

**INDIANAPOLIS-MARION COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY
MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL MEETING
AUGUST 7, 2007**

The Indianapolis-Marion County Public Library Board met at the Haughville Branch Library, 2121 West Michigan Street, Indianapolis, IN on Tuesday, August 7, 2007 at 5:30 p.m., pursuant to notice given in accordance with the rules of the Board.

1. Call To Order

President Mahern presided as Chairman. Secretary Rothe was present.

2. Roll Call

Members present: Mr. Jordan, Mr. Lynch, Mr. Mahern, Mr. Meyer and Ms. Rothe.

Members absent: Mr. Pizarro and Ms. Taylor.

The Chairman announced that a quorum was present and that the meeting was duly constituted.

3. Finance Committee

a. Draft of 2008 Budget

Mr. Jordan noted that he wished to thank the Board and staff of the Library who have spent a great deal of time working on the 2008 Budget.

President Mahern will Convene a Public Hearing:

Mr. Mahern announced that this Public Hearing was being held to consider the Library's 2008 Budget.

1) 2008 Library Budget as advertised on July 27, 2007 and August 3, 2007.

At this time, Becky Dixon, Chief Financial Officer, briefly discussed the 2008 Library Budget materials that had been distributed to the Board.

She noted that the Budget being presented does not include a tax increase for 2008. The Marion County residents will not pay any additional money to support our Library services next year. In order for us to accomplish this, we have had to move \$4.7 million of debt into our Operating Fund and we are using our cash reserves to pay that debt. Some of the cost cutting measures the Library has instituted over the last several years have included a hiring freeze which began in 2000, installation of self-check machines in all our branches, and reallocation of staff due to operational changes which resulted in an 8% reduction in personnel costs. In 2008, only 52% of the Budget has been reserved for salaries and fringe benefits. We have also replaced some of our more expensive bookmobiles with small hybrid SUVs resulting in lower fuel and insurance costs. The Library has also implemented a floating collection

which reduces our delivery costs since we are not moving so many materials. Outsourcing has also been looked at where it might be most cost effective.

By implementing these reductions and using approximately \$5 million of our cash reserves, the Library is able to offer Marion County residents a Budget with no tax increase for 2008.

She also pointed out that there had been several sacrifices made to accomplish this result. The Library's goal has always been to reduce costs and make the necessary changes as invisible as possible to our patrons but there is one area that patrons might notice a reduction. There will be fewer funds available for purchase of materials. We are reducing this line item by 12%. Another result of this cut is that the Library will lose material buying power. The Library won't be able to buy as many print materials, CDs and DVDs next year.

Staff members are scheduled to receive a 1% salary increase for 2008. However, administrative personnel salaries will be frozen and they will not receive this increase.

The Library recognized that there would be increased costs to operate the Transformed Central Library in 2008 and allowances were made in the Budget to cover these increased expenses.

Ms. Dixon stated that, as with all governmental entities, there are certain expenses that we have no control over, such as health insurance, fuel, utility costs, etc.

Mr. Meyer stated that he wished to point out that the advertised Budget had indicated a higher amount but the proposed Budget before the Board for approval shows no increase. He also pointed out that the Library would be receiving \$3 million less than anticipated due to the fact that taxpayers are being allowed to pay their 2007 taxes at the 2006 rate.

2) **Invite Public Comment from the Audience**

President Mahern invited public comment at this time.

There were no comments.

President Mahern Will Consider a Motion to Close the Public Hearing

Ms. Rothe made a motion to close the Public Hearing. Mr. Meyer seconded the motion.

Motion carried.

The Public Hearing was closed at this time.

4. **Other Business**

None.

5. **Adjournment**

The Secretary announced that there was no further business to come before the Board.

The Chairman declared the Special Meeting adjourned at 5:45 p.m.

Mary Lou Rothe, Secretary to the Board

CERTIFICATION

I, Mary Lou Rothe, Secretary to the Board, of the Indianapolis-Marion County Public Library, hereby certify that the foregoing minutes are true and correct.

Mary Lou Rothe, Secretary to the Board

