

**DEPARTMENT OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT FINANCE
100 NORTH SENATE AVENUE
IGC-N, ROOM N1058
INDIANAPOLIS, INDIANA 46204**

**IN THE MATTER OF THE REVIEW OF)
PROPOSED LANGUAGE AND ESTIMATED)
RATE CERTIFICATION FOR A BALLOT) No. 20-007-REF
QUESTION REGARDING HANOVER)
COMMUNITY SCHOOL CORPORATION)**

**FINDINGS AND FINAL DETERMINATION ON PROPOSED QUESTION SUBMITTED
JANUARY 23, 2020**

1. Hanover Community School Corporation (“Corporation”), proposes to issue bonds or enter into a lease to finance the proposed renovation, improvement and security upgrades to the middle school and high school campuses, the construction of a new facility for upper grade elementary students, a resource center and improvements at existing school facilities and which is estimated to cost not more than \$79,000,000 and is estimated to increase the property tax rate for debt service by a maximum of \$0.8512 per \$100 of assessed valuation.
2. Under Indiana law, the voters in the area served by the Corporation will vote in a referendum to approve or deny borrowing for the project and raise property taxes to support it.
3. Indiana law governs the format and wording of the ballot question for the referendum. Indiana Code 6-1.1-20-3.6(c).
4. Under Indiana law, “the **following question shall** be submitted to the eligible voters at the election”:

“Shall _____ (insert the name of the political subdivision) issue bonds or enter into a lease to finance _____ (insert a brief description of the controlled project), which is estimated to cost not more than _____ (insert the total cost of the project) and is estimated to increase the property tax rate for debt service by _____ (insert increase in tax rate as determined by the department of local government finance)?”

Indiana Code 6-1.1-20-3.6(c) (emphasis added).

5. The ballot question then must contain three parts:
 - a brief description of the project;
 - the estimated total project cost; and

- the estimated tax rate increase for the project.
- 6. The law requires the Department of Local Government Finance (“Department”) to determine the estimate of the tax rate increase.
- 7. The law also requires the Department to either approve the ballot language or recommend that it be modified to ensure that the description of the controlled project is accurate and not biased.
- 8. On January 23, 2020, the Department received the Corporation’s proposed question from the Lake County Election Board. The document containing the proposed question is incorporated by reference into this Order.

Determination of Tax Rate Increase

- 9. The Department estimates the tax rate increase in reliance on the Corporation’s proposed debt from the project, assessed valuation of the property in the area served by the Corporation, an amortization schedule submitted by the Corporation, and estimated miscellaneous revenues. Based on this information, the Department certifies a rate of \$0.8512 per \$100 of assessed valuation.

Accuracy and Bias

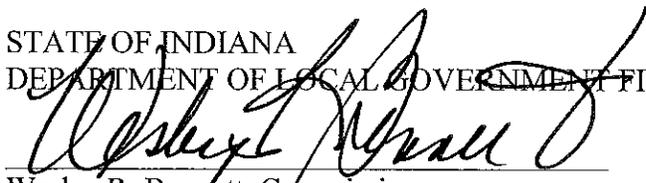
- 10. The Department must review the language of the public question to evaluate whether the description of the controlled project is accurate and is not biased against either a vote in favor of or a vote against the controlled project. The Department concludes that the description of the controlled project is not biased against either a vote in favor of or a vote against the controlled project.

Final Determination

WHEREFORE, based on the above findings and applicable law, the Department finds that the proposed language is in compliance with 6-1.1-20-3.6(c) and approves the language as proposed. The Department certifies a rate of \$0.8512 per \$100 of assessed valuation.

Dated this 27th day of January, 2020.

STATE OF INDIANA
DEPARTMENT OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT FINANCE



Wesley R. Bennett, Commissioner
Department of Local Government Finance



LAKE COUNTY BOARD OF ELECTIONS AND REGISTRATION
RESOLUTION NO. 2020-01

LAKE COUNTY BOARD OF ELECTIONS AND REGISTRATION

WHEREAS, the Lake County Board of Elections and Registration (“Board”) is empowered, and directed, by I.C. 3-6-5-14 to conduct all elections and administer the election laws within the County;

WHEREAS, the Board of School Trustees of Hanover Community School Corporation (the “School Corporation”) has adopted a Preliminary Determination Resolution pursuant to Indiana Code 6-1.1-20 (the “Act”) concerning the financing of the proposed renovation, improvement and security upgrades to the middle school and high school campuses, the construction of a new facility for upper grade elementary students, a resource center and improvements at existing school facilities (the “Project”) pursuant to general obligation bonds and a lease;

WHEREAS, the School Corporation has adopted a resolution to undertake the Public Question process set forth in the Act to approve the financing of the Project and has provided the Board with proposed language for the Public Question;

WHEREAS, the School Corporation has provided this Board with certified copies of both above referenced resolutions;

WHEREAS, the School Corporation provided public question language for the project to the Board for approval pursuant to I.C. 6-1.1-20-3.6;

WHEREAS, on January 21, 2020, the Lake County Board of Elections and Registration approved the request made by the School Corporation and approved the submitted public question language concerning the project pursuant to I.C. 6-1.1-20-3.6;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the language of the public question provided by the School Corporation and set forth below is hereby approved by the Board is to be forwarded by the Director of this Board to the Indiana Department of Local Government Finance, for review and final approval, consistent with I.C. 6-1.1-20-3.6 in such a manner to enable the public question to be voted upon at the May 2020 primary election to which said language is set out as follows:

Shall the Hanover Community School Corporation issue bonds or enter into a lease to finance the proposed renovation, improvement and security upgrades to the middle school and high school campuses, the construction of a new facility for upper grade elementary students, a resource center and improvements at existing school facilities and which is estimated to cost not more than \$79,000,000 and is estimated to increase the property tax rate for debt service by an amount of no more than \$0.8512 per \$100 of assessed valuation?

Now THEREFORE, BE IT BE RESOLVED that the Board, pursuant to I.C. 6-1.1-20-3.6, hereby approves the School Corporation’s request to hold a referendum and the submitted public question language for their project particularly described herein pursuant to I.C. 6-1.1-20-3.6;

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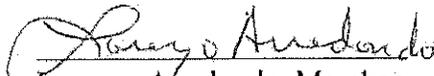
LAKE COUNTY BOARD OF ELECTIONS AND REGISTRATION

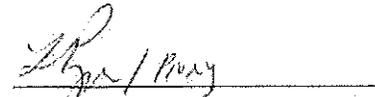
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that should the Indiana Department of Local Government Finance require any changes to the language, the Executive Director of the Board is authorized to approve the recommended changes on behalf of this Board.

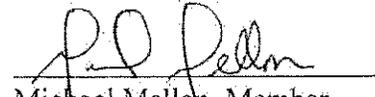
DULY RESOLVED, by the Lake County Board of Elections and Registration this 21st day of January, 2020.


Kevin Smith, Chairman


Bob Tribble, Member


Lorenzo Arredondo, Member


Dana Dumezich, Member - Libby Popovic
Proxy


Michael Mellon, Member