



**St. Charles Public Library**  
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**MINUTES  
FINANCE COMMITTEE  
BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
ST. CHARLES PUBLIC LIBRARY DISTRICT  
SEPTEMBER 27, 2021**

The Finance Committee Meeting of the Board of Trustees of the St. Charles Public Library District was held on Monday, September 27, 2021 at 7:00 pm at the Library. Present: President Robert T. Gephart, Treasurer Cynthia N. Steimle (chair), Trustee Shane Hampton, Director Edith G. Craig and Business Office Manager Mary Merritt.

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

Trustee Steimle called the meeting to order at 7:04 pm, and read the Mission Statement.

**II. COMMUNICATIONS AND CITIZEN'S COMMENTS – ON AGENDA ITEMS**

None

**III. DISCUSSION OF LEVY AND RELATED DOCUMENTS**

**a. Levy 2021/2022**

Ms. Craig gave her levy presentation: review breakdown of 2020 property tax bill and what St. Charles citizens' money goes to... 3.8% of taxes goes toward the Library. Trustee Steimle asked if this breakdown was for township residents. Ms. Craig said it was for residents living in the city proper. Ms. Craig will supply the St. Charles Township property tax breakdown for the October Board meeting. Trustee Gephart asked if property taxes were sky rocketing. Ms. Craig responded that while residential property may be increasing, commercial and industrial properties are declining. Ms. Craig will see if the St. Charles Assessor can come to the Board meeting again and present. New property growth is expected to be 50% less than last year per the Kane County estimation.

Ms. Craig presented two different scenarios including holding the levy steady for the fifth year at \$8,005,000 and increasing the levy to account for the \$15 minimum wage law, collective bargaining expenses and normal growth that hasn't been included the last four years. Trustee Steimle asked for the cost, associated with this increase, for the average person that has a house worth \$200,000. Trustee Gephart answered approximately \$14 annually. Trustee Steimle mentioned that we should raise the levy to supply staff with minimum wages, increased programming for patrons and staff travel/conferences, etc. COVID is restricting us right now, but hopefully not next year. After discussing the benefits and drawbacks to each scenario, Trustee Steimle said she favored option two, raising the levy to account for the original pay plan for reaching the \$15 minimum wage and address increases to our collections and programs. Trustee Hampton also favored option two, raising the levy. Trustee Gephart favors option one, keeping

the levy steady for one more year, but realizes it is prudent not to keep the levy steady as we also need to consider meeting our \$1.5 million in Special Reserves.

**Motion** by Trustee Gephart, second by Trustee Hampton, to recommend to the Board that we raise the levy 3.6%. Carried unanimously.

**b. Resolution to Determine Estimate of Funds Necessary for 2021/2022**

Ms. Craig, stated that in October we need to pass the resolution to determine estimate of funds. The increase of 3.6% means that a Truth-in-Taxation public hearing is not needed, but the Board chooses to hold a hearing regardless.

**Motion** by Trustee Gephart, second by Trustee Hampton, to recommend to the Board that the Estimate of Funds reads the levy be increased to \$8,281,958. Carried unanimously.

**IV. REVIEW OF FUNDS BALANCE POLICY**

**Motion** by Trustee Gephart, second by Trustee Hampton, to recommend to the Board to approve the Funds Balance Policy, as presented. Carried unanimously.

**V. COMMUNICATIONS AND CITIZEN'S COMMENTS – ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS**

None.

**VI. ADJOURNMENT**

**Motion** by Trustee Gephart, second by Trustee Hampton, to adjourn the meeting at 8:08pm. Carried unanimously.



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Cynthia N. Steimle  
Chair, Finance Committee