The Hitchcock County School’s Board of Education 2023-2024 budget hearing on September 11, 2023 was opened at 6:50 PM at the Hitchcock County Junior/Senior High School in Trenton. Board President Scott reviewed the budget document with the board members, with the General Fund totaling $4,033,333.00. There was no public comment or questions. The hearing was declared closed by President Scott at 6:54 PM.

Craig Scott, President Casha O’Byrne, Secretary

The 2023-2024 property tax request hearing for the Hitchcock County Schools was opened on September 11, 2023 at 6:54 PM. The request of 0.843936 per $100 of valuation for a total asking of $4,033,333.00; and of 0.099846 per $100 of valuation for a total asked of $477,182.00 for the Bond Fund was reviewed by the board. There was no public comment or questions. With no further business, the hearing was adjourned at 7:00 PM.

Craig Scott, President Casha O’Byrne, Secretary

The Board of Education of the Hitchcock County Schools met September 11, 2023 at 7:00 PM. Present were board members Scott, O’Byrne, Webb, Hagan, Kolbet, and Marks. Also present were Superintendent Sattler, Assistant Principal/School Counselor McCarter, Principal Tines, and Peggy Fyn.

President Scott called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM. Notice of the board’s adherence to the Nebraska Open Meeting Law posted on the north wall of the meeting room was given. The meeting was properly advertised in the Hitchcock County News on Thursday, September 7, 2023.

Moved by Kolbet; seconded by O’Byrne to approve the September 2023 regular meeting agenda as presented. Aye votes O’Byrne, Webb, Hagan, Kolbet, Marks, and Scott; nay votes none.

There were no visitors.

Moved by Hagan; seconded by Marks to approve the consent agenda as presented. Aye votes Webb, Hagan, Kolbet, Marks, Scott, and O’Byrne; nay votes none. The consent agenda consisted of the following items: (1) Minutes of the August 2023 board meeting. (2) The Activity Fund. (3) The bill roster with general fund bills totaling $543,720.46 and lunch fund bills totaling $17,890.25. (4) Other funds.

Superintendent Sattler presented the board with a letter from the Hitchcock County Educators Association. Moved by Hagan; seconded by Webb to recognize the Hitchcock County Educators Association as the official bargaining unit for the 2024-2025 school year. Aye votes Hagan, Kolbet, Marks, Scott, O’Byrne, and Webb; nay votes none.

Superintendent Sattler presented the board with propane bids: Bosselman Energy - $1.39 per gallon for a pay as you go contract; and Farmer’s Coop - $1.379 per gallon for a pay as you go contract. Both bids run from October 1, 2023 through April 1, 2024. Moved by Kolbet; seconded by Hagan to accept the Farmer’s Coop bid for $1.379 per gallon pay as you go for the elementary building in Culbertson; and the Bosselman Energy bid for 1.39 per gallon pay as you go for the junior/senior high building in Trenton. Aye votes Kolbet, Marks, Scott, O’Byrne, Webb, and Hagan; nay votes none.

Superintendent Sattler presented the board with surplus property items to sale or dispose of. Two pianos, mower with broom, mower deck, and a side by side with blade. After discussion the board asked Mr. Sattler to find out if the side by side could be used for a trade-in. Moved by Scott; seconded by Kolbet to declare surplus and get sealed bids for the pianos and mowers; and to get the best trade in for the side by side with blade. Aye votes Marks, Scott, O’Byrne, Webb, Hagan, and Kolbet; nay votes none.

No action was taken on action item #5 – all necessary action to accept a proposal for an ATV with winch and blade.

**RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION TO**

**INCREASE BASE GROWTH PERCENTAGE TO**

**DETERMINE ITS PROPERTY TAX REQUEST AUTHORITY**

**WHEREAS**, the Nebraska Legislature enacted several measures this past legislative session, including LB 243, to adjust public school district revenue and finances; and,

**WHEREAS,** LB 243 generally limits a public school district’s property tax request authority, subject to limited exceptions; and

**WHEREAS,** LB 243 includes an exception to generally allow a school district to otherwise exceed the default property tax request authority if at least seventy percent of the Board of Education votes in favor of the increased request; and

**WHEREAS,** a Board of Education of a school district with an average daily membership of 471 students or less may increase its tax request by an additional seven percent above the base growth percentage; and

**WHEREAS,** the School District’s average daily membership is less than 471 students; and

**WHEREAS**, due to rising enrollment, student and staffing needs, and the need to maintain its budgetary obligations, the Board of Education of Hitchcock County Public Schools, (the “School District”) hereby desires to increase its base growth percentage **by an additional five percent (5%)** or other maximum amount as permitted by law; and;

**WHEREAS,** public notice of this possible increase was published in a legal newspaper of general circulation in the School District at least one week prior to this Board meeting.

**NOW, THEREFORE**, **BE IT RESOLVED** that, pursuant to Section 5 of 2023 Neb. Law 243, at least seventy percent of the Board of Education of the School District affirmatively votes to increase to the School District’s overall property tax request authority by an additional five percent above the base growth percentage, or other maximum amount as permitted by law.  The Superintendent or designee is hereby authorized and directed to take any action consistent with this Resolution to ensure that the School District’s overall property tax request complies with this Resolution.

The foregoing Resolution having been read in its entirety, Member Kolbet moved for their passage and adoption.  Member O’Byrne seconded same.  After discussion and on roll call vote the following members voted in favor of passage and adoption of the above Resolution: Scott, O’Byrne, Webb, Hagan, Kolbet, and Marks.

The following members voted against the same: none

The following members were absent or not voting: none

The above Resolution having been consented to by at least seventy percent of the Members of the Board of Education, it was declared as passed and adopted by the President at a duly held and lawfully convened meeting in full compliance with the Nebraska Open Meetings law.

**DATED** this 11th day of September, 2023.

**Hitchcock County Public School**

**BY:** Craig Scott **ATTEST:** Casha O’Byrne

President Secretary

**RESOLUTION SETTING THE PROPERTY TAX REQUEST**

**RESOLUTION NO. 001**

Nebraska Revised Statute 77-1632 and 77-1633 provides that the Governing Body of Hitchcock County School passes by a majority vote a resolution or ordinance setting the tax request; and

WHEREAS, a special public hearing was held as required by law to hear and consider comments concerning the property tax request;

NOW, THEREFORE, the Governing Body of Hitchcock County Schools resolves that:

1. The 2023-2024 property tax request be set at:

General Fund: $4,033,333.00

Bond Fund: $477,182.00

Special Building Fund:

Qualified Capital Purpose Undertaking Fund:

1. The total assessed value of property differs from last year’s total assessed value by 7.01 percent
2. The tax rate which would levy the same amount of property taxes as last year, when multiplied by the new total assessed value of property would be 0.923828 per $100 of assessed value.
3. Hitchcock County Schools proposes to adopt a property tax request that will cause its tax rate to be 0.943782 per $100 of assessed value.
4. Based on the proposed property tax request and changes in other revenue, the total operating budget of Hitchcock County Schools will increase (or decrease) last year’s budget by 3.07 percent
5. A copy of this resolution be certified and forwarded to the County Clerk on or before October 15, 2023

Motion by Webb, seconded by Hagan to adopt Resolution #001.

Voting yes were: Voting no were:

Marks

Kolbet

Hagan

Webb

O’Byrne

Scott

Dated this 11th day of September, 2023

Moved by Hagan; seconded by Kolbet to adopt the 2023-2024 budget as presented. Aye votes Webb, Hagan, Kolbet, Marks, Scott, and O’Byrne; nay votes none.

Committee report as follows: President Scott thanked Mr. Sattler for all the hard work on the 2023-2024 budget. He also thanked Hagan and Kolbet for their work on the budget committee.

Principal Tines’ report as follows: (1) 8/21 – preschool started. (2) 8/22 – Fresh Fruit and Vegetables program began. (3) 8/24 – “Because of You” lunch with Clara Webb. (4) 8/30 – Nebraska State Fair field trip for 5th & 6th grades. Sponsors were Mrs. Smith, Mrs. Bohochik, Mrs. Baker and Wayne. (5) 9/5 – After school study hall started for 3rd-6th grades. (6) 9/9 – Hosted half of the Hitchcock County Varsity Volleyball Tournament. (7) 9/20 – Parent/Teachers Conferences. (8) 9/18 – 9/22 – Book Fair.

Assistant Principal/School Counselor McCarter’s report as follows: (1) 9/14 – College Career Fair in McCook for the 11th & 12th grade. (2) 9/18 – Picture Day. (3) 9/20 – Parent/Teachers Conference 8 AM – 5PM. (4) Seniors enrolled in college classes: 4 – College English; 6 – College Algebra; 1 – Intro to Nutrition; 1- Math for Health Occupations.

Superintendent Sattler’s report as follows: (1) We have an enrollment of 284 students, PreK through 12th grade. (2) We’ve had a great start to the school year. (3) Parent/Teacher’s Conferences on the 20th mark the halfway point of the first nine weeks.

President Scott adjourned the meeting at 7:32 PM. The next board meeting will be held Monday, October 9, 2023 at 7:00 PM. The agenda kept continuously current is available to the public for items of an emergency nature. The meeting is open to the public.

Craig Scott – President Casha O’Byrne – Secretary

General Fund bills

20/20 Technologies – contracted services 3,488.31

McCook Ace Hardware – ground/classroom supply 553.73

Acme Printing – window perf 1,733.05

Aflac – payroll deductions 116.83

American Family Ins Co – payroll deductions 2,301.91

Blue Cross Blue Shield – health insurance 56,631.77

Bosselman Energy – building/bus fuels 1,077.17

Community First Bank HSA – payroll deduction 1,050.44

Community First Bank – FICA/taxes 53,242.93

D&S Hardware – grounds/classroom supply 254.51

Dans R Us – trash 186.40

Diamond Vogel – classroom supply 49.06

Didax, Inc – classroom supply 41.48

Eakes Office Solutions – custodial supply 1,560.41

Employee Benefit Fund – payroll deduction 389.90

ESU #5 – DL Spanish classroom 35,468.00

Farmers Coop – fuel/building supply 359.28

Fastenal – classroom supply 113.55

Generation Genius – video streaming 125.00

Auto Glass Express – plexiglass 137.50

Great Plains Communications – phone bill/internet 775.85

HCHS Petty Cash – reimbursements 751.08

HCS – payroll deduction 5.63

HCS Flex Plan – contributions 1,614.18

Credit Management Services – payroll deduction 221.69

Hometown Leasing – copiers 391.38

Hot Lunch fund – payroll deductions 1,176.85

Houghton Mifflin – textbooks 218.38

Ideal Linen – custodial supply 474.62

Johnson Controls – services 2,216.70

JourneyEd.com, Inc – Microsoft renewal 2,477.56

Kansas City Audio-Visual – tech supply 109.95

Lathem Time Corp – web based subscription 549.00

Legal Shield – payroll deductions 102.08

M&B Constructions – concrete repair 1,287.00

Medical Transport Solutions – payroll deductions 137.00

MCI – long distance 46.89

Mead Lumber – classroom/building supplies 1,240.05

Matrix Trust Company – annuities 4,991.00

Midwest Alarm Services – fire alarm insp/monitor 1,132.92

NASB ALICAP – insurance 118,067.00

Nebraska Central Equip – bus part 135.17

NCSA – membership dues 365.00

HCS Retirement Acct – retirement 46,220.31

NE Safety Center – bus endorsement class 255.00

NE Department of Revenue – state taxes 7,686.17

Novus Glass – windshield replacements 1,352.09

NRCSA – membership dues 850.00

New York Life Ins Co – payroll deductions 103.36

O’Brien Electric – wiring 475.00

Optum – FSA fees 150.00

ORC Direct – classroom supply 45.96

Principal Life Ins Co – disability 979.17

Quill Corp – classroom/office supplies 1,163.66

Rippen Oil – bus fuel/parts/labor 3,088.98

School Mate – office supply 56.00

School Specialty – classroom supply 31.65

Scoop Media – printing/subscription 545.22

Southwest Farm & Auto Supply – bus supply 25.76

Southwest Public Power District – electric 2,512.48

Special Building fund – payroll deduction 629.12

Teacher Synergy – online curriculum 300.00

TKO Pest Control – pest control 200.00

Trails West – fuel 3,215.82

Transportation Accessories – bus part 126.02

UniFirst Corp – custodial supply 106.37

Lester Unruh – piano tuning 345.00

US Bank – credit card 1,907.15

Verified First – background checks 489.74

Village of Culbertson – water/sewage 859.10

Village of Trenton – utilities 4,581.61

Vision Service Plan – payroll deductions 445.58

Woodburn Press – resources package 998.00

Payroll – net (gross - $248,895.03) 166,242.93

Lunch Fund bills

CashWa Distributing – food/supply 8,259.93

Community First Bank – FICA/taxes 1,178.72

Gary’s Super Foods – food 110.39

HCHS Petty Cash – reimbursement 4.56

Credit Management Services – payroll deduction 249.04

Ideal Linen – kitchen supply 276.71

HCS Retirement Acct – retirement 991.47

NE Department of Revenue – state taxes 104.55

Northwest Fire Extinguisher – hood inspections 235.50

US Bank – credit card 49.14

US Foods – food/supply 1,265.62

David Wimer – reimbursement 78.50

Payroll – net (gross - $6,606.32) 5,086.12