

Peterborough Town Library Trustee
Meeting Minutes
December 3, 2010 – DRAFT

Present: Trustees Randy Brown (RB), Karen Peterson (KP), David Simpson (DS), Library Director Michael Price (MP).

The meeting was called to order at 11:00 a.m. with the intent of reviewing the proposed FY2012 draft budget presented to the Trustees by the Library Director. KP distributed a budget comparison for Trustees to use for discussion purposes.

Several factors have come into play in putting together this year's budget. The Town is asking for as flat a budget as possible, with no merit raises planned except for those positions considered at high risk of losing key employees because of competitive salary situations.

Unfortunately, the cost of benefits (insurance, retirement, etc) will be budgeted at a near 13% increase which is a significant amount of money.

Re: no merit raises, MP will check with Nancie V. as to why budgeted salary numbers reflect such a large increase in dollars, given that the only potential increases are for Library pages. There may be some savings from that line item once the correct numbers are confirmed.

On the decrease side of the budget, last year's Building Repair/Maintenance cost (just over \$18,000) for non-capital-improvement Library repairs is reduced somewhat for the coming year. Of note, we are faced with additional estimated \$6,600 in roof vent repairs, bringing the 2012 total line expense to \$10,600.

Expenses for direct Library services have lost ground in recent years, because of the continuing increase in cost of benefits. Budget lines for these will be raised only slightly to cover the increased cost of materials and services.

Revenues for the Library will be slightly below last year's estimates due to declining hall rentals and estimated lower interest earnings from Library funds held by the Town Trustees of the Trust Funds.

Overall, estimated operating expenses will increase in the 2.2 to 2.5% range, with the net number increasing between 2.5% and 2.9% overall.

DS made a motion to accept the budget as presented so that MP can submit to the Town and the Budget Committee. He also thanked KP for her effort in pulling together the budget comparison study. RB seconded, all voted in favor. One or more Trustees will accompany MP to the Dec 16th review meeting with Pam Brenner, and it is hoped as many of us as possible will attend the Budget Committee meeting in early January. MP will put together a formal presentation for that meeting with charts and graphs. The meeting adjourned at noon.

Upcoming dates:

Budget Review with Pam Brenner: Thursday, December 16th at 9:30 a.m.

Friend of Library Christmas Luncheon: Thursday, December 16th from 12:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

Monthly Trustees Meeting: 3rd Thursday, December 16th at 3:00 p.m. (changed due to Christmas)

Library Program: Ted O'Brien reads "A Christmas Carol" Thursday, December 16th at 6:30 p.m.

Early January TBD Town Budget Committee