

**NORTH LAKE COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY DISTRICT
BUDGET WORKSHOP
Tuesday, July 19, 2022**

MEMBERS PRESENT: Allen Bone, Clint Hoxie, Maggie Newman, Brooke Wegner, Holly Wurl

OTHERS PRESENT: Abbi Dooley, Mallory Witham

Workshop called to order by Chairman Clint Hoxie at 5:00 p.m.

ADDITIONS OR CHANGES TO THE AGENDA: None.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION COMMENTS FOR ITEMS NOT ON AGENDA: None.

BOARD BUSINESS:

Allen moved and Brooke seconded the *motion to pass Resolution 2023-01 changing the purpose of fund 2758*. **The motion passed unanimously.**

Maggie moved and Allen seconded the *motion to pass Resolution 2023-02 to move monies into different funds*. **The motion passed unanimously.**

BUDGET WORKSHOP: Abbi had sent out the preliminary expenditure budget for FY2023 to the Trustees prior to tonight's meeting. She noted a few changes made including:

- Reduce Fund 2758 Object 346 by \$2,520 – the Montana State Library has announced that funding is secured through June 30, 2023 for hotspots.
- State Aid will be \$4,754.57 so that amount is now budgeted for Fund 2880 Object 393 but may be used for Object 299.
- Reduce Fund 4510 Object 355 by \$11,181.60 but increase the actual for 21-22 by that amount. The June 2022 architect's invoice hadn't been received at the time the preliminary budget was sent out.

Abbi noted that the library's pledge to the renovation project of \$250,000 has a balance of \$160,716. \$89,284 has been spent on architect fees.

The budget includes a change to the Stepped Pay Scale Approved 1-25-2022, which proposes a wage increase for library staff. Maggie stated that she looked it over and she feels it is fair and would keep the library in the market. Allen and Brooke stated the Trustees should move forward with Abbi's recommendation. Holly stated that the Trustees should consider health benefits and continuing education. She wasn't sure if other employers provide these things. Abbi replied that the library is in line with other employers and most provide similar benefits, including the banks, the City and the County. Abbi emphasized the importance of keeping a good staff and she and Clint noted that it is less expensive to retain good employees rather than need to continuously rehire and retrain. Holly stated that she feels this library staff is paid more than most libraries. Abbi and Maggie disagreed. Abbi noted that the proposed increase puts the library staff at the mid-range of the state (based on the 2021 DOL Wage Rates by Occupation report). Abbi added that she feels comfortable financially with this increase (which is approximately \$30,000 over the FY22 budget).

Further budget questions and clarifications were as follows:

- The medical insurance (1000-144) is based off of the 2022 costs plus a 10% increase.
- The PERS increase is 120% which Clint and Abbi noted doesn't seem right. Abbi stated the software calculates this figure, but will review.
- Partners shipments, postage and garbage service is all increasing.

- Holly asked why the proposed budget for office supplies is double what was spent last year. Abbi stated that she has budgeted for the purchase of library cards, which is several thousand dollars.
- Holly asked why the IT proposed budget is double the expenditure over last year. Abbi stated that it includes the estimated costs involved with renovation.
- Holly questioned the \$3,000 figure for Youth Programming (2755-224) and it's increase in the budget. Abbi explained that she listed the expenses in the budget description that total this figure - \$960 is for the Greater Polson Community Foundation grant and the rest is money that is restricted for programming. She also stated that Felicia has some really great ideas and is expanding youth programming.

Maggie asked and Abbi answered that the library has not yet received the mill values from the Montana Department of Revenue.

Abbi reminded everyone of the budget timeline. Final changes should be made at the regular July board meeting with the expectation of passing the final budget at the August 23 meeting.

OTHER BUSINESS: Maggie will not be at the July 26 nor August 23 meetings.

PUBLIC COMMENT: None.

NEXT REGULAR MEETING: The next regular meeting of the North Lake County Public Library District Board of Trustees is scheduled for Tuesday, July 26, 2022 at 5:00 p.m. in the library meeting room.

The workshop adjourned at 5:27 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Abigail J. Dooley

Abbi Dooley, Library Director.