

Ella Johnson Memorial Public Library
109 S. State Street, Hampshire, IL 60140
Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees
October 23, 2023

Call to Order: President Linda Wallace called the regular meeting of the Board of Trustees to order at 7:00 pm.

Present: Trustees Kim Alberth, Pat Dumoulin, Morgan Kolecke, Suzanne Lattanzio, Linda Wallace, and Judy Pokorny.

Absent: Trustee Karen Williams

Staff Members: Executive Director Stephen Bero, Youth Services Manager/Assistant Director Heather Swanson, and Recording Secretary Kimberly Luhman.

Public: Michael Czopek, Cathy Czopek, Bonnie Keegan, Susan R. Zurcher, Valerie Reh, Paul Harth, Betty Harth, Charo Buck.

Pledge of Allegiance: President Wallace led those gathered in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Changes/Corrections to the Agenda: None

Questions/Comments-Public/Media: Charo Buck asked what programs are there for the Spanish community? Betty Harth asked if they were in both English and Spanish? Director Bero and Heather Swanson addressed the questions. We did have over the summer a Spanish story time. Unfortunately, we currently have staff issues that would not allow us to expand right now. We do have an adult Spanish book group that is just starting. The books are available at the Circulation desk. Looking forward we would like to continue to offer programs.

Approval of Minutes: Motion by Trustee Dumoulin and second by Trustee Kolecke to approve the minutes from the Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees held on September 25, 2023. The minutes were approved by voice-vote consensus.

Executive Session Minutes: Motion by Trustee Alberth and second by Trustee Lattanzio to approve the Executive Session minutes from Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees held on September 25, 2023. The minutes were approved by voice-vote consensus.

Treasurer's Report:

- A.** Approval of Bills for October 2023, and Payrolls for September 2023. Motion by Trustee Dumoulin and second by Trustee Pokorny to approve October bills in the amount of \$30,964.04 and the September 2023 payrolls in the amount of \$25,952.95
The bills and payroll were approved by voice-vote consensus.

- B.** Financial Report-Trustees reviewed the monthly Financial Report prepared by J. Scott Chilton, CPA.
Trustee Dumoulin shared that two T-Bills came due, and we are getting a great return on our accounts. We currently are getting 5.25%.

Director's Report:

- A.** Department Reports
- B.** Circulation/Programming/Database Statistics
- C.** PrairieCat Notes
 - a. Delegates Assembly Brief
 - b. Administrative Council Brief
- D.** Friends Minutes-October 10, 2023

We have had the departure of a staff member and will be losing another staff member in early November. We are grateful for Amy's years of service to the library.

Special thank you to Goebbert's Farm for their generous donation of pumpkins and donuts.

Trustee Wallace was excited to see our new Baby programs that Heather Swanson is having.

Ella's Friends had a phenomenal book sale this year. Great turnout from the public. Having the help of the National Honor Society students was wonderful. They all did a fine job. The next big event will be the Silent Auction being held at the library Nov 1-Nov-15.

President's Report: Trustee Wallace shared an interesting article about the memory café at the Algonquin Library. Possibly something we could look into having. There were also thank you cards shared from the High School students who decorated our front windows for Homecoming.

Unfinished Business: None

New Business:

- A. Proclamation: National Friends of the Library Week. October 16-22, 2023**
Motion by Trustee Lattanzio and second by Trustee Alberth to approve National Friends of the Library Week. The motion was approved by voice-vote consensus.

Trustee Wallace read the proclamation out loud.

- B. Draft of Annual Levy FY2023-2024.** Motion by Trustee Dumoulin and seconded by Trustee Lattanzio that the board approve Scenario #3 of proposed levy, which does not require a Truth in Taxation hearing. The motion was approved by voice-vote consensus.

C. Proposed revision to the Capital Assets Policy. Motion by Trustee Dumoulin and second by Trustee Pokorny that the board revise the Capital Assets Policy to reduce the useful life of books and audiovisual materials to 3 years. The motion was approved by voice-vote consensus.

D. Proposed policy eliminating overdue fines.

The board discussed the pros and cons of eliminating overdue fines. Director Bero will bring a draft policy to the November 2023 meeting for the board to look at.

E. Decision to go to referendum in 2024. Motion by Trustee Lattanzio and seconded by Trustee Dumoulin that the board go to referendum for the issuance of building bonds on the November 5, 2024, ballot. The motion was approved by voice-vote consensus.

Discussion: None

Adjournment: Trustee Dumoulin motioned for the meeting to be adjourned, seconded by Trustee Alberth. President Wallace adjourned the meeting at 8:15 pm. Closing of the meeting was approved by voice-vote consensus.

The next Regular Board Meeting is at 7:00 pm on Monday, November 27, 2023.

Respectfully submitted,

Kimberly Luhman, Recording Secretary

Karen Williams, Board Secretary