

## **Business Office Update December 17, 2018 Meeting**

### **Property Tax Update**

- The district received the annual statement of taxes extended, returned, collected, etc...
- Property tax payable for 2017pay2018 was \$14,471,194.54.
- After additions and reductions, the district collected \$14,456,875.42
- This equates to a 99.9% collection

### **Audit Update**

- The audit is nearing completion. An error in the Teacher Retirement System Annual Report for the Teacher's Health Insurance Security delayed the completion of audits statewide.
- I anticipate having a completed audit sometime in January.

### **Boiler Update**

- The boiler is installed and working. The contractor, Grubbs Mechanical, is in the process of completing the punch list items. Once those are complete, we will be releasing the final payment.
- We are waiting on parts from Johnson Controls to complete the control part of the boiler installation. This work will eliminate the air compressors that we are using for the old pneumatic control system and replace it with a digital system and allow us greater control of the system.

### **2018pay2019 Property Tax Levy**

- There are several documents attached to the Property Tax Levy item on the agenda.
- The board is being asked to conduct the first reading of the 2018pay2019 property tax levy.
  - This tax levy will be used in the 2019-20 school year
  - No "Truth in Taxation" hearing was required because the proposed increase in the levy is less than 5%
  - Dr. Lind and I are asking you to approve the 2018pay2019 Property Tax Levy

### **Property Tax Abatement**

- A property tax abatement is on the agenda. It is proposed that \$250,000 of the bond payments be abated for the 2019-20 fiscal year. The money to pay the \$250,000 abatement will be paid from the Education Fund via a fund transfer to the Debt Service Fund. This will reduce our adopted levy by \$250,000.

### **Illinois Municipal Retirement System (IMRF)**

- The district's rate for the employer portion of IMRF will reduce from 11.13% of classified payroll to 9.83% on January 1, 2019.
- The IMRF system doesn't rely on state funding. Each school district or municipality pays the cost of the pensions for classified staff. Each year, the rate is adjusted based on actuarial data of Millburn's classified staff that are members of IMRF.
- The employee contribution is 4.5%.

### **Proposed Briargate Subdivision**

- The proposed 231 lot subdivision is located on Route 45 in a portion of what was known as the Village Green Development. The property is 100 acres in size and a sizeable portion of the development will remain green space. This would be an age restricted development for adults age 55 and over. As a part of the process, the owner is required to meet with each of the taxing entities that could be affected by the development. The majority of the development is located within Millburn district boundaries with a small section located in the Woodland School District. The entire property is in the Grayslake High School District. Additional meetings will follow as the project progresses.
- The proposed Briargate subdivision passed its first hurdle on December 5, 2018. The Lindenhurst Plan Commission will be recommending to the Village Council the following:
  - Zoning change to R-1
  - Special Use permit subject to all final plan approvals
  - Preliminary plat approval subject to the special use permit
  - Preliminary site and building plan approval subject to the special use permit.
- A public hearing before the Village Council is expected in January or February.
- I have met with the business managers from both Woodland and Grayslake High School. We are proposing that the three districts work together to develop one developer agreement that would include all three school districts. This will result in less cost for all three districts. The owner of the property has requested that the school districts waive impact fees. We are in the process of exploring how these type of subdivisions have impacted other school districts so that we can make a recommendation to our respective Board.
- As the project progresses, I will keep you updated. The developer agreement will come to the board for approval when we reach that point in the process.

### **Bus Lease**

- I will be putting a bid out on behalf of the School Board for leasing buses. Our current lease ends in July, 2019. We will be looking to lease either new or 1-year old buses for either 3 or 4 years.
- I will provide additional information in January.

### **ComEd Energy Assessment**

- Several years ago, SEDAC conducted a facility assessment for the district.
- ComEd will be visiting the district on January 9, 2019 to begin the energy assessment. This will allow us to see what we have done to become more energy efficient and help us prioritize future projects that will reduce operating costs through energy savings.

### **Summer 2019 Projects**

- The architect has scheduled meetings with selected staff for both the playground renovation and STEM lab project at Millburn Elementary School
- The architect, the Principals, and I did a walk through last week to look at camera placement for adding cameras at both buildings.
- We will also be bidding most of the life safety work that is included on our 10 Year Life Safety Plan.
- I am in the process of arranging the architect to attend one of the Board's meetings in January or early February to review the "Summer 2019 Projects".
- We are planning to release bid documents on February 18, 2019 with a bid opening on March 11, 2019 with board approval at the March 18, 2019 meeting.

### **Millburn Elementary School Water Update**

The well water at Millburn Elementary School does contain Sulfur. We do have systems in place to minimize the impact of the Sulfur, however, we will never be able to fully remove the Sulfur smell.

Last summer (2018), we replaced the water pump and cleaned the well shaft for the well that serves the 1999 addition. This school year, we checked and adjusted the chlorinator and installed a filter system. In previous years, we also replaced what we call the degasser that is designed to remove some of the Sulfur in the water supply. After the water goes through the chlorinator, some of the Sulfur is changed from a gas to a solid. The degasser is designed to remove this sediment from the water. Additionally, the custodial staff is continuing to flush water faucets throughout the building and we are also flushing out the water holding tank in the boiler room.

It appears that we have the most problem when the demand on the water system is at its highest. This is typically at lunchtime and at the end of the day when a large number of students are flushing toilets. This creates a demand on the water system and water rushes in to the system to replace the water used. This disturbs the sediment that was in the pipes prior to the installation of the filter system. I have noticed a reduction in the amount of times I see gray water which leads me to believe that the measures we have taken to improve the water supply are working.

Some additional information about the components of the water system at Millburn Elementary School is included below.

#### Water Filters and Water Tank

The water filters were installed at Millburn Elementary in October, 2018. It will take some time to remove the sediment that is in the water pipes throughout the building. In the photo below, you will see the two water filters (green) that were installed. The first filter has a 50 micron filter to remove the larger particles of sediment from the water. The second filter is a 10 micron filter and removes the smaller particles of sediment. Over time, we will change out the 50 micron filter to a 40, 30, etc... micron filter to capture more and more sediment. The silver tank in the

background is the water tank that serves the 1999 school addition. The water tank is flushed on a regular basis to remove sediment that has dropped to the bottom of the water tank.



### Chlorinator & Degassing System

Chlorination of the water supply helps to remove Sulfur from the water supply. We recently had the system checked and adjusted. The degassing system was replaced in the last 2-3 years. A photo of the chlorinator and the degassing system is below:



Chlorination System

Degassing System