

Thorntown Public Library Board of Trustees
September 8, 2025
Minutes

Public Hearing for 2026 Budget

President Barney Lewis called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm. Also present were Chuck Behrens, Jennifer Bopp, Linda Fahrenbach, Judy Johnson, Director Christine Sterle, Treasurer Barbara Darnell, and board assistant Kathy Bowen.

Chuck motioned to open the Public Hearing with a second from Judy. Vote 4-0

There was no public in attendance. The meeting was adjourned at 6:03, with a motion from Judy, and a second from Chuck. Vote 4-0

Regular Board Meeting – September 8, 2025

Linda moved to approve the agenda with a second by Judy. Vote 4-0

Jennifer moved to approve the August Secretary's report with additional claims presented by Barbara Darnell. Chuck seconded. Vote 5-0

Barbara presented the Monthly Financial Report. Receipts into the operating fund for August, 2025 were \$28,526.91. Operating fund disbursements totaled \$51,917.12. August's ending cash balance was \$1,227,267.70 with investments of \$278,207.45. Total Cash/Investments were \$1,505,525.15.

Chuck moved to approve the Register of Claims with a second by Jennifer. Vote 5-0

With no public present the board proceeded to Reports.

Thorntown Heritage Museum – None.

Unfinished Business:

Meeting Room Improvements – An estimate for \$2,165 was received from Lowhorn Painting for meeting room painting/wall repair. Jennifer moved to approve the estimate with a second from Linda. Vote 5-0

December Board Meeting – Since we moved the Community Christmas event to the second Monday in December, we need to move the Board Meeting. After discussion, Linda moved to approve Monday, December 15, 2025 as the date for the December Board Meeting, with a second from Chuck. Vote 5-0

New Business: None

Director's Report

Christine and Barb met with the library's Department of Local Government Finance field rep in August. Christine shared the budget can be advertised as discussed at the August meeting; however, there will be \$178,302 impact on cash reserve if we spend 100% of

2025 budget and 100% of 2026 budget. Christine share estimates for Tax Levy and LIT in 2026. Christine and staff will look into cost savings as we move into the next budget year.

The contract for controls + maintenance with North Mechanical has been signed. Six staff computers have been replaced, and several others should be, soon. We are waiting to see where we're at after Q3 has concluded to determine a plan for replacing more.

The Evergreen Annual Conference was held virtually. There were many good sessions. The LibraryIQ contract through Evergreen will expire at the end of December (this costs the consortium \$85,000). Library staff are gearing up for Festival weekend – book sale, bingo, carpet cleaning, festival parade.

The Friends of TPL are fundraising with goals to help continue Dolly Parton's Imagination Library and to purchase digital signage (interior) for the library. They are getting quotes from AVC about the signage, as that is something they offer.

There is a dying maple tree at Thorntown Heritage Museum that will need to be removed. We have asked Sugar Creek Tree Care to take care of it over the winter if possible. He does not think it can be saved (and if he thought it could, he'd try).

Jennifer motioned to adjourn the September board meeting with a second by Judy at 6:43 p.m. Vote 5-0.


Linda Fahrenbach, Secretary