

**aDeForest Area School District**  
**BUDGET HEARING AND ANNUAL MEETING MINUTES**  
**Monday, September 23, 2024 – 7:00 pm**  
**District Office, 500 S. Cleveland Avenue, DeForest, WI 53532**  
**The Glenn**

I. Meeting Called to Order:

The September 23, 2024 Annual Meeting and Budget Hearing of the DeForest Area School District was called to order by Gail Lovick, President of the DeForest Area Board of Education, at 6:59 pm at the DeForest Area School District Office, in The Glenn, 500 S. Cleveland Avenue, DeForest, WI 53532. Approximately 18 residents were in attendance.

A. Introductory Comments: Gail Lovick, President DASD Board Of Education

1. Introduction of Board of Education Members

Lovick introduced the Board of Education members present: Jeff Hahn, Jan Berg, Linda Leonhart, Megan Taylor, Brian Coker, Gussie Lewis, and Stephanie Sarr.

2. Introduction of District Administrator

After introductory comments, Gail Lovick introduced Dr. Rebecca Toetz, Superintendent. Toetz welcomed the attendees.

B. District Administrator: Dr. Rebecca Toetz

1. Introduction of Administrative Staff

The following members of the administrative staff were also in attendance:

Kathleen Davis-Phillips, Director of Business & Auxiliary Services,  
Nate Jaeger, Director of Human Resource Services,  
Dyanna Kadrich, Director of Student Services,  
Roz Craney, Director of Operations and Safety,  
Jon Rouse, DeForest Area High School Principal,  
Bill Huebsch, Principal, Eagle Point Elementary School,  
Kathy Williams, School Community & Relations Coordinator,  
Chris Smith, Director of 7-12 Instruction & Curriculum,  
Doug Crowley - Assistant Principal, DeForest Area High School,  
Ryan Briesse - Custodial Supervisor,  
Judi Ramsett - 4K Coordinator,  
Valerie Crawl - Principal, Windsor Elementary School,

2. Introduction of Legal Counsel/Parliamentarian

Dr. Toetz introduced Tess O'Brien-Heinzen, Attorney with Renning, Lewis, and Lacy, who served as Legal Counsel/Parliamentarian for the DeForest Area School District Annual Meeting.

## II. Election of Chairperson

Gail Lovick was nominated to be Chair of the meeting on a motion by Nate Jaeger. Lovick was then elected Chair of the Budget/Hearing Annual Meeting by a unanimous voice vote.

## III. Presentation of the Budget: Kathleen Davis-Phillips, Director of Business & Auxiliary Services

Kathleen Davis-Phillips stated that the final 2023-2024 Financial report will not be finalized until the District audit is completed. A report of the 2023-2024 District finances will be presented at a future Board of Education meeting and available on the District website at that time.

## IV. New Business:

### A. Budget Hearing

Gail Lovick announced that the citizens were now in the Budget Hearing portion of the meeting and Kathleen Davis-Phillips, continued her report by presenting the proposed 2024-2025 District budget and proposed tax levy.

The total property tax levy estimated to meet the needs of the 2024-2025 school year is \$39,386,527. The estimated mil rate is \$9.07 per \$1,000 of equalized value based on current property values, which is a decrease of \$.01/\$1,000 from the previous year. The mil rate may change when property values are certified in October. The total tax levy includes the following components:

General Fund levy - \$23,377,201  
Referendum Debt Service Fund - \$15,399,326  
Capital Expansion Fund - \$500,000  
Community Service Fund - \$110,000

Davis-Phillips explained the next steps in the process are as follows:

- Finalization of September - 3rd Friday count
- Adjustments to revenue limit
- October 1st Dept. of Rev property values
- October 15th final state aid calculation
- October 28th Board of Education budget action
- Notices sent to municipalities

Davis-Phillips asked for comments or questions from the citizens. No questions or comments were made and the hearing was then closed.

B. Adoption of Proposed 2024-2025 Tax Levy

Gail Lovick called for a motion to adopt the proposed 2024-2025 tax levy.

A motion was made by Sue Paulson, seconded by Jeff Hahn, to approve the proposed 2024-2025 tax levy of \$39,386,527 of which \$23,377,201 is for the General Fund, \$15,399,326 is for Fund 39 Referendum Debt, \$500,000 is for Capital Expansion, and \$110,000 is for Community Service fund. The motion passed with a unanimous voice vote.

C. Authorize 2024-2025 Salaries of Board of Education Members

A motion was made by Sue Paulson, and seconded by Bill Huebsch, to approve and authorize \$3025 for the 2024-2025 salaries of the Board of Education members and \$4000 for the 2024-2025 salary of the Board President. The motion passed by a unanimous voice vote.

D. Authorize the payment of actual and necessary expenses of Board of Education members when traveling in performance of duties

On a motion by Roz Craney, seconded by Jan Berg, and passed unanimously by voice vote, the citizens authorized the district to make payment of actual and necessary expenses of Board of Education members when traveling in performance of duties.

E. Other new business within the power and authority of the annual meeting

Nothing was brought forward.

F. Date of Next Annual Meeting

Authorize the Board of Education to determine the date and hour of the 2025 annual meeting. No annual meeting may be held before May 15 or after October 31.

Section 120.08(1), Wisconsin Statutes.

On a motion by Bill Huebsch, seconded by Gussie Lewis, and passed unanimously by voice vote, the Board of Education was authorized to determine the date and hour of the next annual meeting.

V. Adjournment

On a motion by Sue Paulson, seconded by Stephanie Sarr, and passed unanimously by voice vote, the Annual Meeting and Budget Hearing adjourned at 7:16 pm.