

**Minutes of the
Basalt Regional Library District
Public Hearing to Review the 2016 Budgets
October 17, 2015 @4:00 PM in the Community Room**

Call to Order: Carolyn Kane called the meeting to order at 4:07 p.m.

Board Members Present: Carolyn Kane, President; Ann Stephenson, Vice President; Karen Hillebrand, Treasurer; Heather Manolakas, Secretary; Michael Latousek, Trustee

Also present were Barbara Milnor, Director; Sandy Dexter, Administrative Assistant, Kim Clinco, Bookkeeper and three citizen guests.

Carolyn Kane noted that two budgets, Plan A and Plan B, were prepared for 2017 because of the 2016 Ballot Measure. Which budget is adopted depends on whether or not the ballot measure passes. Carolyn asked that questions be held until Plan A has been completely reviewed and again until Plan B has been completely reviewed to allow for continuity in presentation of the budgets. Carolyn turned the meeting over to Karen Hillebrand, Board Treasurer.

Karen Hillebrand welcomed those in the audience, noting that hard copies of both budgets were available to everyone and gave an introduction prior to presentation of the two budgets. We are hoping the ballot issue passes and we can move forward with Plan A. We are asking the voters to accept a mill levy increase so the Library gets an additional \$350,000 per year from property taxes; the tax will sunset in seven years in 2023. If there is an increase in construction this amount will be spread out over a larger population reducing the amount each homeowner would pay. This is the first mill levy increase that we have asked for since the conception of the Library, the design of the Library and, after two ballot issues, the construction of the Library.

The increase in the mill levy will go to the Operating Fund so that we can sustain and maintain the programs that have been put in place over the past five to six years since the new Library building opened. The Library has become very important for the community and we have raised the expectations of our patrons. Our Library District spans all demographics including senior citizens, young patrons, middle class, upper class, and those working pay check to pay check. This budget process started at the beginning of 2016, and thought and hard work went into developing the two budgets. Carolyn Kane was very diligent in doing the research, digging into past records. Kim Clinco also has been very diligent in following up on numerous items reflected in both budgets. Karen stressed that we are hoping the Ballot Issue passes. In Plan A the \$350,000 we are hoping for is not added in until the end of the budget to eliminate confusion. It is hoped that we won't need Plan B, but again, the Finance Committee worked diligently to come up with a fair and concise budget. To support all of the library patrons and be fair, the Board did not want to cancel specific programs or lay off certain people. It was felt

the most equitable way to move forward if the Ballot Issue does not pass is to close the Library one day per week; 52 days out of the year.


Karen turned the presentation of the budgets over to Kim Clinco, again asking that questions be held until the end of Plan A and the end of Plan B.

Budgets

Both plan A and Plan B budgets were reviewed in detail. The public was able to follow along with the aid of a PowerPoint. A community resident inquired about the opening balance of the 2017 budget. It was noted that the opening balance reflects the 2016 corrected ending balance after the audit adjustments. The existing budget on the website had not yet been updated. Further discussion was held and questions answered regarding both budgets. Both the Plan A and Plan B 2017 proposed budgets are attached to these minutes.

Adjournment: Carolyn Kane adjourned the Public Budget Hearing at 4:57 p.m.

Respectively Submitted,



Heather Manolakas, Secretary

11/21/14
Date