

Press Clippings for 11/23/2022

– The Examiner of Bartlett – U-46 formally approves district's tax levy amount

Nov. 23, 2022

By Seth Hancock

With no discussion, the Board of Education in **School District U-46** took the first steps in hiking its property tax levy by the maximum allowed under the law at its Monday, Nov. 7.

The board voted 7-0 on a resolution and determination of tax levy. The determination is required to be approved at least 20 days prior to the actual levy vote which is slated to occur on Dec. 12.

The total levy, including the corporate/special purpose levy and debt service levy, is set to rise by 5.6 percent from \$330.7 million to \$349.3 million. That is above the 5 percent the district is limited to without a voter referendum, but it is a defensive levy with the district expecting \$345.3 million.

The defensive levy is used because **U46** believes the “District is entitled,” the determination states, to every dollar it legally can obtain from taxpayers. “Since the equalized assessed valuation (EAV) of property and new construction numbers are unknown, it is a common practice to establish a defensive levy,” the proposal states. “This means levies are set higher than what is actually expected to be received. County [clerks] will reduce levies to the maximum legal amounts.”

The defensive levy effects the corporate/special use levy which is set to rise 6.3 percent from the 2021 extension, from 298.3 million to \$317.2 million. However, the district is expecting to receive \$313.2 million from that levy, a 5 percent increase.

The debt service levy is set to decrease 1.2 percent, from \$32.4 million to \$32.1 million.

The only comment was from **board member Kate Thommes** who thanked the district for “answering our, it feels like a thousand questions. It’s appreciated and noticed.”

No questions were asked by the board during its regular meetings on Nov. 7 or Oct. 24, when the levy was presented. **Sue Kerr, the board’s president**, said on Oct. 24 that a finance committee meeting was held that day.

– The Examiner of Bartlett –

Variety of expense items approved by District U-46

Nov. 23, 2022

By Seth Hancock

The Board of Education in **School District U-46** unanimously approved, via 7-0 votes, various financial items at its meeting on Monday, Nov. 7.

Included was an electrical service supply contract. The item does not have a determined cost yet, but it allows the district to sign a contract to lock in rates.

“The district is issuing an Invitation to Bid to electricity service suppliers as the current electrical contract ends in February 2023,” the proposal states. The process will include vetting the suppliers on qualifications and price. Pricing changes daily in the energy markets and rates are not guaranteed or held pending approval. Rates can vary significantly between bid opening and Board approval as we recently experienced with the district’s natural gas bid last year.”

The proposal noted that rates are expected to nearly double from its 2019 contract of \$0.04698/kWh with current pricing between \$0.08092- \$0.08382/kWh.

The board also approved \$1.7 million in expenditure items including a three-year contract costing \$1.1 million (education fund) for the Infinite Campus system which allows “parents, students, teachers, and administrators access to student grades, transcripts, and other student information,” the proposal states.

A three-year contract with Northern Illinois University costing \$552,000 (federally funded grant) for teacher endorsements was approved as was \$75,000 (education fund) with Collaborative Leadership Consulting Group to consult on union bargaining with the teacher’s union with “support for creating structures, systems, culture and communication practices to reach a successful collective bargaining agreement prior to the start of the 2023-2024 school year,” the proposal states.

Two resolutions were approved to modify terms of general obligation refunding school bonds which **board member Dawn Martin** described as “just the moving of the debt so that we pay it off sooner and we save our taxpayers more money,” which district officials said was correct. The district said it should lead to about \$2.1 million in savings.

Also approved were \$8.9 million in itemized bills.

– The Examiner of Streamwood –

Sabres girls hoops go 0-3 at tourney to begin season

Nov. 23, 2022

By Seth Hancock

It's the beginning of a new era for the **Streamwood** girls basketball team without longtime coach George Rosner, who retired after 41 years at the helm, 37 at **Streamwood**, at the end of last season.

The **Sabres** opened the season at the Dundee-Crown Thanksgiving Tournament under new coach Elizabeth Endriukaitis who is in her first year as a head coach, but she has been coaching girls basketball for 14 years as an assistant.

Endriukaitis played high school basketball at **Larkin** and collegiately at Concordia University.

“My goals for this season [are] to improve not only our overall results from last season, but to also be more of a defensive minded team,” said Endriukaitis. “Last season, we allowed too many points. I also want to see our team be more competitive this season; we don't want to be a team that is so easily overlooked. However, none of this will be possible if the players are not committed to putting in the work and persevering through any difficulties. I hope this is something we can instill in our players; a strong work ethic and responding to adversity in a manner that allows the team to move forward.”

Streamwood was 3-28 overall last year, 2-16 in the Upstate Eight Conference.

The **Sabres** did drop their first three games of the tournament including a 46-12 loss to Dundee-Crown on Wednesday, Nov. 16 led by junior Jamia Gatlin's seven points.

Against St. Viator, **Streamwood** dropped a 63-33 game on Friday, Nov. 18 while led by freshman Brianna Coffey (10 points) and Gatlin (seven points). The **Sabres** then fell 60-14 to Palatine on Saturday, Nov. 19.

“This season, I see a lot of potential for growth within our players,” Endriukaitis said. “Angelina Sagadraca will be returning as a top point guard. We are also adding some strong guards in Leana Williams, Vanessa Fuentes and Ro'Naja Stewart.”

Endriukaitis added: “We will have a strong post presence with returning bigs Jamia Gatlin, Cassie Cruz, Kailey Pawlikowski. We have added Brianna Coffey and Donielle Smith who will also do well for us down-low. We have four seniors returning hoping to make a bigger impact this season; Ashley Harrison, Mary-Kate Gonzales, Jasmine Zuno and Karina Vidales. Miranda

Hermez will be rounding out our guards and hoping to also make more of an impact this season.”