

FINANCE AND LONG RANGE BUDGET PLANNING COMMITTEE  
MINUTES – MEETING OF NOVEMBER 15, 2010

In attendance:

Committee: Thomas Reinboth; Michael Hartline; Mark Miller;

Board: Cyndi Mueller; Andrew Pollock

Staff: Timothy Vail; Thomas Turnbaugh; Eileen Poroszok; Terry White; Lou Pacchioli

Public: Robert Schaffer; Kathryn Dusen; Nancy Avery; Jane Drebes; Jeff Drebes; Mike Edney; Lynne Dunn; Nicole Duchene; Paul Rukuskie

Press: None

Call to Order:

Mr. Reinboth called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Approval of Minutes

Motion to approve the minutes of the September 20, 2010 meeting, as submitted by Mr. Miller. Second by Mr. Hartline. Motion Carried 2-0-1. Mr. Hartline abstaining.

Concessions Policy

Mr. Reinboth indicated that a Board member not in attendance this evening had requested that the Finance Committee begin the process of amending the District's current Concession Policy as booster groups have complained that it is much too restrictive. Mr. Reinboth indicated that attached to this evening's agenda are proposed revisions to that policy drafted by Administration that would make the policy work better. Discussion focused on the need to have a policy in place that will provide our booster groups with what they need to make money on concession sales and at the same time still provide the District with the funds necessary to maintain the concession facilities at no cost to the taxpayer. Dr. Turnbaugh indicated that the sum and substance of the policy changes provide for the District to retain a 10% share of the gross sales from each event while eliminating or reducing the costs associated with supervising each event. Booster groups would still be responsible for purchasing all beverages through the District in compliance with existing and future beverage contracts, but the requirement that all food items be purchased through the District's food service department would be eliminated, giving booster groups the opportunity to bring in donated items for sale at greater profits. Motion by Mr. Hartline to move the revisions forward to the full Board to begin the process of policy review and approval. Second by Mr. Miller. Motion Carried 3-0.

Real Estate Reassessments

Mr. Vail reported that Administration recommends providing direction to Solicitor Jeff Garton to file tax assessment appeals on the commercial assessment reductions attached to this evening's agenda prior to the deadline date of 12/8/10. The agenda item would read as follows:

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE CENTENNIAL SCHOOL BOARD:**

Directs Solicitor Jeff Garton to file tax assessment appeals for the parcels on the attached supplement.

Discussion focused on the need to keep costs associated with the appeals in line with the potential loss in tax revenues and the need to direct the solicitor to secure an appraiser who does a more thorough job than we have seen in the recent past. Motion by Mr. Miller to move this item forward for Board consideration and approval as submitted. Second by Mr. Hartline. Motion Carried 3-0.

### Warminster Hospital Appraisal

Mr. Vail reported that Solicitor Jeff Garton had submitted a request for the Board to consider acceptance to a compromise assessment value of \$10,000,000 on the Warminster Hospital property for purposes of settling an outstanding assessment appeal by the former owner of the property. This appeal is separate and apart from the pending appeal by the current owner of the property (Abington Hospital) for tax exempt status. Mr. Vail indicated that the compromise assessment represents the half way point between the current assessed value of \$14.1 million and the requested reduction to \$7.390 million. If this assessment compromise is approved, the District could owe a maximum refund of real estate taxes of \$412,000 to the former owner of the property. Mr. Vail indicated that he was unsure if the refund would be for a full or partial year, which would need to be clarified before the item moves forward for Board approval. Mr. Miller indicated that the appraisal that was commissioned appears to be less than reliable and that he would want to see a new appraisal done by a second appraisal company before he could agree to this assessment reduction. The other committee members agreed. Motion by Mr. Miller to recommend that the Board authorize District Solicitor Jeff Garton to commission a second appraisal on the site prior to any action being taken by the Board to agree to this assessment reduction. Second by Mr. Hartline. Motion Carried 3-0.

### Health Care Reform – Selection of Plan Grandfathering Option

Mr. Vail reported that the District appears to have the option of grandfathering certain employee benefit plans for the upcoming anniversary date of 7/1/11 under the new National Health Care Reform legislation. He indicated that this evening's agenda contains information from both the District's broker (Benefit Allocation Systems) and Keystone IBX (medical insurance carrier) indicating that in order to grandfather existing programs the District, in effect, would need to forfeit its ability to pass along certain increase in rates beyond a certain percentage to members of the plan. He went on to indicate that both Administration and the District's broker do not recommend pursuit of this option given the double digit increase in rates that is pending for the 11-12 plan year. Mr. Vail indicated that no Board action would be necessary on this item unless the District wants to grandfather any or all programs. He indicated that this item is informational at this time and should probably be revisited again in the spring when actual 11-12 rate increases are known. Committee agreed and directed this item be brought back for an update in the spring of 2011.

### Adjournment

Meeting was adjourned at 7:53 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Timothy E. Vail