

## MAMAKATING LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING

June 14, 2023

**PRESENT:** Trustees Patti Andersen, Jennifer Holmes, John Buying, Mark Tourtellott, Pamela Mann, and Director Cheryl Jones. Trustee Pamela Rice participated via Zoom.

**ABSENT:** Antoinette King  
No members of the public present

The meeting was called to order at 6:01 pm

**AGENDA:** Motion to adopt amended agenda made by Jennifer Holmes; seconded by Pamela Mann. All in favor; motion carried.

Presentation on Community Solar program provided by Barbara Schmidt of Diversified Corporate Services. This program would provide a 5% discount off the Orange and Rockland electricity rates and would require a three-year commitment. Jennifer Holmes made a motion to switch back to O&R for the supplier portion of the electric bill while Cheryl Jones continues to investigate Community Solar services and speak with some current customers. The motion was seconded by Mark Tourtellott; with four ayes and 1 abstention, the vote carried.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION:** With a motion by Pamela Mann, seconded by Jennifer Holmes, the Board moved into executive session at 6:39 pm until 6:45 pm.

**REGULAR SESSION:** A motion to approve the appointment of Meghan Comfort to the open Library Clerk position and to change Library Director Cheryl Jones' status from provisional to permanent was made by Jennifer Holmes and seconded by Pamela Mann. All in favor; motion passed.

**MINUTES:** Motion to accept April meeting minutes made by Pamela Mann; seconded by Jennifer Holmes, All in favor; motion carried.

**FINANCE REPORT:** No financial report provided.  
Motion to approve May abstract of vouchers made by Jennifer Holmes; seconded by Pamela Mann. All in favor; motion carried.

**DIRECTOR'S REPORT:** Director Cheryl Jones' monthly report was distributed.

Items of note:

- Generator pad is scheduled to be poured next week.
- A new flag was donated by the VFW to replace the old one.

- New shelving for staff workroom and children's area has been installed
- The Director has applied for \$6000 in "bullet aid" from our State Representatives
- Three dead trees near side property line were removed by the church.
- The library is working on improving community connections with the homeschooling group.
- Members of the RCLS Board will be coming in on July 19 at 2 pm for a quick tour
- The Friends of the Library will be hosting a dessert reception on July 29th to dedicate the bookstore in honor of Louis Lynn.

#### OLD BUSINESS:

- The Wurtsboro Board of Trade will donate a tree in honor of John Platt. President Patti Andersen will speak with them regarding the preference for a hydrangea tree and will also contact a representative of the church for permission to trim the existing sumac trees in the area chosen.

#### NEW BUSINESS:

- Emergency Responder Leave Law—Cheryl Jones provided information on the new law and the possibility of creating a policy to allow paid time for emergency responders. She will draft a sample policy for further review.
- A quote from RefKo to weed, edge, and mulch shrub bed areas on the grounds was reviewed and approved.
- Election process: Pam Rice is unable to coordinate this process this year as she will be on the ballot for trustee reelection. Mark Tourtellott volunteered to spearhead this process.
- The board reviewed and discussed the proposed 2024 budget as drafted by the Budget Committee. A budget information meeting for the public will be scheduled on August 9. Director Cheryl Jones is also creating an annual report to help explain the budget for the public. A motion to exceed the tax cap for the 2024 Mamakating Library Budget was made by Jennifer Holmes and seconded by Mark Tourtellott. The vote was 4 ayes and 1 nay; motion carried.

#### ***Tax Cap Override Resolution***

*Whereas, the adoption of the 2024 budget for the Mamakating Library requires a tax levy increase that exceeds the tax cap imposed by state law as outlined in General Municipal Law Section 3-c adopted in 2011 and;*

*Whereas, General Municipal Law Section 3-c expressly permits the library board to override the tax levy limit by a resolution approved by a vote of sixty percent of qualified board members; now therefore be it*

*Resolved, that the Board of Trustees of the Mamakating Library voted and approved to exceed the tax levy limit for 2024 by at least the sixty percent of the board of trustees as required by state law on June 14, 2023.*

- A motion to approve the 2024 proposed budget was made by Pamela Mann and seconded by Jennifer Holmes. The vote was 4 ayes and 1 nay; motion carried.

POLICY REVIEW/ REVISIONS: None

PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR/ PUBLIC COMMENT: No members of the public present.

Motion to adjourn made by Mark Tourtellott; seconded by Pamela Mann. All in favor; motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 8:28 pm.

Respectively submitted,

Pamela Mann  
Amended 7/13/2023