

**Public Hearing
Rochester Public Library District
9/19/24
6:00 p.m.**

Public Hearing for Combined Annual Budget and Appropriation Ordinance

Meeting called to order: 6:00 p.m. by President Sarah Deen

Trustees present: President Sarah Deen, Vice President Jessica Ingold, Secretary Elaine Honomichl Lewis, Trustee Kimberly Kurtenbach, Trustee Bob Tepatti, Trustee Erich Schroeder

Trustees absent: Treasurer Diana Fairchild

Library Staff: Director Janet McAllister

Visitors: Bob Chiles

B and A Ordinance Adopted:

- I. Review and discussion of the Combined Annual Budget and Appropriate Ordinance.
- II. Motion to approve the Combined Annual Budget and Appropriate Ordinance by Kurtenbach with a second by Tepatti and approved by Ingold, Deen, Kurtenbach, Tepatti,, Honomichl Lewis, and Schroeder.
- III. Adjournment -Motion to adjourn at 6:05 p.m. Public Hearing for Combined Annual Budget and Appropriation Ordinance by Honomichl Lewis and second by Deen and approved by acclamation.

**Rochester Public Library District Board of Trustees Meeting
9/19/24
6:05 p.m.**

Meeting called to order: 6:05 p.m. by President Sarah Deen

Trustees present:

Trustee Erich Schroeder, Trustee Bob Tepatti, Secretary Elaine Honomichl Lewis, Trustee Kimberly Kurtenbach, Vice President Jessica Ingold, President Sarah Deen

Trustees absent: Treasurer Diana Fairchild

Library Staff: Director Janet McAllister

Visitors: Bob Chiles

Public Comment:

Bob Chiles asked for more information about the proposed Library referendum.

Deen explained RPLD is seeking approval from residents within Sangamon and Christian County library district to vote on a 0.42% increase in the property tax rate. This increase aims to generate around \$8 million for construction costs, as well as an additional \$261,000 per year for operational expenses. On average, homeowners would pay an extra \$37 per month in property taxes. It will be a 20 year bond.

The library has not had an operational increase in 20 years, Board members also explained the need for an increase in the operational budget in order to continue to maintain the library's programs, services and resources. It was explained that staff has been reduced from 14 to 10, hours cut this past year, canceled SJR subscription and Netflix; reduced Hoopla and other e-resources. If the proposed referendum does not pass, further budget cuts start Jan. 2025 and include cutting additional library hours and resources; 50% reduction of computers, hotspots, and no new technology.

Also, the Farmer's Market, Fall Festival and Tax Clinic will be eliminated ; library summer reading program shortened to 1 month as well as reduction of other programs and outreach to school, assisted living and daycares.

Additional opportunities to learn about the proposed referendum are on the library's website and the Rochester Community can come to the library to ask questions or attend one of the many upcoming planned community events.

Approval of Library Board Meeting Minutes:

A. The regular 8/8/24 minutes were reviewed.; a motion was made to approve the 8/8/24 minutes by Kurtenbach with a second by Ingold and approved with acclamation.

Treasurer's Report/Approval of Bills:

- A. Bills and treasurer's report was reviewed for months ending 8/31/24; budget is on track.
- B. Motion to approve treasurer's report and bills for months ending 8/31/24 by Tepatti with a second by Kurtenbach and approved by Kurtenbach, Deen, Tepatti, Ingold, and Schroeder, and Honomichl Lewis.

Unfinished Business: None

Committee Reports:

- A. Personnel-last meeting on 8/13/24 to conduct Director's evaluation
- B. Finance-Did not meet.
- C. Joint Use- Community Room is painted; Artwork will be hung by a professional; a dedication ceremony to occur in Oct.;
- D. Building Committee-Did not meet

New Business

- A. Per Capita Requirements and deadline January 2025
 - 1. All board members to read by end of December
 - 2. Discussion to occur in upcoming board meetings
- B. FOIA- updated information reviewed; updated to include 25 FY operating budget \$659,742 ; amend E 2. Part-time 5 persons. A motion to approve as amended by Kurtenbach; second by Deen and approved with acclamation.
- C. Thermal Laminating Policy-reviewed, motion by Tepatti with a second by Kurtenbach and approved with acclamation.
- D. 3D Model-Ferry Architects provided a free 3-D model of proposed expansion
- E. Tee Jay Door Repair Quote-the door hinge needs to be repaired; one bid was received; James in Public Works to get another bid; motion by Honomichl Lewis with a second by Tepatti to approve door repair up to \$1000 unless a cheaper bid is received and approved by Kurtenbach, Honomichl Lewis, Kurtenbach, Deen, Schroeder, and Ingold.
- F. Parking Lot Mill and Overlay-Village received 3 bids; recommended PH Broughton-motion to approve up to \$39,000 for the Library portion pending documentation from the Village for parking lot resurfacing by Ingold with a second by Tepatti and approved by Kurtenbach, Honomichl Lewis, Kurtenbach, Deen, Schroeder, and Ingold.
- G. Referendum items -

- Discussion of open house at the Library on Oct. 10 from 4-7 ; open house to allow the community to take a tour of current space, see proposed expansion, discuss and answer questions regarding the proposed referendum. Refreshments to be served and the regular board meeting to occur at 7 pm following open house
- Planned open Proposed Referendum Q and A for Rochester Community at Mockingbird Bakery on Saturday, Sept. 28 by Vote Yes Committee

- Virtual walkthrough of expansion has been placed on library website and link shared on FB
- Opportunities to hand out information and answer questions at the last Farmer's Market and at upcoming Small Business Trunk or Treat
- An opportunity for the public to learn more will also occur at the Fall Festival on Oct. 19; questions can be answered and information distributed
- Budget cuts to begin January 2025 if the proposed referendum does not pass.
- The Rochester Community is invited to come into the Library to see the proposed referendum and visual model and ask questions.

Other Business-none

Communications

Articles in Rochester Times and Library News shared

Director's Report:

- A. Certificate of ballot completed and sent to both county clerks
- B. IHLS Aspen Discovery/Automated Handlers—process smooth with the help of volunteers
- C. Upcoming staff training day Oct. 14
- D. Friends Book Sale Oct 21 & 22
- E. Season End—Last Farmer's Market Sept. 22
- F. Youth Services—Pause on programs in Sept and focus on creating Fall and Winter programs
- G. Library on Wheels deliveries (3) Carriage Crossing Tech Class (3) Senior Storytime (4) Nightclub Dance Class (7) Sublimation Printing Tech Class (11) Blood Drive (18 donors) Formal Wear Drive Complete—over 125 items donated
- H. Fall Festival Oct. 19 ; expect to have all vendor slots filled

Monthly Library Stats

Check Outs: 5188

Narcas: 3 Materials added: 81

Repairs: 82

Adult attendance: 773

Book a librarian: 7

Card Holders: 6300 Live Chat: 13

Withdrawn: 1095

License renewal: 8

Door Count:2624 Sublimation: 8 New Patrons: 19 Computer Use: 381

Wish List: 1 Cricut 8

Next Meeting Date: October 10, 2024 @ 6:00 p.m.

Adjournment: With no additional items to discuss, a motion for adjournment at 8:06 p.m. by Kurtenbach with a second by Ingold and passed by acclamation.

Elaine Honomichl Lewis, Secretary