

HARVEY PUBLIC LIBRARY DISTRICT
SPECIAL MEETING
JUNE 27, 2019

CALL TO ORDER: 6:32PM

ROLL CALL:

Present: Mauzkie Ervin, Charwana Morgan, JoAnn Nesbitt, Roberta Patterson

Absent: Jerlene Harris, William Whitaker, Tamika Price

TENTATIVE BUDGET & APPROPRIATION ORDINANCE FOR FISCAL YEAR 2019 – 2020

President Roberta Patterson opened with the question of whether the financial advisor would be available. Interim Director Antonia McBride responded that the financial advisor would be available, he would arrive late, as would the attorney. Patterson stated the attorney would arrive late, but she would be available by phone if questions were raised.

Patterson asked if the trustees had questions about the tentative budget and appropriation ordinance. After no response, Patterson asked if James Rachlin was acting as financial advisor for the District. McBride answered that Rachlin has assisted the District for the last few months in regaining order with the finances. Patterson asked whether the appropriation amounts provided were at the suggestion of Rachlin. McBride stated the numbers are similar to what was used in the previous fiscal year.

Patterson questioned whether the appropriated amount would be enough to operate the District; was the 35-percent levy increase voted on in a previous meeting reflected in the current proposed ordinance; and whether 45-percent previously recommended by Rachlin should be considered.

McBride stated the appropriated budget was a ceiling at which the board could spend if the monies were available. The County Levy Report reflected the 35-percent increase and was the ceiling should funds become available.

Patterson said if something happens where the District does get more money, we're bound. For example, Unemployment Insurance, \$5000, if something happens for us to receive more, we are bound to just spend \$5000. Due to additional questions regarding raising the levy, Patterson requested contacting Rachlin by phone, to better understand what is being approved.

Trustee Mauzkie Ervin stated the 35-percent increase was for debt service. With Rachlin on the phone, Patterson asked if indeed the 35-percent levy was for debt service. Rachlin replied, yes, debt service for this year's levy, not next year. While the trustees waited for Rachlin to arrive, they discussed being sure the numbers were fair enough to operate the District. Ervin and Patterson agreed the ordinance seemed fair, but wanted to ensure it was not possible to levy higher in case additional funding became available.

McBride stated that in the previous fiscal year, the District started with a large deficit but would finish with \$200,000 in the bank. While that looks good right now, we want to continue to be prudent realizing we are still working with a deficit, we want to again finish on the back end with money in the bank at the end of the fiscal year, 2020. Patterson agreed, but wanted to ensure we are not bound by the current numbers should additional funding become available. McBride stated we are still looking at 58-percent collection rate. Both Patterson and Ervin stated they hope the collection rate increases as well.

Upon Rachlin's arrival, Patterson wanted to confirm that the current appropriated budget would be high enough in case more monies became available. Rachlin explained that the Tax Levy Report showed the amount of \$1,441,000 is the most the county clerk can extend for taxes. Due to the collection rate, that is

HARVEY PUBLIC LIBRARY DISTRICT
SPECIAL MEETING
JUNE 27, 2019

not the amount the District will see. The most it can go up is 4.9-percent, which is still under \$1.5 million. The current appropriation allows for not leaving anything on the table. The District was already far larger than needed, so keeping the numbers the same is fine for the upcoming fiscal year.

With no further questions from the trustees, Patterson called for a motion to approve the Tentative Budget & Appropriation Ordinance for Fiscal Year 2019 – 2020 for Harvey Public Library District.

Treasurer JoAnn Nesbitt made the motion and was seconded by Secretary Charwana Morgan.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

Ayes: Morgan, Nesbitt, Patterson and Ervin

Nays:

Abstain:

Motion carried.

ANNUAL ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING PUBLIC LIBRARY NON-RESIDENT CARD

Patterson asked if McBride had comment on the ordinance. McBride stated the ordinance is voted on every year. The ordinance reads residents who do not live in Harvey or near a public library, may receive a library card through the District at a cost using the tax-bill method. Also renters are able to receive a card. Someone asked how is the payment calculated. McBride stated renters pay 15-percent of their rent payment, otherwise using the tax-bill method, the amount varied according to the amount of taxes. Business owners with property in Harvey are eligible to apply for an HPLD card using the tax-bill method.

Patterson asked if other trustees had questions regarding the non-resident card. With no further questions, Patterson called for a motion to approve The Annual Ordinance Authorizing Public Library Non-Residents Cards for the Harvey Public Library District.

Morgan made the motion and was seconded by Nesbitt.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

Ayes: Ervin, Morgan, Nesbitt and Patterson

Nays:

Abstain:

Motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Mrs. Ruby Donahue requested additional clarification on taxes for non-resident library cards. Patterson responded that if you're a non-resident, you are not paying taxes to the Harvey Library District. McBride stated if Harvey is a person's only nearest library, they are able to apply for a library card. Non-residents and business owners pay according to their tax bill and renters pay 15-percent of their rent. Donahue asked if non-residents would have to bring verification of their taxes or rent. McBride stated yes.

HARVEY PUBLIC LIBRARY DISTRICT
SPECIAL MEETING
JUNE 27, 2019

Donahue asked whether the appropriation budget would be on display somewhere in the library. Patterson answered for 30 days, the budget would be on display. McBride answered the announcement would be available in one of the local newspapers as well.

Robert Powell, a Harvey resident and employee of High School District 205, stated he is a job coach for Thornton High School students with disabilities. Powell explained that the library and high school have partnered to have students work in the library for the summer. He thanked the board for allowing students to come to the library to gain work experience. Powell stated the students are learning, having fun and earning money and grades while working in library. Patterson thanked Powell, stating she met a couple of the students and they seemed to be excellent workers. Employees at the library said the students really do provide help and they are happy to have them. Patterson thanked Powell for the partnership and mentioned future partnerships with other schools will happen in the future. Trustee Ervin also thanked Powell because it is something Harvey Public Library District has talked about for some years and it has finally come to reality. Ervin extended the invitation to Powell to make other suggestions.

Aline McDowell, coordinator for Harvey Senior Advisory Board, passed out a letter requesting permission from the Board to hold a monthly senior luncheon at the library. Past luncheons were held at the Harvey Community Center, but the Center is now closed. Patterson stated talking with Antonia was the first step. Using the library depends on availability and she was sure working with Antonia they would find a good solution. Patterson thanked McDowell for bringing the information to the board because the library enjoys working with the community.

After no further questions or comments from the public, Patterson made a motion to adjourn the special meeting and was seconded by Nesbitt.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

Ayes: Ervin, Morgan, Nesbitt and Patterson

Nays:

Motion carried.

Special meeting adjourned at 7:04pm.