

City of Vineland Board of Education: Finance Committee Meeting

May 22, 2019

8:00 am

Minutes

I. Property Sales

- a. No bids received after public advertisement. Discussion of offer on table of \$450,000. Appraisal of \$500,000. Committee agreed to accept an offer and begin finalizing the offer with a definitive timeline for closing.
- b. The second bid for Main and Oak School yielded no potential buyers. Administration has been in discussion with City about combining lots, demolishing buildings and re-advertising combined lot. The city pays and receives they share according to demo cost and sale price. The committee was in agreement to begin to proceed in this direction.

II. Shared Service

- a. The district was approached by Cumb Co. Vo-Tech about two shared services.
The first, would provide Vo-Tech with Channel 9 air time to Broadcast Freeholder Meetings, provide school news, etc. The agreement would be for an exchange of (TBD) cash and Vo-Tech provided Film crew for Vineland events. The Committee was in agreement that additional details are needed. The Committee was adamant about not allowing the Vo-Tech to “recruit” on the District channel.
In the second, the Vo-Tech had a payroll resignation and approached District about completing their payroll rather than having to search and hire a new employee. Vineland uses the same accounting system and payroll pay dates are the same. Mr. Mercoli discussed with Pam Nanni, Payroll Supervisor, who indicated this would not be a problem. Payment to Vineland would be \$40,000. The committee was in agreement to move forward for July implementation and drafting the agreement language.

III. Equipment

- a. Mr. Mercoli provided a 6-year look back on a contract with Rylund’s garage for towing buses and vehicles. The total was over \$128,000. It was recommended to purchase a tow truck for buses and vehicles to eliminate this inefficiency. Committee agreed.
- b. A detailed bus transportation plan was submitted by Mr. Mercoli. Supporting documentation was provided to implement an immediate

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change from contracting bus services to the in-house operation of Vineland routes. The plan included 39 route changes in the first year, hiring 13 new drivers, acquiring 10 new 54 passenger “gasoline” buses, flipping the entire fleet of 155 buses out during a 5 years period to include warranties thru life of bus and a new consolidated bus depot to eliminate the 3 current bus yards. The plan saves almost \$500,000 in the first year. Committee was in agreement to move forward immediately with plan.

- c. District admin advised Committee of a District-wide copier contracts review. The process took place over 3 months. Administration is recommending a vendor change to Canon and a change over occurring this summer. Committee agreed.

IV. Food Service

- a. Mr. Mercoli was informed by Mr. Patel that the Paid Lunch Equity Tool (PLE) recommends a \$0.10 increase for lunch prices (Not Breakfast). The tool is a requirement of participation in the National School Lunch Program. Committee Agreed.

V. Insurance

- a. Health Rates - Committee was provided information on renewal health insurance rates. This is the first year renewal since joining the Health Insurance Fund. The increase was 1.78%. The Script renewal was 1.5%. Delta Dental renewal is 0.78% and VSP vision insurance is a zero.
- b. Property rates are still not in but the application was submitted. Mr. Mercoli indicated he will need the authorization to bind coverage by June 30th if rates are not received by the June 5th meeting. Committee agreed with authorizing such as long as premiums are in line with budget.

VI. State Aid - June Payment

- a. Last year the District had to borrow funds because the State has not paid the June State Aid payments until the new fiscal year begins in July. In order to ensure payroll is covered the District will need to borrow once again this year. No cost to District.