

TRANSCRIPT OF MEETING

OAK RIDGE SCHOOLS - OAK RIDGE BOARD OF EDUCATION

SPECIAL-CALLED MEETING

SCHOOL ADMINISTRATION BUILDING BOARD ROOM

TUESDAY - MAY 21, 2013

6:00 p.m.

BOARD MEMBERS

MR. W. KEYS FILLAUER, CHAIRMAN

MS. ANGI AGLE

MR. DAN DIGREGORIO

MR. ROBERT EBY

MS. JENNIFER RICHTER

ALSO PRESENT:

DR. BOB SMALLRIDGE, INTERIM SUPERINTENDENT OF
SCHOOLS

DR. LARISSA HENDERSON, INTERIM ASSISTANT
SUPERINTENDENT

MS. KAREN GAGLIANO, DIRECTOR OF BUSINESS & SUPPORT
SERVICES

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1 CHAIRMAN FILLAUER: I'd like to
2 call to order a special-called meeting of the Oak
3 Ridge Board of Education.

4 There are two items in this
5 special meeting. The first item is a public hearing
6 and we will begin with that. Anyone in the audience
7 that would like to address the Board at this time on
8 any issue or topic reflective of this year's FY 2014
9 proposed budget may do so. We will follow the same
10 procedures that we follow in our public hearing at
11 our regular scheduled meetings, which means you will
12 have three minutes to address this Board. If you
13 wish to do that, we'd ask you to come to the podium
14 to please state your name and address. There should
15 be a sheet for you to sign your name and place your
16 address there as well. Is there any person that
17 would like to address the Board at this time?

18 MS. JENKINS: Good evening. My
19 name is Helen Jenkins. I live at 102 Dana Drive
20 here in Oak Ridge. My position is a teacher
21 assistant in the CDC Program at the high school and
22 my job is on the chopping block. I'm here because I
23 want you to understand what I do. And I feel like
24 losing this position is detrimental to the program.

1 I'm a one-on-one with a young lady that's in a
2 wheelchair. She is totally dependent on others for
3 her care. She has her diapering needs, her feeding,
4 everything. I ride the bus in the morning to pick
5 her up, I ride on the bus to take her home in the
6 afternoon. While she is in my care I spend a
7 hundred percent of my time with her. She is not the
8 kind of child that you can just let her sit and do
9 some work, you have to work with her. I'm concerned
10 if my position goes away that it's going to be
11 detrimental to the other students in the class
12 because somebody is going to have to fill my shoes.
13 I don't know what the arrangements are for providing
14 this one-on-one with this young lady. She has two
15 more years before she graduates. And I would like
16 for you to reconsider putting my position in. If
17 not full time, at least part time to provide the
18 other teacher assistants in that class the ability
19 to do the inclusion services, administrative
20 services and other academic things that they do with
21 those students. Thank you.

22 CHAIRMAN FILLAUER: Thank you.

23 MS. GREER: Hello, my name is
24 Veronica Greer and I live at 112 Newport Drive. I

1 have a daughter that attends Linden Elementary
2 School. My family and I moved here three years ago.
3 We moved from another county in East Tennessee
4 because the idea of inclusion was pulling my
5 daughter out into a PE class with typical kids and
6 that was inclusion. So when we were looking at
7 moving into a new area, of course we had heard about
8 how progressive the Oak Ridge School System was. So
9 we now live in the Linden school district and my
10 husband commutes to downtown Knoxville just because
11 we wanted to make sure we gave her the best
12 education. She has an IEP and she has Down
13 Syndrome. This is her second year in kindergarten
14 at Linden and I must say that the staff at Linden is
15 very qualified and has done an exceptional job. My
16 daughter is reading right now, she is writing, she
17 is thriving in a full inclusive classroom and
18 environment. So we are very grateful of that. But
19 the cuts that have been recently made at Linden will
20 directly affect my child because one of the TAs that
21 have been cut work directly with my daughter. And
22 also Ms. Leach, who was a speech teacher who is
23 retiring, her position will not be filled. So I am
24 concerned that, you know, I want my daughter to

1 reach her highest potential in a classroom and she's
2 a perfect student for the inclusive environment.
3 She does not need a one-on-one aid but she will
4 thrive best in a classroom that has a TA. But it's
5 going to be hard to meet those requirements when we
6 have new students that are coming into Linden from
7 the preschool here that are going to need assistance
8 as well. So my concern is are they going to group
9 students together and have one TA for three or four
10 students and put them in a typical classroom and
11 have 25% of the classroom these kids that have IEPs?
12 And only use them in a few classrooms? Is that
13 really fair for the other classrooms because I think
14 there is a lot of benefit as well for typical
15 students to have those kids that have some special
16 needs in their classroom as well. I'm also
17 concerned about her speech. She gets speech twice a
18 week. So it's going to be a heavy load on the one
19 person that's left. Are they going to do group
20 speech now instead of doing one-on-one so they can
21 make sure that all the other kids are meeting their
22 IEP needs as well? So I think it's a big impact and
23 it definitely impacts me personally and I want my
24 daughter to reach her highest potential. So I'm

1 just here as a concerned parent. And I also have a
2 few questions as far as how you guys decide to make
3 the budget cuts and what percentage of the cuts are
4 made from the special ed department. If you can
5 help me understand...and I get budget cuts, I know
6 they have to be made. But I'm just curious how much
7 of the cuts are made for special ed.

8 CHAIRMAN FILLAUER: Thank you.
9 Anyone else?

10 Seeing no one else but before I
11 adjourn the public hearing and I think I can safely
12 speak for the entire Board when I say this, if I say
13 something you disagree with or would like to add
14 please speak up. This Board each year, this is one
15 of our fun times when we deal with budget issues and
16 I obviously say that facetiously. One of the unique
17 things about this Board is that our perspective on
18 education in Oak Ridge really comes from the inside
19 because all of us in some form or fashion, and
20 you've heard me speak of this before, have been
21 involved with this system either as a parent, as a
22 student, as a teacher, Board members so our looking
23 at what these programs that we are looking at that
24 have potential cuts is a very difficult decision for

1 us to make. We want to provide the quality
2 education that sets the Oak Ridge schools to the
3 highest standard for every student, that's part of
4 our mission as a Board of Education. We have a
5 uniquely qualified and superb staff of educators.
6 We have unique students in this school system that
7 have multiple talents. And when I say that I'm
8 talking about all students, not just those that are
9 high academic achievers, I'm talking about all
10 students, they all have unique qualities. And what
11 we've got to do as a Board and as a staff and as an
12 administration is provide the best program that we
13 can for all of those students. And it is difficult
14 when you are facing budget constraints. We can go
15 back and look over the last ten or eleven years and,
16 for the most part, at budget time we have been faced
17 with looking at where we can make some cuts as
18 opposed to looking at where we might add more than
19 we really need to add. That doesn't mean that we
20 haven't added some really good things. We have.
21 Particularly in the area of technology. We have
22 done some really good things there but, at the same
23 time, they're programs that this Board felt were
24 very valuable to this school system that no longer

1 exist. Let's use one example; the drivers education
2 program. To me, and I just say this personally, to
3 me that is a program for young teenagers that should
4 be a must in the school system. Yes, they can find
5 other avenues to get a program like that but it is a
6 program that I think is very valuable for the
7 educational process. We don't have that in Oak
8 Ridge anymore. We used to. We used to have a great
9 drivers education program. But what we've got to do
10 as a Board and this is kind of an answer to the
11 question that you asked; as the process of putting
12 this budget begins back many, many months ago
13 information is presented to the central office
14 staff. It comes from principals who get information
15 from their teaching staff, it comes from our
16 department heads such as maintenance, for example,
17 all that filters into our administrative staff.
18 Then they sit down for many hours and look at the
19 numbers, look at the costs and try to balance out
20 that. And, unfortunately, as we have seen over the
21 last several years, that number and what we would
22 like to have over here has become very difficult to
23 balance. And as a result, unfortunately, we have
24 lost personnel, we've lost programs and, yes, some

1 people are going to be affected by that. But what
2 we've got to do as a Board is try to come up with
3 what will be the best overall program that we can
4 offer to all of our students. That is, at most, a
5 very difficult task to do. Because I can assure you
6 each of these Board members has done their homework,
7 we've dug, we've looked in crevices to try to find
8 more dollars, to move something here. We've been
9 provided with outstanding information from central
10 office and the superintendent but, at some point in
11 time, you have to make a decision and that decision,
12 we hope, is based what will be best at this time for
13 the Oak Ridge School System. And I'll close by
14 saying it becomes increasingly difficult for me to
15 look our staff in the eye when year after year we
16 are facing the real possibility that they don't get
17 a cost increase to their salary. And what does that
18 mean to us as a school system? It means those other
19 school systems, and other systems struggle too, but
20 it means that instead of us staying up where we want
21 to be we are now beginning to level out and we do
22 not want that to happen. I didn't mean to get on my
23 soapbox but I guess I did.

24 Anyone else? Then I will adjourn

1 the public hearing and call to order the
 2 special-called meeting. I guess I've already done
 3 that or go to the next item on the special-called
 4 meeting. And that is the first reading in the
 5 adoption process of our FY 2014 budget. What I'd
 6 like to do is Dr. Smallridge has presented us with
 7 some additional information since our last meeting.
 8 I'd like to ask him to go over that information and
 9 see if there are any questions. And then I would
 10 like to go back from our last meeting there were
 11 several Board members that had put some ideas on the
 12 table, there were no motions made, but I would like
 13 to go back to those Board members now and see if
 14 they do have a motion they would like to make. We
 15 will take care of those items and then we will open
 16 the floor for any new items or questions or
 17 discussions that might need to take place.

18 Dr. Smallridge.

19 DR. SMALLRIDGE: Let me start by
 20 reviewing the changes that we gave to the Board the
 21 first work session following the initial budget
 22 presentation. In the revenues we had a reduced
 23 amount of \$262,053. So that certainly didn't help
 24 us at all with a very difficult budget to begin

1 And then also the proposed use of fund balance for
 2 the equipment rental and replacement fund in the
 3 amount of 139,000. So the grand total right now for
 4 the fund balance is \$1,243,950. And then also what
 5 we projected for the city CIP projects the city has
 6 indicated that they would provide us \$250,000 for
 7 different projects. And finally, at one point there
 8 was some consideration by city council for some
 9 additional suggested CIP projects and we didn't have
 10 much time at all to pull these together and submit
 11 it to them but we did submit HVAC replacements at
 12 Robertsville Middle School and systemwide carpet
 13 replacement for \$50,000 for a total of \$250,000,
 14 which at this point has not been appropriated for
 15 the school. That brings us up to date, hopefully,
 16 for where we stand at this point.

17 CHAIRMAN FILLAUER: Karen, let me
 18 ask you a question if I may. Based on what we have
 19 here, do you see, look into your crystal ball there
 20 for a moment, do you see any forthcoming changes
 21 either to the good or negative that could occur from
 22 the time that we adopt this budget on Thursday past
 23 that time that we might have to come back and
 24 reflect on these numbers somewhat?

1 with. And then expenditures we did have a decrease
 2 in our projected health insurance costs of \$123,000
 3 so that left us with a difference negative \$139,053.
 4 Tentatively, and of course this is subject to Board
 5 action, we tentatively balanced the budget with that
 6 139,000 by bringing forward from fund balance.

7 We can move on to the latest
 8 budget changes and some of this information would be
 9 new to the Board. But we did have a decrease in
 10 sales and most of this information came in really
 11 today or late yesterday. We had a decrease in sales
 12 tax revenue again of \$17,471 and that's based on our
 13 latest monthly projection and the amount that we
 14 received for the current month. We do have some
 15 savings. We have savings in health insurance of
 16 \$24,586. And a savings in liability insurance of
 17 \$35,200. So that gives us \$42,315 to the good. And
 18 then I've listed some expenditures that have been at
 19 least suggested or considered by the Board. One is
 20 a \$500 bonus with benefits for staff; a cost of
 21 \$149,000. And then a couple of technology projects
 22 or software, I guess it was, \$67,600. I've also
 23 included an updated use of fund balance and what we
 24 are projecting that fund balance would be used for.

1 MS. GAGLIANO: One of the
 2 outstanding items at this point is what our federal
 3 revenue will be. The state had promised a couple of
 4 weeks ago that within a couple weeks they would try
 5 to get those numbers to us. So we have not gotten
 6 those yet. Hopefully, they won't be significantly
 7 lower than they've already projected. And how that
 8 would affect us is positions that we would have to
 9 keep that we couldn't afford to pay for with federal
 10 funds, we'd have to pay for them out of general
 11 fund. So that would be transferred over. Other
 12 than that, the decrease you see in sales tax, that
 13 was a heads-up from Anderson County, some
 14 information I received today. And we actually have
 15 not received our allocation yet but I'm glad we got
 16 this heads-up so we at least knew that. So we have
 17 one more month of sales tax collections to consider
 18 so I'm feeling pretty good about where we are with
 19 that at this point, even though it's bad news but
 20 the bad news probably won't continue, we just have
 21 one more month. And I used what we received last
 22 year during that month. We haven't gotten the
 23 property tax from Anderson County yet so we have two
 24 months of that yet that are out. And then two

1 months of sales and property tax for Roane County.
 2 So those are sort of the outstanding things. It's
 3 great that we got a firm number for health insurance
 4 from the state. That came yesterday afternoon. And
 5 we've been working yesterday and all day today on
 6 the liability insurance and we were able to catch
 7 Tennessee Risk Management, this week they were
 8 actually calculating the premiums for everyone. So
 9 we were able to revise the early numbers we had sent
 10 to them in the Spring with closer numbers for next
 11 year, which really helped us out. On the
 12 expenditure side I think that we've captured
 13 everything that we need to. So unless the BEP has a
 14 drastic change, you know, so far we've received an
 15 April estimate and the May estimate so we still have
 16 June and July. Hopefully, those won't dramatically
 17 change. Other than that, I think this is probably
 18 the latest we've been able to make some decisions
 19 which, as you can see, each day there is information
 20 coming in so it's helped us.

21 CHAIRMAN FILLAUER: Thank you.
 22 Ms. Richter, I'm going to move to you next. You had
 23 a proposal for consideration and thought that dealt
 24 with a \$500 bonus --

1 MR. EBY: Mr. Chairman.
 2 CHAIRMAN FILLAUER: Yes.
 3 MR. EBY: Just a parliamentary
 4 point. I think don't we need a motion on the floor
 5 to adopt the budget and then we go through and amend
 6 it before we can officially go through this process?
 7 CHAIRMAN FILLAUER: We'll do it.
 8 Do I hear a motion?
 9 MR. EBY: I move that we adopt the
 10 budget as presented.
 11 MS. RICHTER: Second.
 12 MS. AGLE: Second.
 13 CHAIRMAN FILLAUER: Thank you.
 14 Ms. Richter.
 15 MS. RICHTER: Yes, we talked about
 16 this at our last meeting and I just want to say
 17 briefly that the Board clearly recognizes and values
 18 the work of our teachers and our staff. And while
 19 this does not reflect the total value that we have,
 20 we firmly understand that compensation is a
 21 reflection of value also. And so I, therefore, move
 22 that we include a \$500 one-time bonus for all staff
 23 who will not receive a step increase to their salary
 24 in the upcoming fiscal year. This bonus is meant to

1 cover all teachers and staff who have topped out of
 2 salary steps and those who are not on salary
 3 schedules which include steps. And I further move
 4 that the money to support this one-time bonus be
 5 funded from the schools' undesignated fund balance.

6 MR. EBY: Second.

7 CHAIRMAN FILLAUER: A motion has
 8 been made and seconded. Discussion? The motion on
 9 the floor, correct me if I...it was somewhat of a
 10 lengthy motion so do you want to read it for me
 11 again?

12 MS. RICHTER: Sure. I move that
 13 we include a \$500 one-time bonus for all staff who
 14 will not receive a step increase to their salary in
 15 the upcoming fiscal year. This bonus is meant to
 16 cover teachers and staff who have topped out of
 17 salary steps and those who are not on salary
 18 schedules which include steps. And I further move
 19 that the money to support this one-time bonus be
 20 funded from the schools' undesignated fund balance.

21 CHAIRMAN FILLAUER: The motion has
 22 been made and seconded. There was no discussion.
 23 All those in favor signify by saying aye.
 24 (Whereupon, all members voted aye)

1 CHAIRMAN FILLAUER: Opposed?
 2 Motion carries.

3 Next item that I had, Ms. Agle,
 4 was yours which dealt with money in the technology
 5 area so I'll move to you.

6 MS. AGLE: Yes, and in keeping
 7 with what we are supposed to do before we look for
 8 increases we are supposed to look for places where
 9 we might take the money. Dr. Lee had indicated that
 10 the advertising line item for human resources,
 11 72520-302, that they probably could get by on
 12 \$16,000 so that's a reduction of \$1,500. The line
 13 item for Board travel, 72310-355, we've allocated
 14 12,000, year-to-date we've spent 5,968. I realize
 15 that's cutting it very close but if we cut that back
 16 to 6,000 and we are vigilant about things like car
 17 pooling to meetings that we go to, I think we can
 18 stay within that. So that would yield us another
 19 6,000. The third one is the hardest. It is the
 20 central communication line that's the metro E
 21 contingency in the event that our fiberoptic project
 22 is not completed on time. We've allocated \$63,600
 23 for that. And as I read it, that's coming from
 24 recurring funds. So I would move that we remove

1 that 63,600 from the line item, leaving the rest of
 2 it alone, so it would go from 192,612 to 129,012.
 3 Those three things total \$71,000.
 4 MS. GAGLIANO: Excuse me one
 5 second. I just wanted to make sure I heard you
 6 right. Did you say that you understood the metro E
 7 to be coming out of...to be recurring funds?
 8 MS. AGLE: Right, was that one
 9 that's coming out of fund balance?
 10 MS. GAGLIANO: Yeah.
 11 MS. AGLE: Ok, then we scratch
 12 that one. As I read it, I thought, ok, this is
 13 recurring funds. If we need that it's a one-time
 14 expense. We could use fund balance for that.
 15 MS. GAGLIANO: It's probably not
 16 worded very good then, if that's what you thought.
 17 Sorry.
 18 MS. AGLE: So my proposal is
 19 reduced to \$7,500 in reductions. It's not huge. On
 20 the revenue side I really looked at the property and
 21 sales tax forecasts. And I know that's a very
 22 difficult thing to forecast in that you are looking
 23 at current receipts. But the city is forecasting a
 24 .4% increase in property tax and a .7% increase in

1 sales tax. And it may be that the rationale for
 2 that is that in the next few months we are going to
 3 have several new businesses opening that would
 4 impact both property and sales taxes. The biggest
 5 of those is, of course, the Kroger Marketplace or
 6 Westcott Center that should be a significant bump in
 7 property and sales taxes as soon as they open. But
 8 we've also got several other restaurants and other
 9 new businesses, I mean, you can see the signs on the
 10 turnpike, one is opening the end of May and that
 11 sort of thing. The new Weigel's on Illinois Avenue
 12 because we don't really have any major gas stations
 13 on the busiest road in town and that Weigel's is
 14 going to be, I think, an 8-pump station so that
 15 should be fairly busy. Based on those things, I
 16 think that projecting losses in the tax revenue
 17 might be a little too conservative. So I was
 18 wanting to see if we could bump those up just by the
 19 same percentage that the city is budgeting;
 20 four-tenths of a percent for property tax which
 21 would take it from 8,760,941 to 8,795,985 which is
 22 an increase of \$35,044. And then sales tax basing
 23 it off the newest numbers going from 4,612,754 to
 24 4,645,043 which would generate another 32,289.

1 MS. GAGLIANO: Just one comment.
 2 You had said that projecting a decrease, it's a
 3 decrease if you compare it to the budget number for
 4 this year, it's not a decrease for what we are
 5 actually receiving. That's kind of a bad thing in
 6 the way our budget is set up where we are comparing
 7 budget to budget. I wish we were comparing budget
 8 to actual. So I'm hoping that we get next year what
 9 I'm hoping we end up getting this year is kind of
 10 the way I describe it. So it's up to you guys if
 11 you want to take that chance. I hear what you are
 12 saying about the businesses and everything.
 13 MS. AGLE: There does appear to be
 14 some growth on the horizon. Buildings that are
 15 already built but not quite open. One that will
 16 open the end of this month, another that will
 17 probably be open by next month. The clearing for
 18 the Weigel's is going at a brisk pace. I would
 19 expect that to be open probably by the end of the
 20 summer. And the new Kroger Marketplace is still
 21 forecast to be open by next Spring. So those things
 22 do give me hope that there will be an increase in
 23 these numbers. That's just food for thought and not
 24 a motion in particular. My motion was to restore

1 \$67,600 to technology and it's not all for software,
 2 I think the software is 22,000, the balance of that
 3 is to buy 150 desktop computers for the middle
 4 schools. Because we learned in the meeting with
 5 technology a couple of weeks ago they need those to
 6 be able to do the online testing that we have to do
 7 next year.
 8 CHAIRMAN FILLAUER: So we will go
 9 with this simple motion initially and, if I'm
 10 hearing it correctly, the motion would be to restore
 11 \$67,600 to technology, 22,600 would be used for
 12 technical software and 45,000 for computers for the
 13 middle school labs. Am I okay with that? I mean,
 14 are you okay with that?
 15 MS. AGLE: Yes.
 16 CHAIRMAN FILLAUER: Is there a
 17 second?
 18 MR. DIGREGORIO: Second.
 19 CHAIRMAN FILLAUER: I have a
 20 question. Doug, maybe you can answer this. On the
 21 \$45,000 for computers for the middle school labs,
 22 that's for 150 computers, correct?
 23 MR. COFER: That is correct.
 24 CHAIRMAN FILLAUER: How did we

1 arrive at 150? Is that the maximum number with
2 extras? Is that the number we are going to need for
3 the student population?

4 MR. COFER: Student population in
5 the middle schools.

6 CHAIRMAN FILLAUER: Could we do
7 with less?

8 MR. COFER: No, that is less.

9 CHAIRMAN FILLAUER: That is less.

10 MR. COFER: Yes. We need about
11 175 machines to test within the same week we are
12 testing in now. That is right on the cutting edge.
13 And that's including the machines we currently have,
14 of course.

15 CHAIRMAN FILLAUER: Okay. Other
16 comments or questions? Ms. Richter.

17 MS. RICHTER: I have a question.
18 Except the person I have to ask the question to is
19 busy. I'll give her a minute. My question has to
20 do with the city is projecting what kind of
21 increase, Ms. Agle?

22 MS. AGLE: For property tax it was
23 four-tenths of a percent increase. For sales tax a
24 seven-tenths of a percent increase.

1 MS. RICHTER: And I understand
2 that the way our budget is done, you don't see the
3 increase because of the way we show our budget, but
4 there is some increase in this budget anyway, am I
5 correct?

6 MS. GAGLIANO: No. No, we show a
7 budget to budget number. And the number that we
8 budgeted for the year we are in was way too much.
9 So what I'm projecting and budgeting for FY'14 is
10 what I think we are actually going to get this year.
11 In our initial conversations with the city in what
12 they were going to do, which has obviously changed,
13 was that they were going to keep both of them flat.
14 But that's you guys' decision.

15 MS. RICHTER: So you are
16 projecting no sales tax increase because we were
17 using a number that was somewhat over-exuberant
18 anyway last year?

19 MS. GAGLIANO: Yes.

20 CHAIRMAN FILLAUER: Let me ask you
21 this question since we are kind of on that same
22 line. If we took \$67,600 from fund balance and in
23 the course of this budget year the sales tax
24 projections were improved, they did show improvement

1 and more additional sales tax money came in, how
2 difficult, and I guess this is a mechanism question
3 I'm asking maybe, if the sales tax money increases
4 during the course of the budget year 2014 and we've
5 taken this money, 67,000, out of fund balance, can
6 that increase in sales tax money be diverted back
7 into fund balance?

8 MS. GAGLIANO: Yes, we just amend
9 the budget and reflect the new figure for sales tax
10 and then we would reduce the amount that we need
11 from fund balance.

12 CHAIRMAN FILLAUER: Is that
13 amended within this body only?

14 MS. GAGLIANO: Yes, if you
15 remember, we have inserted some placeholder dollars
16 on the revenue and expenditure side and that's the
17 kind of thing we would use to move money around but
18 keep the bottom line the same.

19 CHAIRMAN FILLAUER: I would
20 support that amount of money coming out of fund
21 balance, I would feel more comfortable personally if
22 we did it that way as opposed to taking it and
23 hoping that it's going to get here. Mr. Eby.

24 MR. EBY: Yeah, I exactly support

1 it the same way Chairman Fillauer does. But let me
2 ask this question; so the city is estimating a .4%
3 increase. You have taken the number that we are
4 going to get this year and you have not assumed any
5 increase. If we got the .4% increase, how much
6 would that be?

7 MS. GAGLIANO: I can calculate
8 that and get right back to you. Did you also want
9 the other calculation on sales tax?

10 MR. EBY: If the city projected an
11 increase there and we projected that flat, yeah,
12 that would be great to know what the city has
13 projected...what it would mean to us.

14 MS. GAGLIANO: Okay. Keeping in
15 mind that our sales tax is made up of different
16 things.

17 MR. EBY: I understand. I guess
18 I'm only interested in what the city is projecting
19 that theirs is going to increase, you know, what
20 fraction of that would be coming to us would be an
21 increase to us. Does that make sense?

22 MS. GAGLIANO: It does make sense
23 but none of it will come to us because their
24 allocation to us is made up of all their revenue and

1 they are not increasing it.
 2 MR. EBY: Okay, but just tell me
 3 what it would be if it were, if a proportionate
 4 amount were coming to us.
 5 MS. GAGLIANO: Off theirs? I
 6 don't have their numbers here. I thought you meant
 7 calculated on increasing our numbers.
 8 MR. EBY: By .4%, comparable to
 9 what they're projecting those increases are going to
 10 come in.
 11 MS. GAGLIANO: If we increase our
 12 county revenue at those levels, what would it
 13 generate?
 14 MR. EBY: Exactly.
 15 MS. GAGLIANO: Okay.
 16 CHAIRMAN FILLAUER: While she is
 17 calculating, other questions? Mr. DiGregorio.
 18 MR. DIGREGORIO: Yeah, I've got
 19 one. This is just procedural actually. I don't
 20 even know what to ask. But on that first slide
 21 where they have the decrease in property tax of
 22 255,000, what is accounted for that? Why is there
 23 even a decrease in property tax?
 24 DR. SMALLRIDGE: I think I'll let

1 Ms. Gagliano respond to that but I think the thing
 2 that caused us to adjust that was our most recent
 3 revenue we got for the property tax. And we had
 4 hoped, you know, it had shown some increase the
 5 month before so we projected some additional revenue
 6 in the property tax. You recall it was about
 7 \$78,000 increase we were projecting. But the last
 8 monthly payment we got for property tax was down
 9 significantly back to the same pattern it had been
 10 showing prior to that one month when it jumped up.
 11 MR. DIGREGORIO: Is this due to
 12 collections or non payments or...?
 13 DR. SMALLRIDGE: I can't say.
 14 CHAIRMAN FILLAUER: I'd say
 15 probably the answer would be yes to both of those.
 16 DR. SMALLRIDGE: And the other
 17 thing that could influence it is the average daily
 18 attendance, the ratio between Clinton City and the
 19 county and the Oak Ridge schools. And I think, at
 20 least in the case of one of those districts, it
 21 jumped up pretty significantly so that has an impact
 22 on an annual basis.
 23 CHAIRMAN FILLAUER: Other
 24 questions or comments on this motion?

1 MS. RICHTER: Yes, I've got a
 2 question. How does the motion read now?
 3 CHAIRMAN FILLAUER: The motion
 4 simply reads at this point in time the motion has
 5 been made to restore \$67,600 to the technology, and
 6 I don't know what that line item would be, I bet
 7 Angi has it, would be an increase of \$22,600 from
 8 line 72810709 and that would be for wireless
 9 monitoring software. And 71100722, that would be
 10 \$45,000 for 150 desktop computers for the two middle
 11 schools. That would be the motion.
 12 MS. RICHTER: But at this time
 13 that motion does not include where the funding is
 14 coming from? I just want to make sure of that.
 15 Okay.
 16 MR. DIGREGORIO: Jenny, what was
 17 it?
 18 MS. RICHTER: I wanted to make
 19 sure that I understood that the motion does not
 20 include the funding source at this point in time.
 21 CHAIRMAN FILLAUER: And the answer
 22 was it does not. Is our calculator still
 23 calculating?
 24 MS. GAGLIANO: Just about there.

1 Okay, the sales tax would be a \$32,289 increase.
 2 And the property tax at .4% would be a 35,044 for a
 3 total of 67,333.
 4 CHAIRMAN FILLAUER: Any other
 5 questions or discussion on this motion?
 6 MR. EBY: Should we go ahead and
 7 make a motion that the funds would come out of fund
 8 balance so that we balance the budget at the same
 9 time? Would you accept that?
 10 MS. AGLE: Yes, sir.
 11 MR. EBY: I guess I move that we
 12 amend her motion to say that the \$67,000 will come
 13 out of fund balance. And if we get the extra tax
 14 money, that will fund that, if it doesn't, we will
 15 use fund balance anyway, so.
 16 MS. GAGLIANO: My understanding is
 17 right now we won't alter the property and sales and
 18 take it out of fund balance but if it materializes
 19 we will alter it and not take it out of fund
 20 balance?
 21 MR. EBY: Correct.
 22 CHAIRMAN FILLAUER: Do I have a
 23 second to that amendment?
 24 MS. RICHTER: Second.

1 CHAIRMAN FILLAUER: Any discussion
2 on the amendment? Then we will vote on the
3 amendment. The amendment to Ms. Agle's motion is to
4 use fund balance, undesignated fund balance, in the
5 amount of \$67,600 to fund the expenditure in
6 technology. All those in favor signify by saying
7 aye.

8 (Whereupon, all members voted aye)

9 CHAIRMAN FILLAUER: Opposed?
10 Motion carries on the amendment. And now the motion
11 as amended is to provide \$67,600 from fund balance
12 to the line item in technology which would be in the
13 amount of \$22,600 for technical software and \$45,000
14 for desktop computers for the middle schools. All
15 those in favor signify by saying aye.

16 (Whereupon, all members voted aye)

17 CHAIRMAN FILLAUER: Opposed?
18 Motion carries.

19 And that takes care of the two
20 that we had some discussion on at the last meeting.
21 So the floor is open for anyone who would like to
22 bring forth any other item or items or any point of
23 discussion. Mr. Eby.

24 MR. EBY: Mr. Chairman, I have a

1 question and I apologize for surprising Ms. Gagliano
2 on this and I don't know if she knows it or not.
3 But going back to the school resource officers, and
4 maybe you can help us out, is there a plan from the
5 city right now, of course, there was a board came
6 out favorably for a school resource officer in every
7 school. I think the last I heard the city was
8 talking about one in the high school and adding one
9 in each middle school. Is there anything in their
10 budget that will support that, other than I
11 understand they are going to train some people, but
12 is there anything in the city's budget to support
13 increase of school resource officers in schools, do
14 we know?

15 CHAIRMAN FILLAUER: At the city
16 council meeting which was designated as first
17 reading, Chief Akagi spoke to that, I believe he was
18 asked that question, I don't remember by which
19 council person, was asked that question and his
20 response was that the schools and the city are still
21 working to reach an agreement on the Memorandum of
22 Understanding which would put forth the policy for
23 the operation of the school resource officers. That
24 there were going to be, and I don't think he said

1 this part at that meeting but this is what he
2 informed me, that he was taking application of
3 interest for current employees who wanted to go
4 through the training for school resource officers
5 and he hoped to send three officers for that
6 training. And the expense of that training, which
7 is about \$2,000 would be borne by the police
8 department. And that is all I know at this point in
9 time. I don't believe there is any money in the
10 city's budget for funding the officers.

11 MR. EBY: Do we recall how much
12 the addition of one school resource officer would be
13 if you don't equip them with a vehicle?

14 DR. SMALLRIDGE: Without the
15 vehicle? I'm thinking 50 sticks in my mind, 50,000.

16 MR. EBY: I would like to make a
17 motion that we take \$50,000 out of our fund balance
18 to fund one-half of two additional school resource
19 officers. One for each of the two middle schools.
20 That would be \$50,000 for us. And then challenge
21 the city to match that so that we will have a school
22 resource officer in each of the middle schools. And
23 that 50,000 would come out of fund balance.

24 CHAIRMAN FILLAUER: The motion is

1 to take \$50,000 from fund balance to fund one-half
2 of two additional resource officers at each middle
3 school. Is there a second?

4 MS. RICHTER: I'm going to second.

5 CHAIRMAN FILLAUER: The motion has
6 been seconded. Discussion or questions?

7 MS. RICHTER: Question. So the
8 proposal would be for one year?

9 MR. EBY: That is correct. And
10 let me address my feeling on fund balance. I
11 recognize fund balance should not be used for
12 recurring costs but I also believe that it is for
13 situations that meet necessities. And I firmly
14 believe that we need a school resource officer, I
15 believe, in each school. I think this Board has
16 said that. I don't think we have the funds to do
17 that but I think we fund it for the two schools and
18 somewhere between now and a year from now we work
19 with the city and find a way to make it as a
20 recurring cost. I feel very strongly that we need
21 school resource officers in the schools. So I'm
22 willing to fund that out of fund balance this year
23 for one time only, to fund it this year. Again, I
24 think that's what fund balances are for. The city

1 has not increased the tax rate. I have heard city
2 council people tell me they would support tax
3 increases. They have not done that this year. But
4 I think this is something we need to work with the
5 city on and get them to fund it on a recurring basis
6 in the future. And I don't think we should wait in
7 filling that position right now.

8 MR. DIGREGORIO: Question.

9 CHAIRMAN FILLAUER: Mr.
10 DiGregorio.

11 MR. DIGREGORIO: What is your plan
12 if they do not meet the challenge?

13 MR. EBY: We could fill one
14 position. Have a half-time person at each of the
15 schools. Have them split schools would be what I
16 would recommend.

17 CHAIRMAN FILLAUER: Other comments
18 or questions?

19 MS. GAGLIANO: Just a couple
20 comments. The way we would be handling this, since
21 it wouldn't be our employee, is we would be sending
22 the money to the city to pay the expenses. So I
23 know that they were pretty -- they wanted to supply
24 a car if they supplied an officer so I don't know

1 how all that would work out. But that's something
2 to think about. With them sending a half-time
3 person to each location, I don't know. But a better
4 note than that is if you remember Dr. Smallridge's
5 presentation when we went through all of the latest
6 changes we actually ended up with a \$42,315 to the
7 good. So that could go towards that and if you
8 followed through with Angi's other two items you'd
9 be up to 49,800, so pretty close.

10 MR. EBY: Well, first, I don't
11 support following through on Angi's other two items.
12 I don't mind using the 42,000, that would help us
13 out. But with regard to the police car, I challenge
14 the city to figure out a way to get the officers at
15 those schools. If something happens you want the
16 officers there in the school. If something happened
17 at one school, say at Robertsville, you don't want
18 the officer at Jefferson going to the Robertsville
19 school, you'd have a police force to respond there.
20 You want the person at the Jefferson school staying
21 at the Jefferson school in case there is something
22 else going there. So I don't support the need of
23 having a police car there and I would think that the
24 police department could manage to get the officers

1 at the school. Let me also say the other thing is
2 that other cities, and we talked to city council
3 about this about sharing these costs, and I think
4 this shows our good faith effort to share these
5 costs with the city and I would hope that they would
6 come back and show their good faith effort for the
7 importance of the safety of our children in these
8 schools, that they also would support this.

9 MS. GAGLIANO: And I just wanted
10 to say that in our inhouse discussions we felt that
11 we would be providing a space for the officer and
12 that in the event that there was an issue that the
13 officer would be calling backup, which would come in
14 a car, so if they needed to take someone or
15 whatever, that the car would come that way.

16 MR. DIGREGORIO: I guess I've got
17 a question. If it turns out we only fund them
18 half-time then presumably they will be going back to
19 their regular duties the other half at which point
20 they will need a car, right?

21 MR. EBY: I think the city can
22 work this out but you could have one at a half and
23 that person move to the other school midday. And I
24 can't believe that the police force could not go

1 pick up that person and take them to the other
2 school. I think we could figure that out.

3 CHAIRMAN FILLAUER: I support this
4 motion because of something that you said at the
5 very end. And it puts us in a proactive position to
6 say we just didn't make a motion a number of
7 meetings ago supporting the fact that we want a
8 school resource officer in every school building.
9 We realize that's not going to happen now but at
10 least we didn't throw our hands up and say we quit.
11 This is a step forward and I think we need to do
12 this. I'm just wondering what your thinking might
13 be if we took that away from fund balance and used
14 that \$42,315 for this with hope that we can find
15 maybe that \$8,000 somewhere else along the way, as
16 opposed to taking that from fund balance.

17 MR. EBY: I certainly would
18 support using that 42,000 and if we can't find the
19 other 8,000 somewhere else, then I would take that
20 8,000 out of fund balance. I mean, we may get this
21 increase in taxes, we may get something else down
22 the road. So I'm all for taking that 42,000 and
23 putting that toward that. And using the balance for
24 fund balance if we can't identify something.

1 CHAIRMAN FILLAUER: Other
2 questions or discussion? Ms. Agle.
3 MS. AGLE: Well, this is a tough
4 one because we are taking a great deal of money from
5 fund balance and at the same time your point is very
6 well taken, our children's safety is extremely
7 important. We have already said that this was a
8 priority for us. And I do think that being
9 proactive is the right way to go about it. At the
10 same time, it pains me to be cutting teachers and
11 raising other things.
12 CHAIRMAN FILLAUER: Other comments
13 or questions? Then we need -- how do we want to do
14 this? Would you amend your motion?
15 MR. EBY: I'll make the motion
16 that we fund \$50,000 to fund two one-half time
17 school resource officers, one at Robertsville and
18 one at Jefferson with the challenge that the city
19 match that so that we have a full time resource
20 officer at each school. Of that \$50,000 \$42,000
21 would come out of it from the fund that Karen said
22 was recently recognized as recurring funds. We will
23 continue to look for those other \$8,000 and if we
24 don't get that then it would come out of fund

1 balance. That would be my motion.
2 CHAIRMAN FILLAUER: And this is
3 for one year only? Is that part of the motion?
4 MR. EBY: If it's recurring funds,
5 it's not for one year only, no.
6 CHAIRMAN FILLAUER: Right, so
7 that's out, too?
8 MR. EBY: That's out.
9 CHAIRMAN FILLAUER: You have heard
10 that motion. Amended to that is there a second?
11 MR. DIGREGORIO: Second.
12 MS. AGLE: Second.
13 CHAIRMAN FILLAUER: Any additional
14 discussion? Does everyone understand the motion
15 that's on the floor? All those in favor of that
16 motion signify by saying aye.
17 (Whereupon, all members voted aye)
18 CHAIRMAN FILLAUER: Opposed?
19 Motion carries. Anyone else?
20 MR. DIGREGORIO: What are we
21 talking about now?
22 CHAIRMAN FILLAUER: Any -- did you
23 win the lottery is what I'm talking about.
24 MR. DIGREGORIO: I was going to

1 give you my ticket. Is Dr. Jernigan here? I wonder
2 if you can tell us the impact of deleting the
3 special ed teachers that were described earlier
4 during the...what do you call that part, yeah,
5 public forum. Because, apparently, one is being cut
6 at the high school and one at Linden, from what I
7 understand.
8 DR. JERNIGAN: It's a teaching
9 assistant.
10 MR. DIGREGORIO: And one of them
11 required is a one-on-one?
12 DR. JERNIGAN: Yeah, it's a
13 teaching assistant at the high school and a teaching
14 assistant at Linden. So not a teacher.
15 MR. DIGREGORIO: Yes. What is the
16 impact of that? Who is going to take care of the
17 kids?
18 DR. JERNIGAN: We will have to
19 reallocate resources among the staff that are there.
20 When we looked at the number of TAs that were there
21 we felt like as a team, what we tried to do is not
22 have a CDC team and a general, rather a resource
23 team but everyone part of a special ed team. So it
24 will require reorganization. But the one-on-one, I

1 mean, if a child needs that type of service there is
2 going to be someone that will provide that.
3 MR. DIGREGORIO: I'm sorry?
4 DR. JERNIGAN: If a child needs
5 someone with the degree of health needs that were
6 described, another TA will provide that, someone
7 will be providing that service.
8 MR. DIGREGORIO: From the existing
9 staff?
10 DR. JERNIGAN: From the existing
11 staff.
12 MR. DIGREGORIO: Can that be done
13 without a lot of turmoil?
14 DR. JERNIGAN: I think it will
15 require flexibility on the staff to reorganize. But
16 when we looked at the number of staff that were
17 there we felt like that there were adequate staff
18 that would be able to do that.
19 MR. DIGREGORIO: Both of these two
20 positions are 1.0?
21 DR. JERNIGAN: Correct.
22 MR. DIGREGORIO: And are both TAs?
23 Teaching assistants?
24 DR. JERNIGAN: Correct.

1 MR. DIGREGORIO: Can you tell us
2 how much it would cost to fund those two positions?
3 MS. GAGLIANO: That would be
4 approximately \$60,671.
5 MR. DIGREGORIO: For both of them?
6 Is there any reason that that can't be taken from
7 fund balance for the year, hoping we get more money?
8 Apparently, we are willing to do that for resource
9 officers?
10 CHAIRMAN FILLAUER: We didn't use
11 fund balance for resource officers.
12 MR. DIGREGORIO: I know, but we
13 were willing to do that.
14 CHAIRMAN FILLAUER: Before, yeah.
15 MS. GAGLIANO: The only difference
16 is that they weren't employees, the school resource
17 officers, we would be paying the city towards their
18 employees, we wouldn't have all the associated items
19 that go with an employee. And typically you are not
20 to use fund balance for salaries and benefits which
21 are recurring. So you would have to find something
22 that was a one-time expense that wasn't a salary and
23 benefit that we could charge to fund balance to pay
24 for salaries and benefits. It states right in the

1 law that any --
2 MR. DIGREGORIO: So you can't use
3 fund balance for this at all?
4 MS. GAGLIANO: Not for salaries
5 and benefits.
6 DR. SMALLRIDGE: It would mean
7 probably looking for something else that you could
8 substitute.
9 MS. GAGLIANO: Yes, that's what I
10 meant.
11 MR. DIGREGORIO: We would have to
12 find something else to pay for with fund balance?
13 MS. GAGLIANO: Yes.
14 MR. DIGREGORIO: That would free
15 up the \$60,000. And we've still got one more night
16 to do this, right? It makes me a little nervous on
17 this one. Just the nature of the care that is being
18 given to the kids. Thanks.
19 CHAIRMAN FILLAUER: We've already
20 had the public hearing.
21 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: My point is
22 that on the website it was indicated it started at
23 7:00 (Indiscernible).
24 CHAIRMAN FILLAUER: I'm looking at

1 our website right here and it says date 5/21/2013
2 special school board meeting six p.m. Where did you
3 look?
4 (Indiscernible conversation)
5 CHAIRMAN FILLAUER: Tell me again
6 where you clicked.
7 (Indiscernible conversation)
8 CHAIRMAN FILLAUER: On the Oak
9 Ridge Schools website?
10 (Indiscernible conversation)
11 CHAIRMAN FILLAUER: It does say
12 that. I'll tell you what we are going to do. I'm
13 not going to reopen the public forum but since we
14 are on this topic, I'll let you speak at this time.
15 How's that? Let me remind you we are under the same
16 procedures as if we were in the public forum. You
17 will have three minutes to speak and I'd ask you to
18 come to the podium and would ask you to state your
19 name and address for the record. And then you'd
20 have three minutes to address the Board. And I
21 apologize for that being like that. I'm not making
22 any excuses but you've got to change it a hundred
23 different places and that one must have just gotten
24 missed. I appreciate you bringing that up. Thank

1 you. So, yes, ma'am.
2 (Indiscernible conversation)
3 CHAIRMAN FILLAUER: Absolutely.
4 Come right on up. And we don't bite, I promise.
5 MIRANDA LANDS: Miranda Lands.
6 345 Jefferson Avenue, Oak Ridge, Tennessee.
7 MICHELLE LANDS: Michelle Lands,
8 same address.
9 MATTHEW STANSBERRY: Matthew
10 Stansberry at 116 Orange Lane.
11 CHAIRMAN FILLAUER: Go right
12 ahead.
13 MICHELLE LANDS: We were all
14 informed that one of our teachers were being cut
15 from the school year next year. Her name is Ms.
16 Goepfert. We have a petition of 109 students saying
17 how they disagree with that simply because she has
18 just had such an awesome impact on each and every
19 one of us that it would just be so hard to see her
20 go. Because she really has been one of the best and
21 sweetest teachers to all of us. And she's just had
22 a really awesome impact and we are here representing
23 each and every one of those signatures because she
24 is just such a good teacher to every one of us.

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1 MIRANDA LANDS: I came here today
2 to say that the kids of Oak Ridge need her. She had
3 such an Impact on my life and so many others that
4 I'll start out with how she impacted me. You can
5 tell that she lives to impact kids and not only does
6 she want to help you, she cares about your future.
7 And I feel like education is not money, education is
8 about a future, education is about having an
9 opportunity to have a career. And she cares about
10 where we are going in life. It's not like here's
11 what you are learning today, read the book and get
12 out of my classroom, she cares about your future.
13 No teacher has impacted me to stay in school. I'm a
14 senior and everyday goes through my mind I want to
15 drop out because I feel like no one has took the
16 time to appreciate the kids and actually show them
17 that they mattered. Ms. G gave us that. Ms. G, if
18 we are not doing good, she will be the one to say,
19 hey, I'll help you out. She wholeheartedly cares
20 about us. No other teacher, from my perspective,
21 gave that dedication to her kids and she has been
22 busting her butt everyday for our education.
23 MICHELLE LANDS: And the very
24 first thing she ever said when she found out that

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1 she was being cut from next year she cried because
2 she loves every one of us. And she is not there for
3 the money, she is there for us kids. She's just
4 such a great person. She has two jobs at the moment
5 and she can hardly get through as it is. And she
6 didn't realize how much of an impact she had on us.
7 And now that this has happened and people care it's
8 like it broke her heart. Because now what does she
9 have to live for. She might not even have a job.
10 She could lose everything that she ever had when all
11 she ever tried to do was help us.
12 MATTHEW STANSBERRY: I also wanted
13 to bring up a point that she is one of the younger
14 members of the science department so she, well,
15 actually she is the youngest member so she doesn't
16 get actually paid as much as anyone else. She only
17 gets, I think, a \$42,000 salary currently.
18 MIRANDA LANDS: Technically it
19 would be in your best interest to cut someone that
20 isn't necessarily good at teaching. They are
21 basically a peasant on the students, they don't
22 care, they are just trying to get the day over with.
23 I'm not trying to attack but I'm attacked by certain
24 teachers. I know they don't --

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1 CHAIRMAN FILLAUER: You have 30
2 seconds.
3 MIRANDA LANDS: And I know that
4 she has different ways of teaching. We need the new
5 -- we need new people, we need a new way and she has
6 it.
7 MATTHEW STANSBERRY: Also one
8 thing is if you didn't understand how to do one of
9 her problems like because we are doing optics and
10 stuff, she would do a lot of hands-on exercises
11 instead of reading out of a textbook. She would
12 have labs, she'd use mirrors and use lasers to
13 actually see what you are doing.
14 MICHELLE LANDS: Very hands on.
15 And whenever you didn't get something and she could
16 see your grade was dropping, it was recommended
17 every Wednesday you would come in and she would
18 one-on-one help you with whatever you were having
19 trouble with. No matter why or how your grade, she
20 will help you. She's not going to just let it
21 slide.
22 MATTHEW STANSBERRY: May we
23 present the petition?
24 CHAIRMAN FILLAUER: Yes. The

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1 Board appreciates your comments and she should
2 appreciate your comments as well. She's obviously
3 made an impact. As we have many outstanding
4 teachers that have this very type of impact. And
5 you weren't here earlier, but this is one of the
6 things I was alluding to in some comments I made
7 earlier. Also keep in mind, I think this is
8 important for you to understand is we don't look at,
9 when I say we, the Board, or staff or administration
10 doesn't look at a teacher and say we are going to
11 cut this teacher. We have to look at positions. So
12 please keep that in mind when you make these
13 comments that this is not directed toward a specific
14 person. It's directed toward a position, a science
15 teacher, an English teacher, a math teacher, a
16 physical education teacher. And I think that's an
17 important fact as well and I'll be glad to accept
18 your petition.
19 MATTHEW STANSBERRY: I'd also like
20 to point out that Ms. G had one of the highest
21 teacher evaluation scores.
22 CHAIRMAN FILLAUER: Thank you.
23 I'll take your petition.
24 MIRANDA LANDS: I also think that

1 It's not about position. I very strongly think that
2 it should not be about the money. I think you
3 probably should look at position of the teachers --

4 CHAIRMAN FILLAUER: Thank you.
5 Your time is up. Thank you very much. We
6 appreciate it.

7 MR. DIGREGORIO: Comment.

8 CHAIRMAN FILLAUER: Yes.

9 MR. DIGREGORIO: I confess that
10 looking through the list all 5.8 positions that are
11 being cut are making me just a wee bit nervous. I'm
12 going to go ahead and tell you. We've had some
13 exciting news today out of Oak Ridge High School
14 with a very high performance in the chemistry
15 department or chemistry Olympiad score, right? And
16 to see that we are cutting a position in science
17 from Oak Ridge High School just kind of grates on me
18 just a little bit. And I certainly can't think of
19 where to take the money from to restore that
20 position but it's -- I don't like it, it's not okay
21 with me to do that.

22 PATRICE HASTINGS: My name is
23 Patrice Hastings 96 Valley Ford Drive Oak Ridge.

24 TAMARA HASTINGS: Tamara Hastings,

1 same address.

2 PATRICE HASTINGS: I am very
3 bothered by the idea that a TA is being eliminated
4 in my grandson's classroom. I have been in that
5 classroom many times for this reason or that. And
6 to see a teacher and a teacher aid try to keep these
7 children under control is a handful, very much so.
8 I cannot see the teacher being able to take care of
9 these children and give them wholeheartedly the
10 attention, the learning that they need. I really
11 feel strong about this because my grandson has been
12 in the same CDC class since school started. He has
13 bloomed like a wildflower, I'm telling you. He has
14 done well. And his TA is the one that usually takes
15 him to his mainstream classes. You put him in a
16 mainstream class with somebody that doesn't know him
17 or put him in alone, he's going to go right down
18 like this. And I hate to have that happen. He has
19 gone so far. And I'm a strong advocate, I used to
20 have to speak for my own daughter in her condition.
21 So I'm asking, I'm begging this Board to please
22 rethink cutting that TA out of Linden school.

23 CHAIRMAN FILLAUER: Thank you.

24 MS. NEEVIS: My name is Kristin

1 Neevis. My son attends the Linden school and he is
2 autistic. The same teacher, assistant teacher has
3 been working with my son. He has a hard time
4 speaking and understanding. She works with him
5 one-on-one and because of her he has learned to read
6 and almost work on his own. I beg you not to let
7 her go. That's all I have to say.

8 CHAIRMAN FILLAUER: Thank you very
9 much.

10 ANDREA LANDS: I want to thank you
11 for taking the time to see us. I'm Andrea Lands.
12 Miranda and Michelle are my daughters. They both
13 attend Oak Ridge High School. My oldest daughter
14 Miranda is a senior and it's been a really rough
15 year for her. We've had a lot of personal tragedy
16 happen in our family and it's affected her school.
17 I have to tell you that if it wasn't for this
18 teacher, Ms. G, Miranda probably would have dropped
19 out at this point. She is the one that's kept her
20 going, talked to her and been a friend, helped her
21 with her school work. Any of the kids anytime that
22 I've ever heard that have needed help, she'll take
23 time out of her own time to help them. And I
24 realize it's all about dollars and I understand

1 that, I'm an adult, I know you've got to make cuts
2 somewhere. I can't tell you what the right answer
3 is. Okay. But I can tell you that someone that's
4 willing to take the time like that to keep a child
5 that's not even wanting to graduate, to keep her in
6 school, you know, to where she is going to probably
7 graduate now, you can't ignore that. That's why you
8 don't really see too many other students around here
9 but that teacher made such an impact that my
10 daughter that I can barely get to go to school
11 actually managed to make it here to this meeting to
12 stand here for her. So if you can't think -- I know
13 you have dollars you have to think about but try to
14 think about if it was your kid. Okay? Thank you.

15 CHAIRMAN FILLAUER: Thank you.

16 YALI: My name is Yali and I live
17 at 106 Casper Circle. And I have two sons in
18 Woodland, gifted program. And I feel sorry when I
19 heard that program was cut -- sorry, I'm too
20 excited. It was 80% already and now it was cut only
21 40%. (Indiscernible) Thank you.

22 CHAIRMAN FILLAUER: Thank you.
23 Anyone else? Thank you very much and again I
24 apologize for the misunderstanding and I hope

1 everyone that wanted to speak had an opportunity to
2 be heard.

3 We will move back to where we were
4 and I would ask once again if there is any Board
5 member -- Ms. Agle.

6 MS. AGLE: Well, how we got in
7 this position is very simple because last year at
8 city council's budget hearing they reduced our
9 funding by \$766,470. We got three-quarters of a
10 million dollars less this year than last year. That
11 is the reason for the needs of these personnel cuts.
12 And as was mentioned earlier, we can't use fund
13 balance to pay salaries and benefits to pay for
14 teachers. These cuts bother me too. Just two
15 weekends ago I went to one of my daughters'
16 graduations from UT. She got a degree in physics.
17 That would never have happened if not for the
18 teachers at Oak Ridge High School who pushed her,
19 who nagged her, who made her stay on task because
20 she's a bit of a free spirit, she never would have
21 made it if not for those teachers. I think we need
22 to look at what is the dollar amount to keep our
23 instructional staff that have been reduced in this
24 budget and we go to city council and say we must

1 have this much money. And make it very clear to
2 each of you that's the only place the money can come
3 from. It's the only place we have to go. We can't
4 set a tax rate, we can't say we think we could raise
5 property taxes three cents and cover it. We don't
6 have that authority. Only the City of Oak Ridge
7 does. This year they are giving us not one cent
8 more, or next year they are giving us not one cent
9 more, which is still three-quarters of a million
10 dollars less than last year's funding. So that's
11 where it has to go. If we are going to replace
12 these, we need a dollar amount and we need to go ask
13 the city for it.

14 MR. DIGREGORIO: How much money
15 would it take to restore these 5.8 just for
16 discussion purposes?

17 MS. GAGLIANO: It's going to take
18 awhile because I have a big list of all 14
19 positions.

20 DR. SMALLRIDGE: Can we get that
21 information to you?

22 MR. DIGREGORIO: There's 5.8 being
23 eliminated, is that right?

24 DR. SMALLRIDGE: People that are

1 losing their positions, yes.

2 CHAIRMAN FILLAUER: And this goes
3 back to what I said at one of our meetings and this
4 is not now but in the future we have to figure out,
5 we need to move forward and work from the front end
6 of the budget instead of the back end of the budget.
7 For example, if we in March can say to operate the
8 Oak Ridge Schools, and I'm just using a number, this
9 number doesn't mean anything, it's just a number, in
10 order to operate the Oak Ridge Schools we need
11 \$50,000,000. From the city for that portion we need
12 \$15,000,000. That number needs to be upfront in
13 March and then we move forward from that point
14 instead of getting to a point where the city says
15 this is what we are going to give you, you take it
16 and figure out what type of educational system you
17 can provide. We've got that backwards. We need to
18 lay on the table what we need and then let our
19 funding body and our community then become aware of
20 what our needs are and take away from the fact that
21 when we get in a situation where we are not getting
22 the appropriate funding it looks like we are the
23 ones who are always asking for more money. We need
24 to be asking for the money that we need upfront and

1 not at the back end. So I hope that's something
2 that this Board will make a strong effort to do.
3 I've kind of very briefly talked with Karen about
4 it. We can do that and that's just something we
5 need to do. We may still end up in this same
6 position. But at least we start from what we need
7 instead of what we are going to have. Mr. Eby.

8 MR. EBY: I think that's right,
9 Chairman. I think fundamentally there's a bigger
10 issue here. And if you go back and you look at
11 election times all of our city council members, I
12 know they always ask a question about schools and
13 they all say they support the schools. What I think
14 is sad is that not too many months ago they had an
15 article in the paper asking each city council person
16 what were the top three priorities for them within
17 this city. Only one city council person, Chuck
18 Hope, and thank you, Chuck, listed the Oak Ridge
19 Schools as one of their top three priorities. This
20 is the Oak Ridge Schools who had led this state year
21 after year after year, what brings people as you
22 when you come here and you say you located in Oak
23 Ridge because of this, those city council people
24 need to hear you talk. So I ask you to go to city

1 council meetings and let them know how important
2 these schools are. They have got to be one of the
3 top three priorities in the city. That's what is
4 going to make a change.

5 CHAIRMAN FILLAUER: Anyone else?
6 Any other issues to be laid on the table regarding
7 this budget at this time?

8 The motion on the floor is to
9 approve this budget on first reading. All those in
10 favor signify by saying aye.

11 (Whereupon, all members voted aye)

12 CHAIRMAN FILLAUER: Opposed?
13 Motion carries.

14 The next question to the Board is
15 we had a work session scheduled for tomorrow. What
16 is your pleasure on that? Well, let me just take it
17 a step farther. If then after that our next meeting
18 would be on Thursday and that would be final
19 reading, second reading. If you have questions or
20 concerns or you've asked for some information Karen
21 or Dr. Smallridge will get that to you between now
22 and whenever. What's the pleasure of this Board?

23 MR. EBY: And we can take action
24 Thursday night.

1 CHAIRMAN FILLAUER: Absolutely.

2 MR. EBY: I think we can do it
3 Thursday night.

4 CHAIRMAN FILLAUER: What would be
5 the correct time for that meeting on Thursday?

6 MS. RICHTER: The tab that the
7 individuals present tonight saw says that Thursday's
8 meeting is at 5:30. I'm going to check another tab
9 too, while I'm at it. That is correct, I just want
10 to check the tabs.

11 MS. GAGLIANO: According to our
12 timeline I'm checking.

13 MS. RICHTER: And then the top
14 events tab, which is the one that I always pull up,
15 also says 5:30.

16 CHAIRMAN FILLAUER: Then it will
17 be then. Thursday evening here for second reading
18 at 5:30.

19 We are adjourned.
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W. Keys Fillauer

Oak Ridge Board of Education

W. Keys Fillauer, Chairman

Dr. Bob Smallridge (by Dr. Gene Brehm)

Interim Superintendent, Oak Ridge Schools

Dr. Bob Smallridge, Ed.D.

6/24/13

Date Approved

C E R T I F I C A T E

I, Joan S. Roberts, Notary Public at Large for the State of Tennessee, and Licensed Court Reporter do hereby acknowledge that the foregoing 60 pages are a true and correct transcript of the proceedings taken by me in this cause on the 21st day of May, 2013.

This the 5th day of June, 2013.



Joan S. Roberts, Court Reporter