,784.881.00 for the General Fund; of 0.116131 per $100 of valuation for a total asking of $478,232.00 for the Bond Fund; and of 0.012264 per $100 of valuation for a total asking of $50,505.00 for the Special Building Fund was reviewed by the board. There was no public comment or questions. With no further business, the hearing was adjourned at 6:56 PM.

Craig Scott, President Casha O’Byrne, Secretary

The Board of Education of the Hitchcock County Schools met September 14, 2020 at 7:00 PM at the Hitchcock County Jr/Sr High School. Present were board members Scott, O’Byrne, Kolbet, Marks, Rippen, and Hagan. Also present were Superintendent Sattler, Principal Tines, J. Spearman, T. Buchanan, D. Bohochik, and Peggy Fyn.

President Scott called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM. Notice of the board’s adherence to the Nebraska Open Meeting Law posted on the east wall of the meeting room was given.

Moved by Kolbet; seconded by O’Byrne to approve the September 2020 regular board meeting agenda. Aye votes Rippen, Hagan, Kolbet, Marks, Scott, and O’Byrne; nay votes none.

President Scott welcomed all visitors.

Moved by Rippen; seconded by Kolbet to approve the consent agenda as presented. Aye votes Hagan, Kolbet, Marks, Scott, O’Byrne, and Rippen; nay votes none. The consent agenda consisted of the following items: (1) Minutes of the August 2020 regular board meeting. (2) The Activity Fund. (3) The bill rosters with general fund bills totaling $414,342.61 and lunch fund bills totaling $16,163.61. (4) Other funds.

President Scott had two of the visitors introduce themselves. Jay Spearman from Piper Sandler, and Tobin Buchanan from First National Capital Markets. Both were present to speak to the board about possible refinancing of the school bond.

Moved by Kolbet; seconded by Hagan to move into executive session to hear each presentation on refinancing the school bond at 7:06 PM. Aye votes Kolbet, Marks, Scott, O’Byrne, Rippen, and Hagan; nay votes none.

Moved by Hagan; seconded by Marks to move out of executive session at 8:28 PM. Aye votes Marks, Scott, O’Byrne, Rippen, Hagan, and Kolbet; nay votes none.

Moved by Rippen; seconded by Hagan to hire First National Capital Markets for the refinancing of the school bond. Aye votes Hagan, Kolbet, Rippen, Marks, Scott, and O’Byrne; nay votes none.

Moved by Rippen; seconded by O’Byrne to recognize the Hitchcock County Educators Association as the official bargaining unit for the 2022-2023 school year. Aye votes Rippen, Hagan, Kolbet, Marks, Scott, and O’Byrne; nay votes none.

Superintendent Sattler presented the board with propane bids from Farmers Coop - $0.969 per gallon, and Southwest Fertilizer/Bosselman Energy - $0.93 per gallon. Moved by Scott; seconded by Rippen to accept Southwest Fertilizer/Bosselman Energy for $0.93 per gallon, pay as you go, for the Junior/Senior High School. Aye votes Hagan, Kolbet, Marks, Scott, O’Byrne, and Rippen; nay votes none.

The board tabled the bids for the elementary.

**2020-2021 TAX REQUEST RESOLUTION FOR Hitchcock County SCHOOL DISTRICT 44-0070**

WHEREAS, public was given at least five days in advance of a Special Public Hearing called for the purpose of discussing and approving or modifying the District’s Tax Requests for the 2020-2021 school fiscal year for the General Fund, Bond Fund, Special Building Fund, and Qualified Capital Purpose Undertaking Fund of Hitchcock County School District 44-0070; and,

WHEREAS, such Special Public Hearing was held before the Board of Education (hereinafter “the Board”) of Hitchcock County School District 44-0070 (hereinafter “the District”) at the time, date, and place announced in the notice published in a newspaper of general circulation, a copy of which notice and proof of publication of which is attached hereto as Exhibit A, all as required by law; and,

WHEREAS, the Board provided an opportunity to receive comment, information and evidence from persons in attendance at such Special Hearing; and,

WHEREAS, the total assessed value of the property differs from last year’s total assessed value by -2%; the tax rate which would levy the same amount of property taxes as last year, when multiplied by the new total assessed value of property would be $1.022755 per $100 of assessed value; the Hitchcock County School District proposes to adopt a property tax requests that will cause its tax rate to be $1.047490 per $100 of assessed value.

WHEREAS, based on the proposed property tax request and changes in other revenue, the total operating budget of Hitchcock County Schools will exceed last year’s by 2%

WHEREAS, the Board, after having reviewed the District’s Tax Requests for each said fund, and after public consideration of the matter, has determined that the Final Tax Requests as listed below are necessary in order to carry out the functions of the District, as determined by the Board for the 2020-2021 school fiscal year.

NOW BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that (1) the Tax Request for the General Fund should be, and hereby is set at $3,784,881.00; the Tax Request for the Bond Fund should be, and hereby is set at $478,232.00; the Tax Request for the Special Building Fund should be, and hereby is set at $50,505.00; and the Tax Request for the Qualified Capital Purpose Undertaking Fund should be, and hereby is set at $0.00.

It is so moved by Rippen and seconded by Hagan this 14th day of September, 2020.

Roll Call vote as follows:

Craig Scott YES

Ted Rippen YES

Casha O’Byrne YES

Larry Marks YES

Bryan Hagan YES

Aaron Kolbet YES

The undersigned herewith certifies, as Secretary of the Board of Education of Hitchcock County School District #44-0070, that the above Resolution was duly adopted by a majority of said Board at a duly constituted public meeting of said Board.

Casha O’Byrne, Secretary

Moved by Hagan; seconded by Kolbet to adopt the 2020-2021 budget as presented and published. Aye votes Kolbet, Marks, Scott, O’Byrne, Rippen, and Hagan; nay votes none.

Committee Report as follows: The budget committee met briefly to review the 2020-2021 budget that would presented at the hearings and voted upon.

Principal Tines’ report as follows: (1) Class orientations were held August 10th, 11th, and 12th. (2) August 13th was the students’ first day of school. (3) August 14th the school had a Zoom PBiS pep rally. (4) August 20th the new speech pathologist visited the school. (5) August 20th the teachers had a meeting about online instruction. (6) The elementary held their bus evacuation drills. (7) August 31st was a school improvement meeting with all teachers. (8) September 2nd was the External Team Visitation. (9) The student PBiS team was announced through a Zoom PBiS pep rally on September 4th. (10) The elementary hosted part of the Hitchcock County volleyball tournament on September 12th. (11) The first round of MAPS testing along with Fastbridge and Star Early Literacy has been completed.

Superintendent Sattler’s report as follows: (1) The accreditation visit on September 2nd went well. Mr. Sattler would like to give a special thank you to Mr. Rahrs and the steering committee for all their hard work preparing for the external visitation. Mr. Sattler complimented Mr. Rahrs and keeping everyone focused on the district’s educational goals. (2) There are bi-weekly meetings on Zoom with the NDE; and weekly meetings with the health department on Zoom.

President Scott adjourned the meeting at 9:03 PM. The next board meeting will be held October 12, 2020 at 7:00 PM. The agenda kept continuously current is available to the public for items of an emergency nature. The meeting is open to the public.

Craig Scott – President Casha O’Byrne – Secretary

General Fund bills

2020 Technologies – contracted services/E-rate purchases 4,316.00

Aflac – payroll deduction 4.97

American Family Insurance Co – payroll deduction 2,118.47

Arctic Glacier – ice 144.40

Blick Art Materials – classroom supply 27.01

Blue Cross Blue Shield – health insurance 52,415.90

Bosselman Energy – building/bus fuels 675.27

Cash-Wa Distributing – custodial supply 567.25

Community First Bank – FICA/taxes 43,456.96

D&L Pest Control – pest control 120.00

Dans R Us – trash 165.25

Eakes Office Solutions – custodial supply 4,892.55

Employee Benefit Fund – payroll deduction 334.95

Farmers Coop – building/bus fuels 3,547.65

Gary’s Super Foods – food 81.97

Great Plains Communications – phone/internet bill 1,408.85

HCHS Petty Cash – reimbursements 1,161.91

HCS Flex Plan – contributions 1,350.42

Hometown Leasing – copiers 384.70

Hot Lunch fund – payments 1,171.90

Houghton Mifflin – web based software 2,303.35

Ideal Laundry – custodial supply 566.31

Johnson Controls – repair services 4,498.00

JourneyEd.com – Microsoft office licenses 2,299.90

Legal Shield – payroll deductions 99.63

Medical Transport Solutions – payroll deductions 125.80

McGraw-Hill School Education – Sped supply 54.80

MCI – long distance 49.48

Matrix Trust Co – annuities 4,227.61

Mid-American Research Chemical – custodial supply 799.09

Midwest Alarm Services – fire alarm services 327.72

Murphy’s Bistro – external visitation team meals 50.45

NASB Alicap – insurance premiums 80,461.00

HCS Retirement Acct – retirement 37,910.45

NE Department of Revenue – state taxes 6,174.98

New York Life Ins – payroll deduction 53.33

Optum – FSA fees 150.00

Orscheln Farm & Home – building supply 59.98

Principal Life Ins Co – disability 906.21

Quill Corporation – supplies 582.17

Rainbow Art Supplies – classroom supplies 359.14

Rippen Oil – bus fuel/parts/labor 2,404.22

Red Willow Animal Clinic – payroll deduction 415.96

School Specialty – custodial/classroom supply 595.13

Scoop Media – ads/printing 1,037.63

Seven D Lock – keys 47.50

Snell Service – backflow testing/services 974.00

Southwest Farm & Auto Supply – bus supply 129.28

Special Building fund – payroll deductions 445.00

Staples – classroom tables 672.99

Teacher Created Resources – classroom supply 16.98

Teacher Direct – classroom supply 50.34

Titan Machinery – bus servicing 1,467.86

Trails West – bus fuel 724.10

UniFirst Corp – custodial supply 208.08

Unitech – custodial supply 2,130.00

U.S. Bank – credit card 2,693.69

Vanco – transaction fees 35.96

Verified First – background checks 70.00

Village of Culbertson – water/sewage 321.47

Village of Trenton – water/sewage/electric/trash 3,451.67

David Wimer – reimbursement 61.18

Woodwind & Brasswind – music equipment/supply 1,130.25

Payroll – net (gross - $200,327.26) 130,864.79

Lunch Fund bills

Aflac – payroll deduction 45.64

Cash-Wa Distributing – food/supply 4,545.54

Community First Bank – FICA/taxes 1,217.90

Culligan Water Conditioning – salt 50.00

Dean Dairy – milk 1,834.14

Gary’s Super Foods – food 20.58

HCHS Petty Cash – reimbursements 6.79

Hot Lunch fund – payment 20.25

Ideal Laundry – kitchen supply 180.86

Matrix Trust Co – annuities 50.39

HCS Retirement Account – retirement 1,030.97

NE Department of Revenue – state taxes 91.21

Northwest Fire Extinguisher – hood system checks 199.50

Jessica Teeter – reimbursement 7.39

US Foods – food/supply 1,360.50

Vision Service Plan – payroll deductions 23.45

Payroll – net (gross - $6,916.45) 5,478.50