

Canton Public Library (CPL)  
Board of Trustees Monthly Meeting  
Official Public Records Minutes  
Tuesday, January 16, 2024  
6:00 PM

**Members (Present):**

**Kate Bevens, Stephanie Chancellor, Phyllis Dean, Heather Feldkamp, Katie Marney, Karla McReynolds, Patti Meldrum, Esa Seegulam, Beth Weaver, and Mary Kay Lane.**

**Call to order:**

Meldrum called the meeting to order.

**Public Comment:**

None.

**Approval of January Agenda and December Minutes:**

Dean moved to approve the December minutes and January agenda; Feldkamp seconded. Approved.

**Approval of December Financial Report:**

Seegulam moved to approve the financial report. Chancellor seconded. Approved.

**Director's Report:**

We were awarded a Summer Reading Grant of \$4,148.00. This will be paid in two installments, one around April and one around September.

Lane in the process of applying for a Dollar General Summer Reading Grant.

Update on storage space.

Adjunct CSC Professor of Accounting, Dawn Moncey, will offer tax preparation assistance at the library this year. She is recruiting students to become certified by VITA and we will offer two days of tax prep assistance: March 9 and March 23. Both are Saturdays and will happen after hours. Appointments and drop-ins welcome.

**Old Business:**

- Ballot Language:

Feldkamp moved to approve the below ballot language for the April 2, 2024 ballot. Dean seconded. Approved.

*“Shall there be a tax increase of \$0.22 over the present \$0.2348 tax to maintain the general operation of the Canton Public Library and improve Library services?”*

- Board Resolution

Chancellor moved to approve the Board Resolution (below). Bevans seconded. Approved.

*CANTON PUBLIC LIBRARY BOARD OF DIRECTORS RESOLUTION*

*TO INCREASE A TAX LEVY*

*WHEREAS, the Board of Directors of the Canton Public Library have made a finding that in order to maintain and expand current Library services and increase operating hours that a tax increase is necessary, and*

*WHEREAS, the Board of Directors have made a finding that no tax increase has been approved by voters in forty years, and*

*WHEREAS, the Board of Directors have made a finding that with the ever-burgeoning increase in expenses, without a commensurate increase in income, approximately \$56,000 additional income per year will be needed to maintain and expand Library services and operational hours, and*

*WHEREAS, without an increase in revenue, the Library will be required to reduce hours of operation for the patrons of the Canton and surrounding communities, and*

*WHEREAS, the General Assembly has enacted section 182.140(5) RSMo empowering the Board of Directors to order an election on the question of increasing the current tax rate;*

*WHEREFORE: on January 16, 2024, the Board of Directors adopted this resolution to submit to the voters on April 2, 2024 an increase of \$0.22 over the current rate of \$0.2348 per \$100 of assessed valuation of personal and real property for residents within the city limits of Canton, Missouri.*

- 1. This resolution shall take effect and be in force from and after the passage and adoption thereof.*
- 2. As soon as possible after the election results have been certified, if the question be adopted in the affirmative, The Board of Directors shall by ordinance adopt the tax rates and forward that Ordinance to the Canton City Clerk, Lewis County Clerk, and Lewis County Assessor.*

**New Business:**

Review of major points for discussion regarding tax increase

- Campaign timeline discussion

**Adjournment:**

Seegulam moved to adjourn the meeting. McReynolds seconded. Meeting adjourned.

**Next Meeting:**

Next meeting will be on Tuesday, February 13 at 6:00pm.

Respectfully submitted,  
M. Esa Seegulam  
Secretary