

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING  
TOWNSHIP OF OCEAN BOARD OF EDUCATION  
BUDGET HEARING  
April 25, 2017**

**CALL TO ORDER**

The Board President, James Dietrich, called the Regular Monthly Meeting of the Township of Ocean Board of Education to order at 8:00 p.m. in the auditorium of the School District's Administration Building.

**STATEMENT OF NOTICE**

Adequate notice of the meeting to be held by the Township of Ocean Board of Education on Tuesday, January 17, 2017 at 8:00 p.m. has been provided in accordance with the requirements of Chapter 231, Public Laws, 1975.

1. Notice of the meeting was posted on the bulletin board in the lobby of the Administration Building, 163 Monmouth Road, Oakhurst, New Jersey, all Ocean Township District Schools and Transportation, and the School District Website [www.oceanschools.org](http://www.oceanschools.org) on January 4, 2017.
2. Notice of the meeting was transmitted to the Asbury Park Press on January 6, 2017 and The New Coaster Newspapers on January 6, 2017.
3. Notice of the meeting was filed with the Municipal Clerk, Township of Ocean and the Municipal Clerk, Village of Loch Arbour on January 4, 2017.

**ROLL CALL**

The following members were present: Mr. Steven Clayton (Arrived at 8:50 pm), Mr. James Dietrich, Mr. Joseph Hadden, Dr. David Marshall, Mrs. Amy McGovern, Mr. Michael Palutis, Mrs. Denise Parlamas, Mr. John Stuppi and Mrs. Sylvia Sylvia-Cioffi.

1. **PRESENTATION OF PROPOSED 2017-2018 SCHOOL BUDGET** –

The Board President gave an opening statement regarding this budget and discussed the different aspects of the 2017-2018 Budget. The Superintendent and School Business Administrator gave a PowerPoint presentation on the budget. (See attached) He discussed the plans and contingency plans the Administration and the Board of Education developed due to the uncertainty of Loch Arbour.

2. **PUBLIC QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS ON THE 2017-2018 PROPOSED BUDGET**

The Board entertained any questions and/or comments on the 2017-2018 School Budget.

- Paul Mayerowitz, resident, discussed high school rankings and the Math scores as reported (US News & World Report). The Superintendent and Board President discussed the methodology of the rankings in the different publications.

**FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT & RESOUCES SERVICES:** Mrs. McGovern

Mrs. McGovern made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Sylvia-Cioffi, for approval of the following item(s):

3. **RESOLUTION ADOPTING THE BUDGET APPROPRIATIONS FOR THE 2017-2018**

**SCHOOL YEAR**

WHEREAS, the tentative school district budget for the 2017-2018 school year was adopted by the Board of Education, approved by the Executive County Superintendent and the tentative budget was advertised in the newspaper of record as well as posted on the school district website;

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the Township of Ocean adopt the following school budget appropriations for the 2017-2018 school district budget statement:

General Funds .....	\$74,603,438.
Special Revenue Fund.....	2,069,176.
Debt Service Fund.....	<u>3,408,189.</u>
Total 2017-2018 Proposed Budget.....	<u>\$80,080,803.</u>

3. **RESOLUTION APPROVING THE SOURCES OF ANTICIPATED BUDGET REVENUE FOR THE 2017-2018 SCHOOL YEAR**

(a) **GENERAL FUNDS**

BE IT RESOLVED, that there be appropriated from General Fund Surplus \$2,406,702 and this sum be applied to the General Funds in an effort to reduce taxes in the 2017-2018 school year; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that there be raised from Local Taxes for General Funds \$62,765,948 for the 2017-2018 school year; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board anticipates \$199,501 in Tuition/Transportation Revenue which is to be applied to the General Fund for the 2017-2018 school year;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board anticipates \$485,000 of Miscellaneous Revenue and Rental Income which is to be applied to the General Funds for the 2017-2018 school year; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board anticipates \$7,770,200 of State Aid and \$475,000 of extraordinary Special Education Aid, which is to be applied to the General Funds for the 2017-2018 school year; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board anticipates \$77,587 of Medicaid Reimbursement which is to be applied to the General Fund, for the 2017-2018 school year.

(b) **CAPITAL RESERVE ACCOUNT**

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board anticipates \$500 of earned interest; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board anticipates \$423,000 withdrawal from Capital Reserve for the purpose of High School Solar Panels and Ocean Township Elementary School roof.

(c) **SPECIAL REVENUE FUND**

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board anticipates \$1,533,985 of Restricted Federal Aid which is to be applied to the Special Revenue Fund for the 2017-2018 school year; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board anticipates \$535,191 of Restricted State Aid, which is to be applied to the Special Revenue Fund for the 2017-2018 school year.

(d) DEBT SERVICE FUND

BE IT RESOLVED, that there be raised from Local Taxes for the Debt Service Fund \$2,160,996 for the 2017-2018 school year; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board of Education anticipates \$1,247,193 of Debt Service Aid Type II, which is to be applied to the Debt Service Fund for the 2017-2018 school year; and

5. HEALTH BENEFITS CAP WAIVER ADJUSTMENT

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Township of Ocean Board of Education includes in the proposed budget the adjustment for increase costs of health benefits in the amount of \$111,481. The additional funds are included in the base budget and will be used to pay a portion of the additional increases in health benefits.

6. APPROVAL FOR WORKSHOP/TRAVEL AND RELATED EXPENSES

WHEREAS, a Board of Education may establish, for regular district business travel as defined in N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-1.2, which includes attendance at regularly scheduled in-State county meetings, Department or Association sponsored events or in-State professional development activities for which the registration fee does not exceed \$150.00 per employee or board member, where prior Board approval shall not be required unless the annual threshold for a staff member exceeds \$1,500. In a given school year (July 1 through June 30); and the Board of Education established \$95,000 as the maximum travel amount for the current school year (2016-2017) and has expended \$73,546 as of this date; now the Board of Education approves travel and related expense reimbursements in accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A: 23A-7.3, a maximum expenditure of \$95,000 for all staff and board members for the 2017-2018 school year.

Motion(s) on items: #3, 4, 5, 6, carried: 9-0

Mr. Hadden thanked the Administration, Board President and the Board for all their hard work on the rapidly changing budget.

**OLD BUSINESS:** None

**NEW BUSINESS:** None

**PUBLIC COMMENTS:**

- Paul Mayerowitz, resident, spoke about the Loch Arbour decision. He spoke about the method of taxation and his opinion regarding the Loch Arbour decision. He also discussed his opinion that Loch Arbour should pay based upon their property assessment not based on the number of students they send to the Township of Ocean School District. He expressed his hope that the district would take this to a higher level for further appeal, if they lose the next round of litigation. He also expressed his hope that the municipality would actually participate in the litigation.
- Mr. Mayerowitz, resident, thanked the Board of Education for the current zero net effect, but

expressed his concern for next year and possible tax increases and budget cuts for next year.

- Al Cheswick, Loch Arbour resident, asked about the split with the Township of Ocean and Loch Arbour and asked the Board not to adopt the budget, with taking Loch Arbour out of the budget. He stated that he was expressing his views as a Village of Loch Arbour commissioner.

**ADJOURNMENT: 9:25 p.m.**

There being no further business, Mr. Dietrich made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Parlamas, that the meeting be adjourned. This motion carried: 9-0.

Respectfully submitted,

Kenneth Jannarone  
School Business Administrator/  
Board Secretary