

Plattekill Public Library  
Regular Board Meeting Minutes  
August 9, 2023

The meeting was called to order at 7:03 p.m. with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Present: William Farrell, President; Joseph Egan, Vice President; Betty Diorio, Trustee; John Reynolds, Trustee; Darren Lanspery, Director; Mayleen Torres-Rivera, Bookkeeper; Donna Ebanks, Secretary

Excused: Mark Cambalik, Trustee; Jasmine Vazquez, Trustee

**Public Comment:** None

**Correspondence:** None

**Addition to agenda under Unfinished Business:**

- Fencing

**Financial Report:**

The Treasurer's report was read and discussed.

*7:15 pm: Trustee David Padilla arrived*

- Motion to manage the three (3) \$100,000 each CDs that will be coming due in August 2023 as follows: \$200,000 will be returned to the savings account and the remaining \$100,000 CD will be renewed for 3 months was made by W. Farrell and seconded by J. Reynolds. All were in favor: motion passed.
- Motion to approve the tax cap resolution as written and read by J. Reynolds: Whereas, due to the timing of the State Comptroller's Office in releasing the statistics needed to calculate the actual tax levy limit, the adoption of the 2024 budget for the Plattekill Public Library may require a tax levy increase that technically exceeds the tax cap imposed by the state law as outlined in General Municipal Law Section 3-c adopted in 2011; and 2. Whereas, General Municipal Law Section 3-c expressly permits the Library's Board of Trustees to override the tax levy limit by a resolution approved by at least sixty percent of qualified board members; now there be it Resolved, that on August 9, 2023, at least sixty percent of the Board of Trustees of the Plattekill Public Library voted and approved to exceed the tax levy limit if necessary. Motion made by J. Reynolds and seconded by D. Padilla. All were in favor: motion passed.
- Motion to raise the 2024 budget by two-point-five percent (2.5%), for a total of \$490,066.62, was made by W. Farrell and seconded by B. Diorio. All were in favor: motion passed.
- Motion to approve the July 2023 payroll was made by D. Padilla and seconded by J. Egan. All were in favor: motion passed.
- Motion to approve the checks pending audit was made by D. Padilla and seconded by J. Egan. All were in favor: motion passed.
- Motion to approve the recommended transfers from the savings account: \$2,000 to the M&T debit card account; \$15,000 to the corporate general checking

account; \$25,000 to the corporate payroll account was made by B. Diorio and seconded by D. Padilla. All were in favor: motion passed.

**Secretary's Report:**

- Motion to accept July 12, 2023, Regular Board Meeting minutes was made by W. Farrell and seconded by J. Reynolds. All were in favor: motion passed.

**Director's Report:**

The Director's report was read and discussed.

- New shed is in place and being utilized
- Children's farm to table cookbooks purchased with funds donated by a patron to honor her friend's 100<sup>th</sup> birthday
- Received funding for EDI related grant from MHLS. Funds will be used to host a multicultural storyteller program on October 21
- Construction grant application submitted to the NY State Library for an electronic digital outdoor sign
- Starting in September, we will once again be collecting nonperishable food for donation to local food pantries. This is a cooperative "food fight" with other Ulster County libraries
- Second public forum related to the building expansion is scheduled for August 21
- Currently, there are 174 individuals registered for the summer reading contest
- Magician "Magic Jim," is slated for August 15<sup>th</sup> as the summer reading program finale performance

The Ulster County Libraries Association will hold their annual meeting on Tuesday, September 12 at Dixon Roadside in Woodstock. All trustees are invited to attend; please RSVP per the attached invitation.

**2023 Library Budget Vote & Trustee Election items:**

- Motion to appoint Darren as Clerk of the Election was made by J. Egan and seconded by J. Reynolds. All were in favor: motion passed.
- Motion to appoint Town of Plattekill resident Laura Dougherty as Chairperson of the Election was made by W. Farrell and seconded by J. Egan. All were in favor: motion passed.
- Motion to authorize the Director to hire two Board of Election clerks at \$15 per hour was made by J. Reynolds and seconded by D. Padilla. All were in favor: motion passed.

**Committee Reports:**

The Plans and Operations Committee met on July 17; co-chair W. Farrell briefed the Board. Both the Personnel and the Budget and Finance Committees met on 7/31. Respective Chairs J. Egan and W. Farrell briefed the board.

**Executive Session:**

- Motion to enter into executive session at 8:41 pm to discuss a personnel matter was made by J. Egan and seconded by J. Reynolds. All were in favor: motion passed.

The Board returned from Executive Session at 9:12 pm.

- Motion to approve the raises as presented was made by W. Farrell and seconded by J. Reynolds. All were in favor: motion passed.
- Motion to approve offering part-time employees vacation time. The Personnel Committee will create a specific policy. Motion made by W. Farrell and seconded by D. Padilla. Yea: W. Farrell; B. Diorio; D. Padilla; J. Reynolds. Nay: J. Egan. Motion passed.

**Unfinished Business:**

*Election Timeline* was discussed under Director's Report  
Board discussed the proposed fencing project

- Motion to approve the quote from Ketcham Fencing for a maximum of \$6,600 for the fencing and installation of 120 feet of 6-foot-high vinyl privacy fencing was made by W. Farrell and seconded by J. Egan. All were in favor: motion passed.

**New Business:**

Agenda items reviewed as follows:

*Part-time workers – paid vacation* was discussed under Committee Reports  
*Tax Cap Resolution and Proposed Budget* discussed under Financial Report

**Adjournment:** → Motion to adjourn at 9:20 pm was made by J. Egan.

Respectfully submitted by:

Board Secretary  
Donna Ebanks