

**Ella Johnson Memorial Public Library**  
**109 S. State Street, Hampshire, IL 60140**  
**Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees**  
**April 24, 2023**

**Call to Order:** President Barbara Brust called the regular meeting of the Board of Trustees to order at 7:00 pm.

Present: Trustees Barbara Brust, Linda Drendel, Pat Dumoulin, Suzanne Lattanzio, Judy Pokorny, Linda Wallace, and Karen Williams.

Absent: None

Staff Members: Executive Director Stephen Bero and Recording Secretary Kimberly Luhman.

Public: Rosemary Kesse, Valerie Reh, and Kim Alberth.

**Pledge of Allegiance:** President Brust led those gathered in the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Changes/Corrections to the Agenda:** None

**Questions/Comments-Public/Media:** Rosemary Kesse spoke regarding the 2-year term on the board that was not filled at the recent election. She expressed interest in the position and gave a letter of intent to the board and the Director.

**Approval of Minutes:** Motion by Trustee Dumoulin and second by Trustee Wallace to approve the minutes from the Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees held on March 27, 2023. Minutes were approved by voice-vote consensus.

**Treasurer's Report:**

- A.** Approval of Bills for April 2023, and Payrolls for March 2023. Motion by Trustee Pokorny and second by Trustee Wallace to approve April bills in the amount of \$47,603.73 and the March 2023 payrolls in the amount of \$28,582.81.

Ayes: Trustees Brust, Drendel, Dumoulin, Lattanzio, Pokorny, Wallace, and Williams

Nays: None

Absent: None

Abstain: None

- B.** Financial Report-Trustees reviewed the monthly Financial Report prepared by J. Scott Chilton, CPA.  
Trustee Dumoulin will be speaking with the bank regarding a T-Bill that is coming due. She will find out if we can get the same interest rate for 6 months, if so, she will have the current T-Bill that is due to be put back in for 6 months.

**Director's Report:**

- A.** Department Reports
- B.** Circulation/Programming/Database Statistics/Marketing Statistics

- C. PrairieCat Delegates Assembly Brief notes-April 3, 2023
- D. Friends Minutes-April 7, 2023

Departments are taking a break for the month of May as they prepare for summer reading. This is National Library Week and there is a story walk at the Hampshire Forest Preserve for patrons to enjoy.

Social media numbers are continuing to have a steady increase.

The Illinois Libraries Present consortium's focus in the future will be on the Midwest/Illinois with local authors and subjects. There are a lot more libraries wanting to join the Consortium.

Friends of the Library will be having their Geranium sale. In honor of National Library Workers Day, which is April 25, the Friends of the Library have purchased gift cards for all staff members.

**President's Report:** Trustee Brust reminded everyone that there is another Illinois Libraries Presents to watch, Great Lakes Naval Station. She encouraged everyone to watch and stay informed.

**Unfinished Business:** None

Trustee Drendel stepped out of the room at 8:00 PM and returned at 8:02 PM

**New Business:**

- A. Budget for Fiscal Year 2023-2024
  1. Tax Extension and Revenue Projections
  2. Wage Scale Policy and pay increases
  3. Building expansion
- B. Decennial Committee

Director Bero shared the Financial Report/Revenue Numbers for the coming budget year. He stated that things are going very well for the future budget. He feels the budget may be on the conservative side and will be taking a closer look at each line item and reassessing the budget, and possibly cut the budget if needed.

Stephen recommends that the pay scale for new hires be raised to \$15.00 per hour. All current staff members' pay scale would need to be adjusted accordingly. This would help us retain employees and be a desirable place to work. Too much employee turnover does not look good for a library. The board will discuss this option next month.

Decennial Committee: Our attorney will give more details on this. The entire Board and the Director are members. We will need to have another staff member join as well as 2 community members. We have 18 months to complete the report.

**Discussion:** None

**Adjournment:** President Brust adjourned the meeting at 8:09 pm.

The next Regular Board Meeting is at 7:00 pm on Monday, May 22, 2023.

Respectfully submitted,

Kimberly Luhman, Recording Secretary

Judith Pokorny, Board Secretary