



**WATERLOO PUBLIC LIBRARY—Board of Trustees Regular Meeting Minutes—February 8, 2024—12:00 PM—Conference Room**  
**Submitted by Kim Chapman**

Members present: Larry Bjortomt, Cindy Wells (Zoom), Ivy Hagedorn (Zoom), John Berry (Zoom)  
Members absent: Kathleen Wernimont  
Others present: David Eckert, Kim Chapman, Jillian Rutledge, Lori Petersen, Becky Miller, Amy Rousselow, Carolyn Sallis (Zoom), Denise Osgood  
Council Liaisons: Dave Boesen, Rob Nichols (Zoom)

Join Zoom Meeting

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- I. **Call to Order**—the regular meeting of the Waterloo Public Library Board of Trustees was called to order by President Cindy Wells at 12:00 PM.
- II. **Approve Agenda**—*motion by Ivy Hagedorn, second by John Berry to approve the agenda as presented.* Motion carried.
- III. **Oral Comments of Board Members, Staff and the Public**—none.
- IV. **Approval of Minutes**—*motion by John Berry, second by Ivy Hagedorn to approve the January 19, 2024, Regular Meeting minutes as presented.* Motion carried.
- V. **Financials**
  - a. Updates—financial reports included in the packet are from the City, the Community Foundation of Northeast Iowa and the Waterloo Community Foundation. The City budget looks fine with some line items over budget, others under budget.
  - b. *Motion by Ivy Hagedorn, second by John Berry to approve payment for the January 2024 bills as presented.* Motion carried.
- VI. **Statistical/Usage Report**—everything looks steady. David pointed out that circulation appears to be up. Reference service numbers are up. Titles and items withdrawn have an increase from last month as we clean up as much as possible before the migration to the new system. There are good numbers for teen outreach.
- VII. **Director's Report**
  - a. Informational Updates

- i. Building Renovation Project Update—the building project is winding down! The punch list is not quite ready for a walkthrough, though. The wall with the new windows needs to be painted. Trim is being added to the other windows. The carpet is scheduled for installation beginning March 11. There should be another meeting with the architect before that time. The wall for the teen area was measure incorrectly, so another door needs to be added. There will be no charge to the library as it was an oversight on the vendor’s part. Change orders have totaled around \$8,000. John Berry suggested inviting the funding sources and the city ambassadors to an unveiling of the project. Dave Boesen asked if there were issues with heating and cooling in the new teen area now that the wall is installed. David said the teen zone is warm, outside of it is cooler. Building Maintenance has been contacted.
- ii. FY25 Budget Update—there has been no news. The budget needs to go to the Council in March. David will attend Council work sessions to keep updated.
- iii. Miscellaneous—The Blackhawk County librarians attended a County Board of Supervisors meeting and presented their request for FY25 funding. The county libraries fall under the state average for county monies received.
- b. Collective Department Report—the February 2024 report is in the packets. No questions.
- c. Referred for Board Action—nothing.

VIII. **Unfinished Business**

- a. Tax Levy Update (Cindy Wells)—Cindy reported she, Billie Bailey and Tim Hurley had a good discussion with Representative Pat Grassley at the statehouse. Their goal was to find a house representative and a senator who would take on their proposed companion bill for the levy bill, which has already been passed. They found help from Jane Bloomingdale of the House and Annette Sweeney of the Senate.
  - i. SSB 3131—Cindy reported this bill proposes to change the wording from “shall” to “you may” that requires cities to fund their library with a 6.75 cent minimum levy. Another part of this bill is to remove the autonomy and power of the Library Boards and turn the libraries over to the city councils with a Board acting in an advisory role. The library property would be owned by the city. It is not known if that includes any endowments that libraries may own. Cindy reported the Senate dismissed the bill yesterday, then two hours later the House took it over. It was/is all very confusing. If the State would approve these bills, it will take four years for Waterloo’s 8.91 levy to become 8.10; July 2024 the library would lose its tax levy; July 2025 the libraries would lose their Boards.
- b. L/M Communication
  - i. There was no January meeting. The committee meets again in February.

IX. **New Business**—none

X. **Next Meeting Date**—March 14, 2024, Noon

XI. **Adjournment**—*motion by John Berry, second by Ivy Hagedorn.* Motion carried.

The meeting adjourned at 12:43 PM.