

THE OSSINING PUBLIC LIBRARY  
REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD  
October 22, 2007

Attending: OPL trustees Bob Minzesheimer, Joyce Lannert, Peter Capek, Thomas Staudter, Mirla Morrison, Lucinda Manning, Reginald Bush; OPL director Beth Bermel; guests Maxine Lawrence; and Linda Levine.

Prior to the meeting, the board members met with Ossining Public Schools treasurer Linda Carpenter.

President Minzesheimer called the meeting to order at 7:05 PM in the board room of the library.

Minutes: A motion was made (Morrison, Lannert) to approve the September 25, 2007 minutes. Unanimous.

Public Comment: Maxine Lawrence asked about parking arrangements with local merchants, and also wanted to know about the library's meeting and events policies. Linda Levine, who works in the teen Room, was worried about behavior in the library and staff responses. Minzesheimer suggested the Teen Advisory committee be reconvened. Bush mentioned that Westchester County was participating in a Big read event, and Morrison added she and her husband were offering an upcoming lecture at the library about their recent trip to Vietnam.

Director's Report: Bermel noted that Barbara Hickernell was reappointed district representative to the Westchester Library System. Also, the library has \$8000 of encumbered expenses in the electricity line of the budget. Tamra Stewart was rejoining the library's staff as a Young Adult Librarian. Joan Hraban's mom passed away. Staff and patrons are complaining about the warm temps inside the library. There seems to be little control over the phone system. Capek said the telecommunications vendor (from Fishkill) should be notified. Bermel said the folks who set up the phone system need to return and get it working properly. She said the New York Library Association convention in Buffalo was disappointing and was glad the library didn't send any staff members there.

Construction: There is frustration among the board regarding the expenses to make necessary repairs and fixes to a new library. Taxpayers are likely to be upset too. Lannert reported that there is a crack in the sewer pipe in the parking lot, behind the library. The bond company Malcolm Patrick is responsible for repairs. Paving in the parking lot will go on around the sewer repair. The parking lot is near completion! There will be a meeting with all the contractors and engineers involved with the heating. They'll look at the original well design system. Apparently, it was not installed as designed. The master control for the pump was not one from the pump company. Questions need to be answered—like why was the original well control panel removed and replaced? Capek pointed out that company that provided the well motors provided the master components, which need to be in place to maintain the warranty. All 5 pumps in the well were removed and replaced 2 weeks ago. Not clear when they were damaged. Cause? Shutting the system to install the filters. Capek said that balancing the wells was necessary. Manning suggested the board ask other municipalities etc. with buildings using similar heating systems how things have worked. Levine wanted to know who pays for these repairs. The status of the drain in the back still needs addressing. To get the insurance

company to pay, the school district is pushing for the drain work to be completed. Minzesheimer urged the Building Committee to look into the work and billing.

Café: Capek said there was no news. Lease/contract still hasn't been signed. Status for new chairs and tables needs to be checked.

New Business: The questions arose regarding how much to charge for use of meeting rooms. A motion was made (Manning, Bush) to charge \$35 per hour. Unanimous.

Old Business: A motion was made (Bush, Manning) to rescind Resolution #6 from the 10/10/07 meeting. Unanimous. A motion was made (Capek, Lannert) to pass New Resolution #6, which authorizes an increase in the amount of \$16,145 for the purpose of paying additional construction costs, with the funds being appropriated to the New Library Services budget line, with the offsetting revenue being an appropriation of the Fund balance.

Unanimous. A motion was made (Bush, Lannert) to rescind the Resolution #7 from the 10/10/07 meeting. Unanimous. A motion was made (Manning, Lannert) to pass a New Resolution #7, which authorizes an increase in the 2007-08 budget in the amount of \$45,116 for the purpose of paying construction costs, as supported by a list of specific expenditures, with the funds being appropriated to the New Library Services budget line and offsetting revenue being an appropriation of the Fund Balance. Unanimous. A motion was made (Capek, Manning) to authorize an increase in the 2007-08 budget in the amount of \$47,453 for the purpose of paying construction costs, as supported by an attached list of specific expenditures, with the funds being appropriated to the New Library Services budget line, with offsetting revenue being an appropriation of the Fund Balance. These costs were part of the change order to modify the geothermal system and replacement of filters. There was a lot of discussion as to whether the library should cover these costs. Vote was in favor of the motion, 5-2, with Bush and Minzesheimer opposing.

Invoices: A motion was made (Lannert, Capek) to pay the following invoices on the recommendation of Lannert, following her review: Beatty Harvey #4099 Revised (\$267.68); Frank & Lindy (\$1,900.00); and Munz Associates #1 (\$1,241.68), #2 (\$855.00); #3 (\$660.00); and #4 (\$23.25). Unanimous. Three invoices for Connecticut Wells #862 (\$11,905.00), #863 (\$14,860.00) and #864 (\$1,000.00) passed 5-2, with Bush and Minzesheimer opposing.

At 8:45 PM a motion was made (Morrison, Manning) to go into Executive Session to discuss a personnel issue. At 8:55 PM a motion was made (Bush, Capek) to exit the Executive Session. Both motions passed unanimously.

A motion was made (Staudter, Bush) to adjourn the meeting at 9:00 PM. Unanimous.

Respectfully submitted,  
Thomas Staudter