

## **LIBRARIAN REPORT**

**October 8, 2024**

### **Budget – reference only**

Due to the Indiana Legislature passing HEA 1499; which caps the MLGQ at 4% for 2024 and 2025, our MLGQ will be 4%. This cap is being done to help taxpayers with increasing property tax bills. The MLGQ is the percentage we are allowed to increase our budget total and Maximum Levy. Your budget still must be fully funded no matter what the MLGQ is. The meeting with our DLGF rep went well. The Budget Committee, Deb (Chair), Dustin and John were provided the suggested budget for 2025 last month, which was adopted. After the public hearing this month, we will adopt the 2025 budget during our October 8<sup>th</sup> meeting. I have attached the Department of Local Government and Finance budget calendar to the agenda. The dates that mostly pertain to us are:

June 30-Maximum Levy Growth Quotient (MLGQ) is provided-4%

July 15-Receive maximum allowable budget

July 15-Receive our estimate of the miscellaneous revenue

July 18-Department Budget Workshops

July 28-Circuit Breaker estimates

August 1-Receive Net Assessed values

August 13-Board meeting:

-Approve Salary Resolution and Proposed 2025 Budget

August 16-Deadline for release of 2025 LIT estimates

September 10-Board meeting:

Public Hearing on Proposed Budget

October 1-Deadline for second 2025 LIT estimates

**October 8- Board Meeting:**

**Adopt 2025 budget**

### **Policy and By-laws-review only**

The Policy changes have been presented to the Policy Committee and are on the board site under the Policy tab and then Proposed Changes. After the Policy Committee has had a chance to review/change the policy suggestions from staff, the policy updates will be presented to the board to vote on in November.

### **Resolution 24-04 Indiana Internet Consortium Commitment**

Even though we are hoping to not renew the library's membership in the Indiana State Library Consortium for Public Library Internet Access for the July 2025 – June 2026 funding year, we are still going to pass the Resolution to potentially join if for some reason our RFP for internet bids are not what we are looking for. I talked with our State Library rep and she said it is perfectly fine for us to "join" the consortium, see what quotes we receive, and then make our decision on staying with the consortium or leaving. The only hiccup is that the consortium resolution needs to be signed by October 11<sup>th</sup> for the July 2025-June 2026 funding year, so we are going to approve joining and then wait and see what our RFP provides.

### **Resolution 24-05 Appropriation Reduction of Rainy Day and LIRF-Voting Item**

The DLGF assumes that we spend every dollar budgeted, even in our LIRF and Rainy Day funds, and subtracts 2024's budgeted funds from our budgeting potential of funds in 2025. So even though we usually do not spend the total amount of our LIRF and Rainy Day, the total is subtracted from our potential funds to budget. This form declares that we will not spend \$165,730 from our Rainy Day and \$219,950 from LIRF funds in budget year 2024 so the \$165,730 for Rainy Day and \$219,950 for LIRF budgeted in 2024 can be reallocated to spend in our 2025 budget year.

### **Budget/Resolution 24-06-Voting item**

At this meeting the board will adopt the 2025 budgets and the estimated tax rates. Now that everything is submitted online, you will only need to sign Resolution 24-06 for Appropriations and Tax Rates (Form 4) that indicates the total of the library budgets, the total estimated tax levy, and the estimated tax rate. To adopt the budgets, we will use Forms 1 for a detailed summary and Form 4 to approve totals and tax rates. All forms are linked to your agenda.

### **Library Hours - Voting Item**

We host a staff Christmas Breakfast every year, typically on the last Friday before Christmas break, last year we opened 1-hour later on this day to move the breakfast up to 8 am to accommodate those staff members trying to get kids ready or that have a longer drive. The breakfast would then run from 8-9:00/9:30 giving staff that open at both Ossian and Main time to get the building ready. We are asking again for approval to open the building at 10 am on Friday, December 20<sup>th</sup>.

#### **Library Closed:**

5 pm November 27-November 29<sup>th</sup>

December 24-26

5 pm December 31-January 1<sup>st</sup>

#### **Director Updates**

Community Meetings/Activities attended outside the library:

Bluffton NOW! Board Meeting

Chamber Board meeting

Chamber Executive Meeting

Rotary Meetings

Wells County Foundation Board

Wells County Foundation Board Grants Committee

Purdue Extension Health Advisory Board

#### **Meeting Updates inside the library:**

**Department Head meeting** – Fall in-service, ILF Conference, Evaluations, Potential HS Job Shadow

#### **Current Projects/Big Programs/News:**

#### **-Friends of the Library Book sales**

Next Book Sales will be:

October 23-26, 2024 with Friends Only Sale on October 22nd