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MINUTES

Board of Library Trustees of the Batavia Public Library District

Public Hearing

Tuesday • 1 December 2020

MEETING TOOK PLACE VIA ELECTRONIC MEANS

1. Call to Order

Trustee Smith called the public hearing to order at 6:00 p.m. and read the following statement.

This public hearing of the Board of Library Trustees is held without a quorum of Trustees physically present and is authorized by Governor Pritzker pursuant to “COVID-19 Executive Order No. 5” (16 March 2020) and by the Government Emergency Administration Act (Public Act 100–0640; eff. 6/12/20).

Pursuant to said Public Act, which in part amended the Open Meetings Act, I have determined that an in-person meeting is neither practical nor prudent because of the COVID-19 disaster. As a result, I have further determined that it is not feasible to require the physical presence of a Trustee, the Library Director, or the Library’s attorney at the regular meeting location. The minutes of this meeting will include the foregoing statement.

2. Call the Roll

Trustee Russo read the following statement.

Pursuant to the aforementioned Government Emergency Administration Act, please note that a roll call vote is now required for all motions. Further, as I call the roll, please verify that you can hear one another and can hear all discussion and testimony.

Trustees Present via Electronic Means: Diane L. Blodgett, Jennifer M. Culotta, Katherine A. Garrett, Elizabeth P. Larson, Michael E. MacKenzie, Daniel R. Russo, and Jo Ann Smith.

Trustees Absent: None

Staff Members Present (or Registered) via Electronic Means: Director George H. Scheetz, Michele M. Domel, Kerry K. Halter, H. Joseph McKane, Kathy A. Moecher, Lisa M. Moore, Stacey L. Peterson, and Joanne C. Zillman

Visitors Present via Electronic Means: None

3. **Public Hearing:** An Ordinance Levying the Annual Taxes for Library Purposes in the Batavia Public Library District, in the Counties of Kane and DuPage, Illinois, for the Fiscal Year 2020–2021 (ORDINANCE 2020–008)

Trustee Smith declared the public hearing open and read the following statement:—

*PUBLIC HEARING ON PROPOSED PROPERTY TAX INCREASE
FOR THE BATAVIA PUBLIC LIBRARY DISTRICT*

Section 1. *This is a public hearing on the proposed property tax increase for the Batavia Public Library District for 2020 (the Fiscal Year beginning 1 July 2020 and ending 30 June 2021).*

Section 2. *Pursuant to “The Truth in Taxation Act,” the Board of Library Trustees adopted “A Resolution Determining the Amount of Money Estimated to Be Necessary to Be Raised by the Tax Levy” (Resolution 2020–010) at its regular meeting on Tuesday, 20 October 2020.*

Section 3. *In accordance with Illinois Statutes, the Library District published a black-bordered “Notice of Proposed Property Tax Increase for the Batavia Public Library District” on Thursday, 19 November 2020. This notice was published in the Kane County Chronicle.*

Section 4. *That the corporate and special purpose property taxes extended or abated for 2019 were \$4,322,474.29. The proposed corporate and special purpose taxes to be levied for 2020 are \$5,883,000, which represents an increase of 36.10% over the previous year.*

Section 5. *That the property taxes extended or abated for debt service and public building commission leases for 2019 were \$0 (zero). The estimated property taxes to be levied for debt service and public building commission leases for 2020 are \$0 (zero), which represents a change of 0.00% from the previous year.*

Section 6. *That the total property taxes extended or abated for 2019 were \$4,322,474.29. The estimated total property taxes to be levied for 2020 are \$5,883,000, which represents an increase of 36.10% over the previous year.*

Section 7. *In the published notice, persons desiring to appear at the public hearing and present testimony to the taxing district were requested to contact the Library Director. No one contacted the Library Director for this purpose; in fact, no one contacted the Library Director to discuss the proposed property tax increase. If there is any person who desires to present testimony to the taxing district, represented by this Board of Library Trustees, please step forward at this time.*

Director Scheetz reported that one resident reached out with a question (via email), to which he responded, on how the percentages were calculated.

Trustee Smith invited comments from the audience. There were no additional comments.

Trustee Smith declared the public hearing closed.

4. **Adjournment**

Motion by Trustee Blodgett to adjourn the public hearing. Seconded by Trustee Russo. Roll Call: Blodgett aye; Culotta, aye; Garrett, aye; Larson, aye; MacKenzie, aye; Russo, aye; Smith aye. The motion carried, 7–0.

Trustee Smith declared the public hearing adjourned at 6:08 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jo Ann Smith
President

Daniel R. Russo
Secretary