

# STEWARD ELEMENTARY SCHOOL DISTRICT No. 220

## STEWARD, ILLINOIS

### Minutes of the Regular Board of Education Meeting

September 15<sup>th</sup>, 2021

6:00 pm –In person meeting, publicized and posted for participation.

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Minutes taken by Matt Hayes.

The regularly scheduled meeting of September 15<sup>th</sup>, 2021 was called to order by President Chris Cardott.

On roll call at 6:15pm, the following members were present:

**Board members present:** Chris Cardott, Joseph Powell, Dean Svela, Marcy DeLille  
Julie Lovett, Chele Wells and Superintendent Steve Simpson

**Board members late:**

**Board members absent:** Nate Ramsey

**Visitors:** Nancy Bingham, Deanne Aldridge

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**Public comment:**

#### Budget Hearing

1. Presentation of 2021-22 budget.
  - a. The budget was presented for all to review.
  - b. Last year's projected revenues were much higher than actual revenues.
  - c. Budget takes into account last fiscal year's ongoing expenditures.
  - d. Budget takes into account of additional PD hours.
  - e. TRS penalty for last fiscal year's overpayment is also in the budget.

**On a motion by Chele Wells and a second by Dean Svela, and a roll call of all ayes, the Budget Hearing adjourned at 6:36pm.**

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1. The meeting was called to order at 6:37pm.
2. Seating of Newly Appointed Board of Education Member
  - a. New board member Joseph Powell was sworn in as new board member.
3. Approval of/Additions to the Agenda
  - a. No addition
4. Approval of Consent Agenda Items

5. Approval /Correction of Minutes

**On a motion by Dean Svela and a second by Julie Lovett, and a roll call of all ayes, the minutes from the August 18<sup>th</sup>, 2021 meeting were accepted as presented.**

6. Approval of Financial Reports and Bills

**On a motion by Dean Svela and a second by Julie Lovett, and a roll call of all ayes, the bills and financial reports were accepted as presented.**

7. Good News Communication and Report from Superintendent

- a. One faculty member, Deanne Aldridge, came to the meeting upon invitation.
  - b. She commented that the teachers and Superintendent Simpson have been amazing to her.
  - c. Acknowledgements from Superintendent Simpson:
    - i. Logan Frye for many hours of yard work at the school on 9/12/21.
    - ii. List of all the people who donated towards the air conditioners (see attached)
    - iii. Chief Cardott for bringing the fire truck and other firemen on Patriot Day.
    - iv. Sheriff Simonton who sent 2 police officers, one who was a canine officer.
    - v. Rochelle News Leader for coming and doing an interview and taking pictures for Patriot Day.
    - vi. Mrs. Odle stepped forward to lead Student Council.
    - vii. Ms. Kalata stepped forward to be the Volleyball coach.
    - viii. Paul Swartz who stopped in to help with volleyball practice.
    - ix. Colton O'Rorke who stopped in to help with volleyball practice.
    - x. Rebekah Hayes for doing the custodial laundry.
  - d. Met with Jason Harper and other local superintendents to collaborate and communicate.
  - e. Maria Vazquez is currently doing our custodial laundry.
  - f. Cheryl Simpson drove the old bus to Bockman's in Dekalb for them to give us an inspection report and quote. Waiting on them for more info.
  - g. No student has tested positive for COVID this year.
8. Board Communication for the Good of Steward District 220.
- a. A question was asked about what the school could do to help students who are unable to come to school for long periods of time.
  - b. A thank you card was shared from the staff for the luncheon.
  - c. Nice article in the paper about things going on at Steward school.
  - d. Patriot day was wonderful.
  - e. Teacher's spouse commented on how elated their wife was with the new administration.
  - f. Thank you to Steve for making the environment at the school so positive. The teachers are very appreciative.

9. Recognition and Comments from Employees and the public.

- a. None

### **Old Business**

- 10. Playground Project/Pea Gravel Delivery
  - a. Nate would like to have a gravel delivery set up for next week 9/20-9/25.
- 11. Staff Handbook Update
  - a. Quasi Handbook committee set up and will have a report in October.
- 12. Staff Contract Update
  - a. Combined with Handbook committee
- 13. Building Security/Lock Bids
  - a. Melin's Lock and Key returned a bid for the external locks.
  - b. Rochelle Locksmith wasn't interested in returning a written bid, but did provide a verbal bid of just less than \$1,000.
  - c. Marcy thought it would be nice to have card readers at the entrances long term.
- 14. Employee Health Insurance
  - a. All the letters and offers went out to the staff.
  - b. One staff member signed up for the insurance.
  - c. Open enrollment started Sept 1<sup>st</sup>. It is an annual enrollment.
  - d. Employees signed off if they did not want the insurance.

### **New Business**

- 15. Conor Tournament (Marcy shared the following)
  - a. The tournament has been going on for 20 years. Not sure if we are hosting. It will be an ongoing conversation as time goes by.
  - b. The tournament is for 5<sup>th</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> grade students.
  - c. Ralfie's BBQ provides the food.
  - d. 926 is the t-shirt company.
  - e. Lots of baskets are auctioned off.
  - f. Always the first weekend in December.
  - g. A decision will be made next month on whether to have the tournament.
- 16. Adoption of Budget for 2021-22 School Year. (Fiscal Year 2022)
  - a. Fund 51 needs to be added to the budget.

**On a motion by Julie Lovett and a second by Dean Sveta, and a roll call of all ayes, the 2021-2022 budget was accepted as presented with the addition of Fund 51 being included.**

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- 17. Executive Session: To consider the appointment, employment, compensation. Discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees or individual student matters.

**On a motion by Marcy DeLille and a second by Dean Sveta, and a roll call of all ayes, the meeting was moved into Executive session at 7:56pm.**

**On a motion by Marcy DeLille and a second by Dean Sveta, and a roll call of all ayes, the meeting was moved out of Executive session at 8:43pm.**

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18. Action Resulting from Executive Session

19. Clarification/Shift from Hourly Employee to Redefined Salaried Position.

**On a motion by Julie Lovett and a second by Chele Wells, and a roll call of all ayes, the Administrative Assistant's position was moved from an hourly position to a salaried position.**

20. Authorization of District Superintendent to Prepare an Annual Tax Levy.

**On a motion by Marcy DeLille and a second by Julie Lovett, and a roll call of all ayes, approval was given to the District Superintendent to prepare an Annual Tax Levy.**

21. Approve Settlement Agreement and Release of Claims

**On a motion by Chele Wells and a second by Dean Sveta, and a roll call of all ayes, the Board agreed on the settlement agreement and the release of claims.**

22. Announcements

23. Adjournment

**On a motion by Chele Wells and a second by Julie Lovett, and a roll call of all ayes, the Board adjourned at 8:47pm.**

Respectfully submitted:

Approved by the Board of Education:

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Marcy DeLille, Secretary  
Board of Education  
October 20<sup>th</sup>, 2021

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Chris Cardott, President  
Board of Education