

Business Office Update October 28, 2013

Grants

- ISBE School Maintenance Project Grants – Due 11/27/13
 - I am recommending that the board approve the submittal of a \$50,000 School Maintenance Grant request for replacement of the remaining section of roofing that is in disrepair at Millburn Elementary School. The total estimated cost for this work is \$232,200.

- ISBE Energy Efficiency Grant & DCEO Grant – due 11/27/13 - Terry Miller, Head of Building & Grounds, and I met with Colin Marshall on October 23, 2013 to look at what items should be included in the DCEO and ISBE Energy Efficiency Project Grants. The DCEO grant (up to 75% of total cost of qualified projects) can be used as part of the local match for the ISBE Energy Efficiency Project Grant. We will be limited to submitting an ISBE Energy Efficiency Project Grant for one building. Based on this information, we are planning on preparing a submittal for Millburn Elementary School.
 - We are looking at including, but not limited to, the following items:
 - Lighting replacement of all fixtures that currently use T-12 bulbs. The T-12 bulbs are no longer manufactured and once the supply is depleted, we will not be able to purchase this type of bulb.
 - Lighting replacement in both gymnasiums.
 - Exterior lighting replacement
 - Installing “Variable Frequency Drives” in the Heating, Ventilation, Air Conditioning (HVAC) system
 - A preliminary proposal will be presented to the Board at the November 12, 2013 COW meeting with a final recommendation for approval to be voted on at the November 25, 2013 Board meeting.

- ISBE School Security Grant – We anticipate that ISBE will be releasing a school security grant this school year.
 - Areas that we are currently exploring for this grant opportunity are:
 - Security cameras
 - Exterior keyless entry system
 - Using a fob and/or staff ID to enter the building. This type of a system allows access to be limited to specified hours as well as allowing the access to be turned off when the staff member resigns and/or loses his/her fob/ID. This eliminates the problem of staff members losing a key that then compromises the security of the building.
 - Security film for key windows that makes it more difficult for an intruder to compromise the building and also increases the safety for the students and staff inside the building.

First Reading of the 2013pay2014 Property Tax Levy & Approval for the Publication of the “Truth in Taxation Statement”

- Attached is a spreadsheet showing the anticipated property tax levy with the 12% increase in the levy as a result of the referendum. The capped portion of the levy is actually anticipated to increase by approximately 12.5% as a result of an anticipated \$992,379 in new construction (compared to \$193,352 for the 2012 levy). The estimates for EAV and new property used in the Levy were provided by the County Assessor’s office and reflect actual assessments prior to any impact from the property tax appeal process.
- The County Assessor was one of the speakers at the Northeast Illinois Association of Business Officials meeting on Friday, October 18, 2013. The assessor noted that property tax appeals are down from previous years and it is becoming more difficult for homeowners to justify a lower assessment unless it is a new purchase.

FY2014 Budget – Upcoming Dates

- November 12, 2013 Discussion of Property Tax Levy
- November Publish “Truth in Taxation Notice of Public Hearing” – no more than 14 days prior to hearing and no less than 7 days prior to the date of the hearing
- November 25, 2013 Public Hearing & Board Adoption of FY2014 Amended Budget
Truth in Taxation Hearing & Property Tax Levy Adoption
- December File “Certificate of Tax Levy” with the county clerk on or before the last Tuesday in December