

Talcott Free Library Board Meeting

Monday, September 13, 2021

Members present: A. Floto, L. Floto, D. Garlow, T. Garlow, Geddeis, Kovanda, Ragaller.

President Kovanda called the meeting to order at 7:00pm and immediately opened the budget hearing. After a short wait to accommodate any members of the public who might arrive, T. Garlow moved to close the hearing, and Ragaller seconded. The motion was approved unanimously. President Kovanda closed the scheduled budget hearing at 7:03 p.m.

Public Comment: N/A

Secretary's Report: Kovanda moved, and D. Garlow seconded, to approve the minutes of the August meeting. Approved unanimously.

Treasurer's Report: A. Floto moved, and Geddeis seconded, to approve the treasurer's report. Approved unanimously. T. Garlow moved, and Ragaller seconded, to approve Ordinance 2021-02, Budget and Appropriations. The budget totals \$1,173,096 including building expansion. Motion approved unanimously. T. Garlow moved, and A. Floto seconded, to approve Ordinance 2021-03, Property Tax Levy. The Levy totals \$662,000. Motion approved unanimously. Both Ordinances were signed by President Kovanda and Secretary L. Floto, and will be published as required by law. Ragaller moved, and A. Floto seconded, to approve the transfer of building debt funds to the checking account to cover building invoices totaling \$11, 657.51. Motion approved unanimously. The Treasurer's bond had been at \$200,000, but it needs to cover 50% of the levy, so it is now raised to \$400,000. Annual premium to provide the bond is approximately \$1,000. The new auditors are easy to work with and less expensive than the former auditing firm. Our property insurance coverage and premium will need to be increased because of the building expansion.

Librarian's Report: There were 39 new library cards issued each in July and August. Active cards total around 3,000. A used copier to replace the older one which broke down, was purchased from the per capita grant. This copier will be capable of printing documents sent online from patrons' homes. L. Floto moved, and Geddeis seconded, to approve the current bills and payment. Motion passed unanimously.

Building and Grounds Report: There are a few punch list items left to be resolved. Programmed exterior lights, blinds for staff area, bulletin board in foyer, desk drawers, chair carts, and other issues have been frustrating. Some of the vendors recommended by the architects have not performed as expected. Shelving ordered long ago is delayed again and may not ship until October. Final payment will not be made until all issues are resolved. Any funds that remain may be used for building improvements. Possible roof repairs will be investigated.

New Business: Dairyhäus has requested permission to extend an existing fence at the rear of the store. D. Garlow moved, and Geddeis seconded, to grant permission. Approved unanimously. Director Gove, in her role as Compliance Officer, submitted the requisite Post-Issuance Compliance Report. It needs no board approval.

T. Garlow moved, and A. Floto seconded, to adjourn the meeting. Approved unanimously at 7:53 p.m.

Submitted by L. Floto, Secretary