

**MASCOUTAH PUBLIC LIBRARY**  
**MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES**  
**JANUARY 16, 2024**

The Board of Trustees of the Mascoutah Public Library held its regular meeting at the library on January 16, 2024 at 6:15 p.m.

Trustees present were Nancy Larson, Roger Grodeon, Frank Bandre, Wayne Wilhelm, Scot Erickson, Suzy Friederich, Kay Connolly and Merly Friedland; absent was Jordan Rehfeldt. Also present was Library Director Joel Pikora.

President Nancy Larson presided and Merly Friedland recorded the minutes.

Addition to Agenda – None. Public Comments – None.

The minutes of the last Board meeting on November 21, 2023 were approved as written.  
*(Motion by Wayne, second by Frank)*

**Financial Report:** Frank presented the Balance Sheet as of December 31, 2023 and the statements of income and expenses for the months of November and December, 2023 and the year-to-date period from May 1, 2023 to December 31, 2023. The following is a summary of income and expenses at the end of eight months of this fiscal year, 8/12ths or at the 66.7% mark.

<u>Account</u>	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Budget</u>	<u>% of Budget</u>
Property Taxes	\$386,894	\$395,190	97.9%
Other Taxes & Levies	78,147	81,910	95.4%
Gen. Revenue, Other Income	<u>47,102</u>	<u>38,282</u>	123.0%
TOTAL INCOME	\$ 512,143	\$ 515,382	99.4%
TOTAL EXPENSES	( 362,751)	( 519,079)	(69.9%)
NET INCOME	<b>\$149,392</b>		

<b>CASH POSITION &amp; INVESTMENTS</b>	<b>\$630,490</b>
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Frank stated that our cash flow has been strong, having received nearly all of the income that was projected for the year. The increase in General Revenue is attributed to Memorials of \$6,455. Expenses are generally in line with the budget, except for those expenses that are not incurred on a regular monthly basis.

Frank stated that Certificates of Deposit will mature this month. He recommended, and the Board agreed, that the maturing CDs be renewed by Frank to get the benefit of higher interest rates.

The Board unanimously approved the above financial statements and ordered that the same be filed for audit. *(Motion by Suzy, second by Kay)*

**Finance Committee Report:** On behalf of the Finance Committee, Frank presented and recommended for Board approval, a Proposed Budget for FY 2024-2025 in the amount of \$530,600, representing an increase of \$27,800 or 5.53% over FY 2023-2024 of \$502,800. During discussion, Frank and Joel answered questions and explained the various factors related to increases/decreases in the income and expense items in the proposed budget.

*Upon a motion by Scot, seconded by Kay, the Board approved, by unanimous voice vote, the recommendation of the Finance Committee to adopt in its entirety the Proposed Budget for FY2024-2025 in the amount of \$530,600.*

**Director's Report:** Please refer to the Director's written report for the January, 2024 Board Meeting, the Comparative Library Circulation Report for November/December 2022 and November/December 2023, the Non-Resident Registrations and Library Programming Report.

In summary, November and December were mostly standard programming months. Storytime had good attendance. The second, third and fourth Design Lab Workshops were held and the 3D printer was apparently the strongest draw of the Design Lab equipment. There were several class visits to the library during the past two months. These visits were filled with various activities that the participants thoroughly enjoyed.

Other Information for the Board: A) We received the \$2,000 Ameren Grant. 2) Joel presented the Design Lab grant project on January 11th via Zoom as part of the panel for IHLS. 3) Joel has been invited to serve on the SHARE Circulation & Resource Sharing Committee and will be voted into the Committee on February 15<sup>th</sup>.

**Old Business:** Fine Free Pilot Program – The library is currently running a pilot program for removing overdue fines and becoming fine free.

Following discussion, the Board unanimously authorized permanent adoption of the Fine Free Pilot Program by the library. (*Motion by Wayne, second by Scot*)

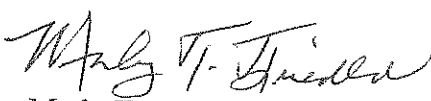
**New Business:** A) Joel distributed an updated list of Officers and Committees for FY2023-24.

B) MSD 19 Student Cards – This matter is in exploratory stage and Joel is to look further into it.

C) Library IQ Platform – Joel explained in detail the features and advantages of this platform in order for the library to better serve the community. The Platform combines all performance data in a single location, eliminates time spent on complicated analysis. It allows to focus more on patron-facing services, better allocation of resources and staff. Following discussion, the Board authorized, by unanimous voice vote, the subscription to Library IQ Platform for Year 1, at a cost of \$1,800. (*Motion by Scot, second by Wayne*)

D) Correspondence – The Board received cards from the library staff, expressing their thanks and appreciation for the Christmas gifts.

**Adjournment:** There being no further business, President Nancy declared the meeting adjourned at 7:05 p.m. The next regular Board Meeting will be on March 19, 2024 at 6:15 p.m.

  
Merly T. Friedland  
Secretary