

**Manitowoc Public School District**  
**Minutes of Finance & Budget Committee Meeting**  
Monday, March 2, 2020

Finance and Budget (F&B) Committee Chairperson David Nickels called the Finance and Budget Committee to order at 1:03 p.m. with F&B committee members Richard Nitsch present. Director of Business Services Shawn M. Alfred were also present.

**2020-2021 Budget Update**

Director of Business Services Shawn Alfred spoke on the 2020-2021 MPSD Budget. Preliminary figures were shared and discuss of the 2021 Tax Levy and Tax Levy Rate occurred. The DPI allows the Per Member Allocation to be raised to \$10,000 for the 2020/2021 budget year, and the impact this would have on Manitowoc Public School District's (MPSD) tax levy, tax levy rate and revenue source was discussed. The projected tax levy rate with the per member \$10,000 for the 2020-2021 would be \$8.48, a 8.43% increase assuming no increase in Manitowoc's equalized value, and would allow an additional \$1.7 million in tax levy revenue. Discussion of all individuals present occurred, and Chairperson Nickels and Member Nitsch supported levying to the maximum. In addition, the preliminary estimate numbers of the 2020-2021 were presented in a summary format for each Fund. Chairperson Nickels questioned if a neutral budget was the goal for the 2020-2021, and Director of Business Services Shawn Alfred confirmed that this was the goal. All members of the F&B agreed that the budget draft appeared reasonable and necessary as presented.

**Scholarship / Loan Account to MPSD Foundation**

Director of Business Services Shawn Alfred spoke on the Scholarship and Loan account that is at Associated Bank Wealth Management Company in the name of the Manitowoc Public School District Board of Education. As reference, this account is the holding account for all principal and interest that funds the annual scholarships and \$2,000 loan made available to students (graduating and past graduated). The request is to transfer the title of the account ownership to the Manitowoc Public School District Foundation to better align with the direction of the Foundation and School Board, allow transparency and separation, and be compliant with auditing/accounting requirements. No change is the program would occur. The added step would be the School Board would accept the donation from the Foundation on an annual basis for the scholarships and loans. Chairperson Nickels mentioned that if the funds were in a foundation historically, this would not be an issue. Director Alfred also mentioned that at the present time, the funds are not accounted for in a financial statement and if would be more advantageous for the Foundation to incur the liability than MPSD. Chairperson Nickels and Member Nitsch supported the change. A motion was made by Member Nitsch, seconded by Chairperson Nickels, to bring to the Board of Education the recommendation to transfer the scholarship and loan account titling to the Manitowoc Public School District Foundation. The motion carried.

**MEA 2020-2021 1.81% Salary Increase**

Director of Business Services Shawn Alfred spoke on the allowable increase of the Teacher's Salaries for the 2020-2021 School Year / Budget. On an annual basis, the State of Wisconsin sets the maximum amount a School District can raise Teacher Salaries; known as WERC. For the 2020-2021 school year, the maximum amount is 1.81%. This would equate to an approximately increased cost to the district of \$440,081. Discussion of all individuals present occurred. All members of the F&B agreed that the increase of 1.81% should be awarded to the employees categorized as Teachers for the 2020-2021 budget year, and the 1.81% can be presented to the MEA. A motion was made by Member Nitsch, seconded by Chairperson Nickels, to bring to the Board of Education the recommendation to offer the 1.81% increase to the teacher salaries. The motion carried

A motion was made by member Nitsch and seconded by Chairperson Nickels to adjourn, and the motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 2:07 p.m.

Respectively submitted,

Shawn M. Alfred  
Acting Secretary  
*F&B 3-2-2020*