

The **SPECIAL BUSINESS MEETING** of the Board of Education West Hempstead Union Free School District was called to order in the Middle School Cafeteria on May 20, 2010 at 7:43 p.m.

PRESENT: Ms. Lotito, who presided, and six other members of the Board: Mr. Brita, Mr. Ejnes, Mr. Kaye, Mr. Mariano, Ms. Rilling and Mr. Whelpley. Also present were Mr. Hogan, Mr. Cunningham, Ms. Peluso and Ms. Girolamo.

The Special Meeting began with Board discussion regarding the defeated budget on May 18, 2010. Ms. Lotito remarked that the district has three options to them regarding the recent defeated budget: put up the same budget, reduce the budget or have no re-vote and go to a contingency budget.

Mr. Hogan explained the differences of the same, amended or contingency budgets, the latter having restrictions and rules that must be done by State formulas. An amended budget would have to have an open meeting, be publicized by June 1st, budget adoption meeting, budget hearing and finally the second vote on June 15th. If the second vote fails, the district must go into a contingency budget.

The Board requested that Mr. Cunningham give various scenarios so they can make an informed decision as to whether they should put up another budget or go to contingency. Scenario 1) 2.26% / 7.73% tax levy would have staffing changes; Scenario 2) 1.83% / 6.75% tax levy budget lines would have to be reduced, such as supplies and materials and other

strategic reductions; Scenarios 3) 1.22% / 5.8% would have changes at the elementary level and reduction in sports offerings and Scenario 4) .54% / 4.91% would have staffing reductions, reduction the budget by \$1.6 million. Mr. Cunningham explained a contingent budget is determined by the State Education Department and Consumer Price Index. The District would have expenditures lower than the 2008-09 budget, would be a 6.24% tax levy increase.

Ms. Rilling asked how much did we give back the last two years, have other schools done that and could busing be consolidated; Mr. Brita commented that a ten percent cut in supplies would bring back \$188,200 back into the budget and that budget issues are statewide and the solution would need to come from Albany; Ms. Lotito inquired about transportation also and how many kids would be affected - meaning longer bus rides and larger amounts of students on the buses; Mr. Mariano asked to have mandates explained and that Special Education and transportation are mandated.

Residents in attendance gave their respective opinions, and the consensus was to lower the budget.

The Board unanimously agreed to have a revote with Scenario 4 as their choice.

Docket #9-296: Upon the motion of Mr. Whelpley, seconded by Ms. Rilling, and carried by seven, a resolution was adopted that the Budget Hearing date be set for June 8, 2010, and the Special District Meeting date be set for June 15, 2010.

Docket #9-297: Upon the motion of Mr. Ejnes, seconded by Mr. Mariano, and carried by seven, the Board appointed Pamela Lotito, President of the Board of Education, as Chairperson for the Special District Meeting to be held on June 15, 2010, and appointed election inspectors for the voting machines.

At 10:00 p.m., upon motion of Ms. Rilling, seconded by Mr. Mariano, and carried by seven, the meeting was adjourned.

Kathryn Girolamo, District Clerk