

Finance and Properties Committee

Meeting, May 22, 1984

Minutes

Present were Reba Jackson, Shirley Moore, Marshall Susler, and David Marshall, Chair. Also present were Sharon Alpi, ex officio, and Robert Dumas, City Librarian.

The meeting was called to order by Mr. Marshall at 4:30 p.m. in the Board Room. The proposed budget and levy request for fiscal 1985/1986 was the principal item on the agenda. Mr. Marshall remarked that the budget and appropriation for 1985/86 is dependent upon the tax levy ordinance passed in the fall of 1984, and that the Annual Report of the Board must contain moneys that will need to be raised by this levy. The City Librarian had made a rough estimate of budgetary requirements, as well as the amount of money that would be left in the Library fund balance at the end of this year and the amount of money the Library would generate from other sources in 1985/1986. From these calculations it was estimated that \$1,683,000 would have to be raised from the library tax and the library's share in the corporate property replacement tax in order to provide for a budget of \$1,848,400.

Mr. Marshall remarked that the anticipated budget showed an increase of 8.8% but that the tax levy increase was extremely large. He said this was the result of deficit spending in the current year which required further invasion of the fund balance. The proposed figure contemplates a fund balance of \$300,000 at the end of fiscal 1985/86.

After some discussion the proposed levy request was agreed upon as the recommendation to be carried to the Board.

Mr. Dumas distributed copies of specifications for a standalone computer to provide for circulation control and other functions. He noted that the Board was not bound by the acceptance of bids to make a purchase but that he had prepared the specifications and would advertise for bids within the week. The alternate proposal suggested by Rolling Prairie Library that would have eliminated the principal reasons for DPL acquiring its own computer apparently was not possible to work out since the Library has not heard from Mr. Plotzke on the matter. On the two occasions Mr. Dumas attempted to reach him, he was out of town.

Mr. Marshall suggested that a meeting of the Finance Committee with Mr. Plotzke and his assistant Mr. Johnson be set up to discuss whether a position can be negotiated for DPL to contract for the expansion of the data base and for maintaining authority control. Mr. Dumas said he would call Mr. Plotzke about setting up such a meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 5:20 p.m.

