

**GREAT NECK LIBRARY
MINUTES OF THE
BOARD OF TRUSTEES BUDGET WORKSHOP
MARCH 18, 2014 AT 7:30 P.M.**

The second budget workshop of the Great Neck Library Board of Trustees was held on Tuesday, March 18, 2014, in the Community Room of the Great Neck Library, 159 Bayview Avenue, Great Neck, NY 11040.

The following Trustees were present constituting a quorum:

Marietta DiCamillo – President
Francine Ferrante Krupski – Vice President
Varda Solomon – Secretary
Joel Marcus – Assistant Treasurer
Michael Fuller – Assistant Treasurer
Janet Nina Esagoff [arrived at 8:05 p.m.]

Absent with prior notice: Josie Pizer – Treasurer

Also present: Laura Weir – Interim Director
Christine Johnson – Interim Assistant Director
Neil Zitofsky – Business Manager

Call to Order

President DiCamillo convened the meeting at 7:40 p.m.

Budget Review

Business Manager Zitofsky reviewed the major changes made since the first budget discussion on March 4, 2014. The changes were posted in a new column “X” on the schedule.

Expense Recovery for Retiree Insurance (line 22) – This increase of \$700 represents reimbursements from retirees who are paying their share of health insurance in excess of what the State was collecting from their pension checks.

A line was added for an allocation from the Main Building and Special Services Fund of \$646,300. These monies will be used to cover construction budget lines not covered by the referendum. [see page 2 – Construction Budget]

Salary lines 60-74 were further adjusted. There was a typo on line 67 (Programming) which shows a savings of \$30,000. This number should not have been changed from the first draft. The error will be corrected by restoring the budget line for November 2014 to June 2015 (column “T” to \$61,500, column “U” to \$95,500, and column “X” to \$0.

EMPLOYEE BENEFITS

The provision for unemployment insurance was decreased by \$800,000 to offset the provision of the proposed furlough of 26 weeks of benefits.

LIBRARY MATERIALS

The expenditure for children's and Jr. Levels programs was decreased by \$12,400. The first draft budget already had a reduction in the adult programming expenses.

LIBRARY OPERATIONS

An additional \$5,400 is being added on this line which is for the hiring of a new auditing firm.

BUILDING OPERATIONS

All, except for a \$1,000 for sundry expenses, was removed from the Furniture and Equipment line resulting in a decrease of \$15,500 over the first draft budget.

CONSTRUCTION BUDGET

This new category was requested at the previous workshop to consolidate budget items pertaining to the renovation that are not covered by the referendum bond. This amounted to \$2,038,300. The surplus from all the other lines in the budget leaves a \$646,300 deficit of the \$2,038,300. The \$646,300 on line 39 (transferred from the Main Building and Special Services fund) will cover this difference for the construction costs.

President DiCamillo asked for a breakout of the Debt Service (line 5). Mr. Zitofsky explained that the Tax Revenue is increasing by 1.19% to \$8,500,000. The Debt Service of \$875,000 represents a 10.25% increase over the previous year. The latter amount was a not-to-exceed figure that was a part of the Referendum language that was voted on. He believes that the tax collection process will start before the closing on the bond and most likely the first tax bill will be the full amount of \$875,000 and an adjustment will be made subsequently.

[Trustee Nina Esagoff entered at this point at 8:05 p.m.]

However, President DiCamillo asked Mr. Zitofsky to consult with Financial Advisor Noah Nadelson on the following questions:

- What is the process for the first year and the amount that the referendum commits us to put in the budget?
- What happens to the excess on funds for the first year?
- What rate was used for his calculation?

The floor was then opened up for questions.

Public Comment: Ralene Adler, Karen Rubin

Budget Hearing/Adoption Dates

April 7 at 7:30 p.m. – Budget Hearing, Discussion on NLS Member Support, and RFID.

Wednesday, April 9 – Executive Session starting at 7:15 p.m. to review proposals for Bond Counsel, and followed by 8:00 p.m. meeting. Agenda will include adoption of the budget.

Mr. Zitofsky was thanked for the good job done on preparing the proposed budget. The public was thanked for coming and participating in the process.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 8:25 p.m. on motion by Varda Solomon and seconded by Francine Ferrante Krupski.

Respectfully submitted,

Varda Solomon
Secretary, Board of Trustees