

Pine Plains Central School District
Regular Meeting Minutes
August 19, 2020

MEMBERS PRESENT:
Fred Couse, President
Anne Arent, Vice-President
Amie Fredericks
James Griffin
Heidi Johnson
Jean Stapf
Joseph Kiernan, arrived 7:05 pm

ALSO PRESENT:
Martin Handler, Superintendent of Schools
Michael Goldbeck, Assistant Superintendent
Julia Tomaine, District Clerk

OPEN MEETING

Mr. Couse opened the virtual meeting at 7:01 pm.

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE THAT based upon notices and health advisories issued by the Federal, State and Local officials and pursuant to Executive Order 202.1 of the Governor of the State of New York, dated March 12, 2020, relating to the COVID-19 emergency, the Pine Plains Central School District Board of Education Regular Meeting on August 19, 2020 will be closed to the public. The meeting will be accessible to the public, via video conferencing. The video will be recorded and minutes of the meeting will be made available at a later date. <https://media.dcbooces.org/Watch/a7G4RrYe>

PUBLIC COMMENT

Meeting was held remotely on Google Meet. No questions were submitted.

REPORT OF BOARD AND STANDING COMMITTEES

Audit Committee will be met on August 19, 2020 at 6:00 pm using Google Meet.
Policy Committee will be meeting on August 24, 2020.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

1. Dr, Handler discussed the following topics:
 - a. Virtual staff meeting tomorrow to discuss the opening of school in September;
 - b. Scheduling of three parent / guardian virtual meetings the following week to discuss reopening, as required by New York State;
 - c. Discussed monthly administrators' reports.
2. Mr. Goldbeck shared the 2019-20 Fund Balance report and discussed COVID-19 expenditures. The Board requested a monthly report of these types of expenditures.

CONSENT AGENDA

Mrs. Arent moved and Mr. Griffin seconded a motion to approve consent agenda items 1 - 5.

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1. To approve the following Financial Reports: -Claims Auditor's Reports and Cash Disbursements
2. To approve the attached recommendations of the Committee on Special Education and authorize the funds to implement special education programs and services consistent with such recommendations noting that these are confidential.
3. To declare the following items as surplus, per the memoranda from Julie Roberts, Seymour Smith Principal: -desk and chairs
4. To approve the attached agreement between the District and Spectrum Services to provide program and services to four district students with special needs for the 2020-21 school year at an estimated cost of \$51,000 per student (Sept - June) and \$8,500 per student (July - August).
5. To approve the following resolution on the recommendation of the Policy Committee: **BE IT RESOLVED**, due to the threat to public health caused by the Covid-19 pandemic, while the district is complying with Executive Orders from the Governor and directives from the state Departments of Health and Education, some district policies and administrative regulations will be superseded by these Orders and directives. During this time, the district will be operating under those Orders and directives, as well as its own required reopening plan. Where any provisions of district policies and administrative regulations conflict with the Orders, directives, and reopening plan, they are temporarily suspended to the extent necessary to comply with the Orders, directives, and reopening plan.

VOTE: Motion passed unanimously. (Motion #2020/21-38)

NEW BUSINESS – BUSINESS AND FINANCE

Mr. Kiernan moved and Mr. Griffin seconded a motion to approve the following resolution:

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the Pine Plains Central School District hereby authorizes the funding of the District's approved reserves with the excess of 4% from unassigned fund balance at June 30, 2020. The allocation of such excess fund balance will be determined subsequent to June 30, 2020, prior to setting the Tax Levy.

VOTE: Motion passed unanimously. (Motion #2020/21-39)

Mrs. Fredericks moved and Mrs. Arent seconded a motion to approve the following resolution:

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of Pine Plains Central School District hereby authorizes the establishment of a Tax Certiorari Reserve for the 2020-21 school year in the amount of \$486,190. The money held in the reserve fund shall not exceed the amount which might reasonably be deemed necessary to meet anticipated judgments or claims out of tax certiorari proceedings.

Any monies deposited in the reserve fund which are not expended for tax certiorari proceedings in the year such monies are deposited, must be returned to the fund balance on or before the first day of the fourth fiscal year after deposit.

VOTE: Motion passed unanimously. (Motion #2020/21-40)

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Mrs. Arent moved and Mr. Griffin seconded a motion to approve the following resolution:

RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of Pine Plains Central School District hereby acknowledges the prior establishment of a Retirement Contribution Reserve. The purpose of this reserve is to set aside money for the payment of “employee retirement contributions, all or any portion of the amount payable.”

Schools have experienced a significant increase in recent contribution rates and future projections. To help mitigate the effects of these increases we hereby establish a five-year continuous funding plan. These funds will offset the expenditure shown in the budget. Source of funding such reserve will be from excess fund balance at the end of the year and transfers from other reserves.

VOTE: Motion passed unanimously. (Motion #2020/21-41)

Mr. Griffin moved and Mrs. Arent seconded a motion to approve the attached resolution to appropriate fund balance per the memorandum from Michael Goldbeck, Assistant Superintendent for Business and Finance.

WHEREAS the unappropriated unreserved fund balance of the Pine Plains Central School District at the close of Fiscal Year 2019-2020 is expected to be approximately \$4,338,412;

BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education authorizes the following transfer of funds:

\$167,500, from unexpended appropriations in the 2019-2020 General Fund to the TRS reserve;

\$956,000, from unexpended appropriations in the 2019-2020 General Fund to the Capital Reserve – DWRRC 2019;

\$165,000, from unexpended appropriations in the 2019-2020 General Fund to the Unemployment Reserve.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board of Education authorizes the following appropriations of unassigned (unreserved) fund balance:

\$248,440 to be appropriated for the purchase of buses. This appropriation, previously acknowledged by the Board of Education, will allow the District to purchase a total of four new transportation vehicles, as approved by District voters on June 9, 2020, without the need for borrowing.

\$1,460,398 in fund balance to be designated to the tax levy. This is the amount presented to District taxpayers in June that will be included in the tax levy resolution for Board approval.

Unreserved, Unappropriated Fund Balance: The District is restricted by NYS law to a maximum unreserved, unappropriated fund balance of four percent of the following year’s budget. With the acceptance of the above transfers and appropriations, the District’s unreserved, unappropriated fund balance will be \$1,341,074 which represents 4% of the

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2020-2021 budget.

VOTE: Motion passed unanimously. (Motion #2020/21-42)

Mrs. Arent moved and Mrs. Stapf seconded a motion to authorize the Tax Levy per the attached memorandum from Michael Goldbeck, Assistant Superintendent for Business and Finance.

VOTE: Motion passed unanimously. (Motion #2020/21-43) See Next Page For Official Levy.

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RESOLUTION TO CONFIRM TAX ROLLS AND AUTHORIZE TAX LEVY

FINAL 8-14-20; For adoption by Pine Plains CSD BOE 8-19-20

RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE TAX LEVY:

WHEREAS the Board of Education has been authorized by the voters at the Annual School Meeting to raise for the current budget of the 2020-2021 school year a sum not to exceed 33,525,450 ;

**BOARD OF EDUCATION
APPROVED
DATE: 8/19/2020**

WHEREAS the Board of Education has unexpended funds in an estimated amount of 2,372,700 of which a total of 2,095,598 including appropriated reserves is appropriated toward the 2020-2021 budget;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board set the amount of the TAX LEVY at 24,189,676.00 for the 2020-2021 school year.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board fix the equalized tax rates by towns and confirm the extension of taxes as they appear on the following described roll:

TOWNS	TAXABLE ASSESSED VALUES BY TOWN	EQUALIZED TAX RATE BY TOWN	DISTRIBUTED LEVY
COLUMBIA:	430,662,962		6,281,690.23
ANCRAM	152,238,130	14.166035	2,156,610.75
CLERMONT	17,761,360	13.608156	241,699.36
GALLATIN	207,677,693	14.208732	2,950,836.64
LIVINGSTON	52,985,779	17.599882	932,543.48
DUTCHESS:	1,348,572,326		17,874,825.90
CLINTON	43,807,671	13.199912	578,257.40
MILAN	180,749,608	13.608157	2,459,668.96
NORTHEAST	112,046,049	13.199912	1,478,997.97
PINE PLAINS	392,364,928	13.199912	5,179,182.47
STANFORD	619,604,070	13.199912	8,178,719.11
TOTAL	1,779,235,288		24,156,516.13
	Omitted Taxes - Dutchess		33,159.87
	Omitted Taxes - Columbia		0.00
	TOTAL LEVY		24,189,676.00

AND BE IT HEREBY directed that the tax warrant of this Board, duly signed, shall be affixed by the above-described tax rolls authorizing the collection of said taxes exclusive of the STAR program, to begin on **September 9, 2020** and end on **November 9, 2020** giving the tax warrant an effective period of sixty (62) days at the expiration of which time the tax collector shall make an accounting in writing to the Board.

AND IT IS FURTHER DIRECTED THAT the delinquent tax penalty shall be fixed as follows:

September 9, 2020 – October 8, 2020: PENALTY-FREE PERIOD

October 9, 2020 – November 9, 2020: Interest of two percent (2%) added

Two (2) payment installments election for taxpayers of Dutchess County:

Five percent (5%) service charge on each installment, paid with each installment of school taxes; First installment due by September 15, 2020. Second installment due by March 15, 2021. Second installment may not be paid until the first installment, plus any interest due, has been paid. After March 15, 2021 penalty and interest shall accrue pursuant to Real Property Law, 924A.

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MOTION CONCERNING TAX WARRANT

2020-2021

SCHOOL YEAR

MOTION MADE BY:

Anne Arent

SECONDED BY:

Jean Stapf

BE IT RESOLVED AS FOLLOWS:

To the collector of the Pine Plains Central School District No. 1 the Towns of Clinton, Milan, Northeast, Pine Plains, Stanford, Ancram, Clermont, Gallatin, and Livingston; Counties of Dutchess and Columbia in the State of New York.



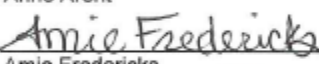

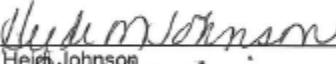
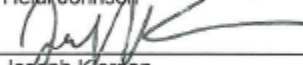
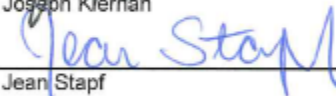
You are hereby commanded

1. To give notice to start collection on **September 9, 2020** in accordance with the provisions of Section 1322 of the Real Property Tax Law.
2. To give notice that tax collection will end **November 9, 2020**.
3. To collect taxes in the total sum of **24,189,676.00** less the STAR reimbursement amount as provided by the appropriate governmental authority, in the same manner that collectors are authorized to collect Town and County taxes in accordance with the provisions of Section 1318 of the Real Property Tax Law.
4. To make no changes or alterations in the tax warrant or the attached tax rolls, but shall return the same to the Board of Education. The Board may recall its warrant in tax roll for corrections of errors or omissions in accordance with the provisions in Section 1316 of the Real Property Tax Law.
5. To forward by mail to each owner of real property listed on the tax rolls within 10 days after the start of collection a statement of taxes due on the property on press-numbered tax bill forms provided by the school district in accordance with the provisions of Section 922 of the Real Property Tax Law, as well as a statement to taxpayers of Dutchess County that the taxes may be paid in two (2) installments, the first installment due and payable by September 15, 2020, together with a service charge in the amount of five percent (5%) of the first installment, to be paid to the School District, and the second installment due and payable by March 15, 2021, together with a service charge in the amount of five percent (5%) of the second installment, to be paid to the Dutchess County Commissioner of Finance. To forward by mail without interest penalties to the Office of the County Treasurer a detailed tax bill of all state land parcels liable for taxes on the school tax roll in accordance with provisions of Section 540 and 544 of the Real Property Tax Law.
6. To receive from each of the taxable corporations and natural persons the sums listed on the attached tax rolls without interest penalties when such sums are paid before the end of the first month of the tax collection period but with a service charge in the amount of five percent (5%) of the total school tax if the taxpayer opts to pay such school taxes in installments and to account for such sums on account of such charge as income due Dutchess County. To add two percent (2%) interest penalties to all taxes collected after **October 8, 2019** and account for such sums as income due to the School District.
7. To issue press-numbered receipts only on forms provided by the school district in acknowledgment of receipt of payment of taxes and to retain and preserve and file exact carbon copies of all such receipts issued as required by Section 987 of the Real Property Tax Law.

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8. To promptly return the warrant at its expiration and if any taxes on the attached tax rolls shall be unpaid at that time, deliver an accounting thereof on forms showing by Town the total assessed evaluation, tax rate, total tax levy, total amounts remaining uncollected as required by Section 1330 of the Real Property Tax Law.

The warrant is issued pursuant to Sections 910, 912, and 914 of the Real Property Tax Law and is delivered in accordance with Sections 1306 and 1318 of this Law. It is effective immediately after it is properly signed by a majority of the Board of Education. The warrant shall expire on the date stated above unless a renewal or an extension has been endorsed on the face of this warrant in writing in accordance with Section 1318, subdivision 2 of the Real Property Tax Law.

BOARD OF EDUCATION MEMBER	VOTE
 Fred Couse	yes
 Anne Arent	yes
 Amie Fredericks	yes
 James Griffin	yes
 Heidi Johnson	yes
 Joseph Kieran	yes
 Jean Stapf	yes

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NEW BUSINESS - PERSONNEL

Mrs. Fredericks moved and Mrs. Arent seconded a motion to appoint the following individuals as a mentor at a stipend of \$1,000.00 per the memorandum from Dr. Brian Timm, Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum and Instruction for the 2020-21 school year:

- Allison Beaudet
- James Benincasa
- Kate Fenn
- Kristen Fischetti
- Erin Marlow
- Courtney Reichelt
- Meghan Rizzo
- Jane Stapf

VOTE: Motion passed unanimously. (Motion #2020/21-44)

Mr. Kiernan moved and Mr. Griffin seconded a motion to appoint Amanda Rockefeller as the substitute caller for the 2020-21 school year at a stipend of \$4,000.00.

VOTE: Motion passed unanimously. (Motion #2020/21-45)

Mr. Griffin moved and Mrs. Stapf seconded a motion to accept the resignation from Martine King, Bus Driver, effective August 12, 2020.

VOTE: Motion passed unanimously. (Motion #2020/21-46)

PUBLIC / BOARD COMMENTS

Dr. Handler discussed the plan to increase bandwidth on several levels when in full remote.

The Board encouraged people watching the livestreaming Board of Education meetings to email in questions to the clerk at j.tomaine@ppcsd.org.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Mr. Kiernan moved and Mrs. Arent seconded a motion to enter into executive session for the purpose of the negotiations and the employment of a particular individual at 7:34 p.m.

VOTE: Motion passed unanimously. (Motion #2020/21-47)

The District Clerk was excused and Mr. Couse was declared Clerk Pro Tem.

Respectfully submitted,

Julia Tomaine, District Clerk

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ADJOURN

Mr. Griffin moved and Mrs. Fredericks seconded a motion to return to public session at 7:59 p.m.

VOTE: Motion passed unanimously. (Motion #2020/21-48)

Mrs. Fredericks moved and Mr. Griffin seconded a motion to adjourn at 8:00 p.m.

VOTE: Motion passed unanimously. (Motion #2020/21-49)

Respectfully submitted,

Fred Couse, Clerk Pro Tem