

BOARD OF LIBRARY TRUSTEES SPECIAL MEETING – LEVY HEARING LIBRARY PROGRAM ROOM MONDAY, NOVEMBER 27, 2023 6:45 PM

MINUTES

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by President Weninger at 6:45 p.m.

2. Roll Call

Board members present: Richard Bloom, Frank Fokta, Corrine Jakacki-Dattomo, Diane Kelsey, Patricia Weninger

Board members absent: Scott Grotto, Maureen Navadomskis

Staff present: Benjamin Weseloh, Library Director

Public Present: Dan Goeckner, Mary Seidel, James Murray, Crystal Noland-Riani

3. Public Hearing:

Ordinance 23-06: An Ordinance Providing for the Levying and Assessment of Taxes for the West Chicago Public Library District for the Fiscal Year Beginning July 1, 2023 and Ending June 30, 2024 in the amount of \$3,730,000.

President Weninger invited comments or questions from any of the public members present regarding the fiscal 2024 levy ordinance.

4. Public Comment

Mr. Goeckner inquired as to why the levy amount was so high. Director Weseloh explained that this has been the Library's process for many years. He noted that the levy amount is not the amount the library receives each year; it is reduced considerably by the county. Mr. Weseloh then mentioned the aging building, interior mechanicals, and exterior issues that may need repair and/or replacement. As a result, that is why the library appropriates so much in the building repair and maintenance budget lines and levies to receive the full tax revenue due to the library to help pay for those repairs.

Ms. Noland-Riani mentioned that she thought the levy should be published in multiple locations and local news outlets, not just in the Daily Herald. She also felt that residents didn't have sufficient time to learn about the proposed levy. Library Director Weseloh acknowledged her comments and explained that the proposed levy was in the prior month's board packet and two legal notices were published in the Daily Herald prior to the November board meeting. Mr. Weseloh indicated that he will review the levy and communication process.

5. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 7:00 p.m.