



# WESTMONT PUBLIC LIBRARY

Providing the Community Keys to Lifelong Learning  
428 North Cass Avenue, Westmont, Illinois 60559  
630.969.5625 [www.westmontlibrary.org](http://www.westmontlibrary.org)

## **SPECIAL MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES MARCH 26, 2013 MINUTES**

The meeting was called to order at 7:02 P.M. by Elaine Carmichael, Vice President of the Board, at the Westmont Public Library.

### **Roll Call:**

Present: E. Carmichael, J. Fichtel, C. Gorman, J. Martens, S. Scheid and M. Stern

Absent/Virtual Attendance: A. Porter

Also present: C. Kuhn, Library Director, J. Coen, Assistant Library Director, and T. Barry, Administrative Assistant

### **Pledge of Allegiance**

**Public** – Spencer Parker – Finance Director Village of Westmont on-site to answer questions, as needed.

### **New Business**

a) Resolution to abate original levy request.

Kuhn outlined four possible options: 1) reduced budget using the 19mils, 2) same revenue, higher rate as current year, 3) a CPI increase to current revenues, 4) incorporating the full amount of monies extended by the County, as allowed under tax cap laws.

Kuhn provided another spread sheet reviewing the revenue and expenses from FY2011 and FY2012, the year to date revenue and expenses, the estimated year-end totals and the FY2013 budget, and a rough draft of the FY2014 budget.

Gorman asked why Kuhn choose closing the library on Fridays and Sundays to manage the budget at 19mils. Kuhn said Fridays had the lowest traffic, inconveniencing the fewest patrons and closing the 4 hours on Sunday provided the rest of the cuts needed.

Scheid asked about closing earlier on two week days or opening later on weekdays rather than the weekend.

Martens asked about the possibility of opening half hour later and closing half hour earlier each week day.

Fichtel asked if closing the library was an option the Board wanted to consider at this time.

Carmichael asked the Board to consider what the residents wanted.

Kuhn explained that Option 2 would raise the same dollar amount as our current revenue by only increasing the mills. The average homeowner would see virtually no impact. Someone whose home value had risen might see a modest increase, possibly within the \$5.00 range.

Option 3 would most likely incorporate an increase of \$4.00 per household, per year; basically a CPI increase that would allow for some modest growth.

Gorman suggested pulling Option 1 off the table for discussion. Consensus was to remove Option 1 from further discussion at this time.

Kuhn did not recommend Option 4, the full amount allowed under the tax cap, even though she knew how she would spend it. Fichtel, however, favored discussing Option 4 based on how it would benefit the residents.

Porter favored Option 2 to maintain the status quo and try to continue to operate within the same budget. Carmichael, Martens, Scheid and Stern also favored Option 2. Fichtel agreed but said that Option 3, with the modest increase, would at least allow for modest growth while still abating taxes.

Carmichael questioned why, in Option 3, the materials budget would be increased when it was not necessary as it was often under spent. Carmichael also asked about an increase in staff development. Kuhn said she planned to have more staff attend ALA and PLA as both conferences were in the mid-west, Chicago and Indianapolis, which would keep travel costs to a minimum.

Porter indicated her preference of Option 2 which would maintain the status quo.

Gorman, Carmichael, Martens, Scheid favored Option 2 since there was money left unspent on materials. Fichtel favored Option 3 and felt the increase is nominal and allowed for a margin of growth while still abating taxes. He suggested using any unspent money on some of the other things that would improve the patron's experience.

Martens moved to approve Option 2, Scheid seconded.

Roll call vote: Carmichael, Gorman, Martens, Scheid and Stern – 5 Ayes (Porter – 1 Aye for the record)  
Fichtel – 1 Nay

*Porter signed off at 7:31 P.M.*

**Adjournment** – Gorman moved to adjourn at 8:08 P.M., Scheid seconded. All in favor motion passed.

**Respectfully submitted,**



**Jason Fichtel**  
**Westmont Public Library**  
**Board of Trustees, Secretary**