

Bridgewater-Hebron Village District
Meeting Minutes
January 15, 2025

Board Members Present: Terry Murphy, Derry Riddle, Bill White by phone
No others were in attendance

The meeting began at 10:01 a.m.

The minutes of October 29, 2024, were approved as written on motion by Terry, seconded by Bill.

The 2024 P&L was reviewed. The net income of -\$261,564.15 is not accurate. The revenues are understated. It does not consider the \$182,000 playground donation that was posted in 2023. Also, the tax payment of \$133,000 from the Town of Bridgewater did not come in until January of this year. We raised \$649,200 (\$452,950 budgeted funds plus \$196,250 from playground donations). We've spent about \$126,000 out of the \$300,000 budgeted for the new school district legal fees/start-up costs. So, as of December 31, 2024, in reality we should have a surplus. We are doing OK financially at this point.

It was noted that we received a \$101 credit for overpayment of interest on a bond payment. We are currently debt-free.

Derry recently contacted our playground representative yet again, emailing him regarding the swings still not being done, stating that we are still holding payment until the project is completed. He apologized and assured us that it won't be too much longer.

Bill asked about our insurance coverage. B-HVD has general liability and worker's compensation coverage plus NASD has their own policy. SAU 108 will need to have insurance as well. The coverage for both parties will need to be reviewed going forward.

The manifests and new vendor forms were reviewed and signed.

Building Repairs/Maintenance Updates:

- The storage shed windowpane will need cleaning/painting in the spring.
- The greenhouse's lower interior windows have been cleaned. They should be cleaned more regularly going forward to avoid hard water buildup.
- Johnson Controls/Simplex was contacted months ago regarding the issues with the video/clock/intercom systems and obtaining an estimate to address the problems. Terry will contact them to follow-up. We will need to consider updating the whole system if/when we build an addition, adding funds to the bond to accommodate this.
- The roof in the front and west sides of the building has black staining that should be addressed this spring. We still need to obtain a price to do such.
- There has been water under some tiles on the floor of the preschool bathroom. It is not coming from the toilet or from the walls. It might actually be coming from snow on the students' boots. We should consider replacing the tiles with epoxy floors in the two bathrooms on that wing of the building, similar to the upper-grade wing bathrooms.
- The gym floor should be scrubbed and refinished this summer.

- A carpenter repaired some cabinetry in the classrooms recently and will assess their strength going forward and reinforce as needed.

An update on SAU 108 was discussed. As expected, the taxpayers will see an increase for school costs this year, but it will still be far less than if SAU 4 had changed the funding formula. It was noted that all three SAU 108 towns had a rise in their number of students and Hebron had a considerably larger percentage increase than the other towns. It is still unclear exactly what SAU 4 will leave, e.g., computers, etc., once their lease agreement is up. If they don't leave items behind to our satisfaction we could possibly negotiate regarding our three towns' percentage of the SAU 4 trust funds.

Discussion ensued regarding the \$500,000 donation for the addition. We will need to raise about \$1 million more for the project. Terry will double-check with BPS regarding an estimate. We will likely look into a four- or five-year note to lessen the tax impact. We also need to get an estimate for the re-paving of the driveway/parking lot and adding the bus parking area.

Terry met with the Garden Club regarding using the greenhouse and that is all set.

A discussion ensued about the doors not being locked in the building. Derry asked what the state and/or federal regulations are regarding locking school doors (specifically interior).

Preparations for our annual meeting were discussed:

- Terry will work on a draft for our budget proposal. We are looking at early to mid-February for our board meeting to review the budget.
- A bond and budget hearing will need to be set for later February (no later than March 14), with it being posted at least seven days prior to the hearing.
- The annual meeting will be April 8. Derry is up for re-election as commissioner and Matt Denton as moderator.
- Terry will write a draft for our annual report and send to Derry for editing. Once edited she'll send that draft to Bill and Terry for approval. This will need to be done in time for inclusion in Bridgewater's annual report.
- Terry will look into if we have any funds that we may need to encumber.

The lease agreement with the Pasquaney School District (SAU 108) was discussed. It will likely be similar to the current one with SAU 4. Terry will ask Dean Eggert to draft an agreement for us to review.

The meeting adjourned at 11:58 a.m. on motion by Derry, seconded by Terry.

Respectfully Submitted,
Derry Riddle, Commissioner