

# STEWARD ELEMENTARY SCHOOL DISTRICT No. 220

## STEWARD, ILLINOIS

### Minutes of the Budget Hearing & Regular Board of Education Meeting

September 17<sup>th</sup>, 2025 posted for participation.

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Minutes taken by Matt Hayes.

The budget hearing meeting of September 17<sup>th</sup>, 2025 was called to order by President Chele Wells.

On roll call at 6:03 pm, the following members were present:

**Board members present:** Chele Wells, Bethany Drendel, Vicki Maertz, Jennie O’Rorke, Tom Brown, Jen Kraemer, and Principal Michelle Esposito

**Board members late:**

**Board members absent:**

**Visitors:** Superintendent Steven Simpson and Scott Johnson

**Public comment: none**

#### **Budget Hearing**

1. Presentation of 2025-26 budget.
  - a. The budget was presented by Mr. Simpson for all to review.
  - b. A Budget Highlights sheet was shared (see binder).

**On a motion by Vicki Maertz and a second by Jen Kraemer, and a roll call of all eyes, the Budget Hearing adjourned at 6:26pm.**

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2. Call to Order at 6:26pm
3. Approval of/Additions to the Agenda

**On a motion by Vicki Maertz, seconded by Jen Kraemer, and with a unanimous voice vote, the agenda was accepted as presented.**

4. Presentation of 10-Year Health/Life Safety Study by District Architect Scott Johnson of Richard L. Johnson Associates of Rockford
  - a. A 10 Year Life Safety Re-Survey Report was shared (see file)
5. Approval /Correction of Minutes from August 20<sup>th</sup>, 2025

**On a motion by Bethany Drendel, seconded by Jen Kraemer, and with a unanimous voice vote, the minutes from August 20<sup>th</sup>, 2025 were accepted as presented.**

6. Approval of Financial Reports and Bills

**On a motion by Vicki Maertz, seconded by Jen Kraemer, and with a roll call of all eyes, the bills and financial reports were accepted as presented.**

7. Good News Communication and Report from Principal Esposito.
  - a. See file.
8. Board Communication for the Good of Steward District 220.
  - b. none.

**Old Business**

9. Buildings and Grounds/ Building Usage –
  - c. The pad for the storage shed is installed.
  - d. The shed should be installed by the end of September.

**New Business**

10. 10-Year Health/Life Safety

**On a motion by Vicki Maertz, seconded by Jen Kraemer, and with a roll call of all ayes, the board approved the 10-Year Health/Life Safety Plan as presented by Scott Johnson.**

11. Discussion for Adoption of Annual Budget for Fiscal Year 2026 for submission to the Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE)

**On a motion by Vicki Maertz, seconded by Jen Kraemer, and with a roll call of all ayes, the board approved the proposed Budget for Fiscal Year 2026 including a temporary loan from the Working Cash Fund to the Fund 50 (Municipal Retirement and Social Security) of \$28,177 until revenues allow repayment of those funds.**

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

- a. none

13. The next meeting will be held on October 15<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 pm.

**On a motion by Bethany Drendel, seconded by Jen Kraemer, and with a unanimous voice vote, the Board adjourned at 7:16 pm.**

Respectfully submitted:

Approved by the Board of Education:

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Vicki Maertz, Board Secretary  
Board of Education  
October 15<sup>th</sup>, 2025

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Chele Wells, President  
Board of Education