

Harvey Public Library District's Board Meeting Minutes  
Thursday, May 3, 2018

**Special Board Meeting**

**CALL TO ORDER**

President Patterson called the meeting to order at 6:04 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Members Present:

Trustee Mauzkie Ervin, Trustee Jerlene Harris, Secretary Tamika Price, Treasurer William Whitaker, Vice-President JoAnn Nesbitt and President Roberta Patterson

Absent: Trustee Barbara Fields

**Motion:** President Patterson-Amend the Agenda to move Executive Session, until after the Financial Discussion Concerning Budget Cuts, before approval of budget cuts and change in library hours.

Motion 2<sup>nd</sup>: Secretary Price

ROLL CALL

**Ayes:** Trustee Mauzkie Ervin, Secretary Tamika Price, Treasurer William Whitaker, Vice-President JoAnn Nesbitt and President Roberta Patterson

**Nays:** Trustee Jerlene Harris

**Abstain:**

**Absent:** Trustee Barbara Fields

**Motion Carried**

FINANCIAL DISCUSSION

President Patterson opened the meeting to the director to explain the budget cuts and differences in how the District will improve. Director Flowers began the discussion stating she took into account the requested directives by Treasurer Whitaker and the board to complete a month-to-month. As of April, she provided a list of unpaid bills. Trustee Harris raised a question about \$19,129.00 for replacement taxes, is that money due from the City of Harvey? **Flowers** responded yes. **Harris** asked was the money received? **Flowers** responded no. **Harris**, this money is estimated throughout August? **Flowers**, this is what they owe us for April, negative \$19,129.85, and May is an estimation. The figures are based on last year. **President Patterson** asks, so anything in red is what is owed? **Flowers**, right, what we owe. **Harris**, the payroll taxes is what we owe another agency for employees is that correct? **Flowers**, yes. **Harris**, does that include a deficit from 2016, the payroll taxes, social security taxes in arrears? **Flowers**, there was no deficit in 2016. **Harris**, 2017? **Flowers**, yes. **Harris**, does it include the audit, social security and Illinois Municipal Retirement Fund? **Flowers**, no, those are fund balances and does not include that. When you say payroll taxes, you're dealing with payroll. **Harris**, I wanted to know is that included. **Flowers**, no, that is something totally different. **Harris**, regarding the bond, is that with, who is that with? **Flowers**, that is the financial advisor and a lot of fees are associated with this, you have, Q & Jones, Financials, & Sycamore. There's a lot going on with the bond and you have to hire these people the life of the bonds.

**Harris**-How many attorneys do we have? That we contract with now?

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**Flowers:** We have Spear, Q & Jones, and they all do something different. Regions Bank is a paying agent. We have four.

**Flowers:** I prepared a month-to-month and I put down what we owed vs going forward and what we can sustain until August. When we get our second payout. Without recommended budget cuts, I can sustain library services and operations for the month of May, 2018. For the month of June, I will not have enough funds for operations. The estimated amount of revenue listed, HPLD can receive it's portion of it's placement taxes can float us along.

There's other thing that can be done to float us along. There's local government Healthcare, they understand our hardship. If we get 6 months behind, they will let us know if they can work with us to get the most important bills paid.

And as far as budget cuts, the top people (Full-Time Employees) I have listed, it will cut the budget down to 538. The alternative that I just gave you will take it down even more.

**Attorney Dalah Jarad:** "I'd like to say this so that it's on the record. I am your legal advisor, not your financial advisor, not your accountant, not your tax attorney. I am your legal advisor. I have a legal operation for the conduct of your meeting."

**Attorney Dalah Jarad** interjected by explaining the cuts more in detail. \$8871.12 is with the above three salaries totaling 6906.00 bi weekly, that's what you will be paying. If we cut the budget, what about the necessary utilities, vendors, what is that going to run every single year? What does it currently run us with the cuts? That are you anticipating to pay? You have a total monthly payout that you know to expect which includes on your big changes in salaries. Utilities, vendors that are required monthly as part of the bill you use for approval once you establish what that is, then you need to know are we going to be able to set aside a reserve to start saving to pay the past due vendors and the past due bills that we accrued but have failed to pay.

**Tamika Price-**A comment about a staff members pay was brought up. One figure that was given was different than another.

**Harris-**Mrs. Flowers, please explain to me on page one where it begins without cuts, month to month inflow out flow, utilities are in red, are you telling me that we are in the rear with utilities.

**Flowers:** Yes. But the amount that we owe for the month is added onto the amount that was accrued.

**Dalah Jarad-**Discussion to make some tough decision on cuts has to be made.

**Motion:** Treasurer William Whitaker- **TO TAKE A FIFTEEN MINTUTE BREAK**

Motion 2<sup>nd</sup>: President Patterson

ROLL CALL

**Ayes:** Trustee Mauzkie Ervin, Trustee Jerlene Harris, Secretary Tamika Price, Treasurer William Whitaker, Vice-President JoAnn Nesbitt and President Roberta Patterson

**Nays:**

**Abstain:**

**Absent:** Trustee Barbara Fields

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**BREAK was taken at 7:20pm. Returned on 7:35pm**

Discussion about a reduction in hours.

**Harris:** I think we have to consider the objective of this library being open for our citizens. These children have parents that work. This library is a refuge for our children and even for our adults. No hours should be cut.

Discussion about the director's pay.

**Motion:** Treasurer William Whitaker - **Table the Financial Discussion of the Budget Cuts**  
Motion 2<sup>nd</sup>: Trustee Harris

ROLL CALL

**Ayes:** Trustee Jerlene Harris, Secretary Tamika Price, Treasurer William Whitaker, Vice-President JoAnn Nesbitt and President Roberta Patterson

**Nays:** Trustee Mauzkie Ervin,

**Abstain:**

**Absent:** Trustee Barbara Fields

Motion Carried

**Motion:** Treasurer William Whitaker - **Table the Approval of Budget Cuts and Change in Library Hours**  
Motion 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice-President Nesbitt

ROLL CALL

**Ayes:** Trustee Jerlene Harris, Secretary Tamika Price, Treasurer William Whitaker, Vice-President JoAnn Nesbitt and President Roberta Patterson

**Nays:** Trustee Mauzkie Ervin,

**Abstain:**

**Absent:** Trustee Barbara Fields

Motion Carried

APPROVAL OF CHANGE IN LIBRARY HOURS

Director Flowers provided an explanation of the documentation that was provided to reflect the impact of changing the Library Hours. The Board requested that Director Flowers provide a revised proposal that reflects more details.

**Motion:** Secretary Price- **Reject the Approval of Budget Cuts as proposed by the Library Director**  
Motion 2<sup>nd</sup>: President Patterson

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ROLL CALL

**Ayes:** Trustee Mauzkie Ervin, Trustee Jerlene Harris, Secretary Tamika Price, Treasurer William Whitaker, Vice-President JoAnn Nesbitt and President Roberta Patterson

**Nays:**

**Abstain:**

**Absent:** Trustee Barbara Fields

**Motion Carried**

Treasurer Whitaker requested a Special Meeting, and Director Flowers said that she would have a new proposal prepared so that a Special Meeting could be held on May 3, 2018 at 6 p.m.

AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION

A member of the audience inquired about our existing programs. The resident suggested that the Library reach out to Sororities and Fraternities for volunteers to assist with youth programs. She also suggested that the Library have a book drive.

Harvey Resident Woodrow Nunn, suggested that the Library reach out to the County and State Department of Revenue for resources.

Harvey Resident Keith Price stated that Levy not being passed on time had a negative snowball effect which unfortunately impacted the Library and encouraged the board to do the best they can at this time.

A patron expressed her concerns about the lack of new books in the Library. The Director explained that new books were recently added. The Adult Services manager explained the location of the new books, the rotation process, and how to identify the new books once they are moved.

**Motion:** President Patterson – **Executive Session for The Appointment, Employment, Compensation, Discipline, Performance, or Dismissal of Specific Employee of the Public Body or Legal Counsel for the Public Body, including hearing testimony on a complaint lodged against legal counsel for the Public Body to determine its Validity.**

Motion 2<sup>nd</sup>: Secretary Price

ROLL CALL

**Ayes:** Secretary Tamika Price, Treasurer William Whitaker, Vice-President JoAnn Nesbitt and President Roberta Patterson

**Nays:** Trustee Mauzkie Ervin, Trustee Jerlene Harris

**Abstain:**

**Absent:** Trustee Barbara Fields

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**Motion Carried**

**Motion:** Vice President Nesbitt-**Close Executive Session**

Motion 2<sup>nd</sup>: President Patterson

ROLL CALL

**Ayes:** Trustee Mauzkie Ervin, Trustee Jerlene Harris, Secretary Tamika Price, Treasurer William Whitaker, Vice-President JoAnn Nesbitt and President Roberta Patterson

**Nays: Abstain:**

**Absent:** Trustee Barbara Fields

**Motion Carried**

**Motion:** President Patterson-**Adjourn the Special Meeting**

Motion 2<sup>nd</sup>: Vice President Nesbitt

ROLL CALL

**Ayes:** Trustee Mauzkie Ervin, Trustee Jerlene Harris, Secretary Tamika Price, Treasurer William Whitaker, Vice-President JoAnn Nesbitt and President Roberta Patterson

**Nays: Abstain:**

**Absent:** Trustee Barbara Fields

**Meeting Adjourned at 8:32 p.m.**