

PARK FOREST PUBLIC LIBRARY
BOARD OF TRUSTEES SPECIAL MEETING

February 11, 2021

The special meeting of the Park Forest Public Library Board of Trustees opened at 1:45 pm.

ROLL CALL

Those present were:

Park Forest Public Library Board Members: Sevena Merchant, Linda Marron, Felicia Rangel, and Dannthy Garçon

Absent: Janis Elmore and James Pressler

Park Forest Public Library Staff: Barbara Osuch and Mary VanSwol

Also present: Attorney Kathleen Orr and Village Trustee Glenna Hennessy

AGREEMENT WITH THE VILLAGE

President Merchant reviewed the progress from the last meeting. Village Trustee Hennessy is going to send information to President Merchant and Library Director Osuch about how the library's money is invested.

President Merchant asked Attorney Orr if she could start a skeleton agreement for the Village. The Board discussed the services the Village provides. Attorney Orr asked whether the Library has started paying the bill to the Village. The Library pays a little each month. Attorney Orr reviewed the last audit. The reserve is excessive and should be limited to twelve months of expenses. She recommended working down the reserve with capital projects.

The Board discussed projects. Attorney Orr talked about an air cleaning system.

Attorney Orr suggested meeting with the Village to discuss the new plan. The Village owns the building, but the Library Board has specific improvements in mind and wants authority to make those changes. The Library will work to get the reserve down to one year and will reduce the annual levy until that happens. In return, the Library would like the Village to reduce their fees.

President Merchant asked about the mayor's comment about selling the library building. Village Trustee Hennessy stated that he was never going to sell the building. He had the library building assessed. Trustee Marron asked that an agreement state that the Village give assurance that they are not going to sell the building or change the library's location.

The Board discussed improvements to the Library. Attorney Orr stated that she would like to create a proposal and meet with the Village by about March 1, 2021. She suggested not letting the reserve go below \$1.5 million. Attorney Orr would like all agreements to be in place before the election.

The Board will need to create a capital plan with estimated costs to present to the Village before the meeting.

Trustee Marron asked about homebound delivery. Library Director Osuch answered that homebound delivery continues.

Attorney Orr asked the Board who would meet with the Village. President Merchant answered that it would be herself, Vice President Marron, Secretary Rangel, and Library Director Osuch. Attorney Orr said she would call Tom Mick and set up the meeting. The election is April 6. She said she would ask for a meeting for March 1 or 2.

Library Director Osuch stated that Village Finance Director Pries did give a presentation to the Board about reducing the levy in 2019. Attorney Orr stated that this new agreement would benefit all parties.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 2:39 pm.