

**FORT LEE BOARD OF EDUCATION
FORT LEE, NEW JERSEY**

MINUTES

**SPECIAL PUBLIC BUDGET HEARING MEETING
April 25, 2022
Lewis F. Cole Intermediate School Cafetorium
and Zoom Meeting**

CALL TO ORDER BY THE PRESIDENT

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by President, Ms. Colbath.

FLAG SALUTE

The Flag Salute was led by Mrs. Richter.

ROLL CALL

Present: Ms. Elisa Cho, Mrs. Kim Curry, Mrs. Min Jeong Kim, Mrs. Holly Morell, Mrs. Kristen Richter, Mrs. Candace Romba, Mr. Michael Rubino, Ms. Julene Stassou, Ms. Paula K. Colbath

Also Present: Mr. Robert Kravitz, Ms. Haquisha Q. Taylor, Mrs. Diane Collazo-Baker, Mr. Christopher Buggy, Board Attorney

PURPOSE OF THE SPECIAL BUSINESS MEETING

The purpose of tonight's Special Public Budget Hearing Meeting was to convene in open session to present the 2022-2023 Final Budget for discussion and approval.

REPORT OF THE SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

Mr. Kravitz presented the 2022-2023 Final Budget. Board conversation ensued confirming the updated budgeted Capital Reserve Projects for the 2022-2023 Final Budget including the Fort Lee High School Retaining Wall Repair (\$330k), the Fort Lee High School HVAC Upgrade (1st Floor West Wing) (\$863k), the Fort Lee High School HVAC Upgrade (2nd Floor West Wing) (\$897k), the Fort Lee High School HVAC Upgrade (1st Floor East Wing) (\$402.8k), the Fort Lee High School HVAC Upgrade (West Gym) (\$746k), the Fort Lee High School HVAC Upgrade (East/Main Gym) (\$1.5MM), the Fort Lee High School HVAC Upgrade (Locker Rooms) (\$561.6k), the Fort Lee High School HVAC Upgrade (Team Room and Office) (\$298.4k), the Lewis F. Cole Middle School HVAC Upgrade (Gym) (\$661.5k) totaling (\$6.3MM). Ms. Stassou shared her dissatisfaction that all of the Middle School will not be included in the 2022-2023 budgeted capital projects.

HEARING OF CITIZENS- QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC

MOTION by Mrs. Morell, seconded by Mr. Rubino, to open the floor to the public, 6:29 p.m.

MOTION carried unanimously upon voice vote, 9-0.

A member of the community asked for clarification on budget items.

MOTION by Mr. Rubino, seconded by Mrs. Morell, to close the floor to the public, 6:38 p.m.

MOTION carried unanimously upon voice vote, 9-0.

RESOLUTION

FINANCE

1F THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Fort Lee Board of Education, upon recommendation of the Superintendent, approves the **inclusion in the Final 2022-2023 School District Budget of the use of Unrestricted Surplus (Fund Balance)** in the amount of \$1,260,742; and

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED, that the Fort Lee Board of Education, upon recommendation of the Superintendent, approves the **inclusion in the Final 2022-2023 School District Budget of a withdrawal from Capital Reserves** in the amount of \$6,307,820 as follows:

<u>CAPITAL RESERVE PROJECTS</u>	
Fort Lee High School Retaining Wall Repair	330,000
Fort Lee High School HVAC Upgrade (1st Floor West Wing)	863,000
Fort Lee High School HVAC Upgrade (2nd Floor West Wing)	897,000
Fort Lee High School HVAC Upgrade (1st Floor East Wing)	402,760
Fort Lee High School HVAC Upgrade (West Gym)	746,050
Fort Lee High School HVAC Upgrade (East/Main Gym)	1,547,560
Fort Lee High School HVAC Upgrade (Locker Rooms)	561,600
Fort Lee High School HVAC Upgrade (Team Room and Office)	298,350
Lewis F. Cole Middle School HVAC Upgrade (Gym)	661,500
Total Capital Reserve Projects	\$6,307,820

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Fort Lee Board of Education, upon recommendation of the Superintendent, approves the **Final 2022-2023 School District Budget as follows:**

	<u>BUDGET</u>	<u>LOCAL TAX LEVY</u>
General Fund	\$85,016,202	\$70,967,334
Special Revenue Fund	1,393,746	-0-
Debt Service Fund	4,212,168	3,734,689
Total Base Budget	\$90,622,116	\$74,702,023

MOTION by Ms. Cho seconded by Mrs. Romba, to approve item #1F.

MOTION carried unanimously upon roll call, 9-0.

OLD BUSINESS

None.

NEW BUSINESS

None.

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION by Mr. Rubino, seconded by Mrs. Morell, to adjourn, 6:43 p.m.

MOTION carried unanimously upon voice vote, 9-0.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED,

Haquisha Q. Taylor

HAQUISHA Q. TAYLOR
SCHOOL BUSINESS ADMINISTRATOR/BOARD SECRETARY

HQT/toc

4/25/2022