

Mo Hansen

From: Kelli Mountford <kmountford@waterloo.lib.wi.us>
Sent: Wednesday, October 03, 2018 1:04 PM
To: mayor@waterloowi.us; William Springer; Jeni Quimby; Ron Griffin; Angie Stinnett; Tim Thomas; Jeanette Petts; clifford.osborn816@outlook.com; City Hall ; Lee Fiedorowicz ; Ellen (Josie) Sullivan; Art Biermeier; Brian Henning; Deb Battenberg Email: dsbatty@tds.net Phone Home: 920-927-1897 Address Home: N1993 Yerges Rd Reeseville Wisconsin 53594 Battenberg; Kristen Klein; Angie Stinnett
Subject: Waterloo City Library (KJML)

10/3/2018

Mayor Thompson, Mo Hansen, Jeni Quimby, Bill Springer, Ron Griffin, Angie Stinnett, Jeanette Petts, Tim Thomas, and Clifford Osborn:

I would like to discuss with you the City of Waterloo library building and property details and the library's budget before this Thursday's, October 4th finance meeting. I understand that there is a proposed \$25,744 reduction of the library's budget which would be a 9.67% decrease.

Before I talk about budget I would like to address Jeni Quimby's question from her email, "I just need to be very clear on our taxpayer obligation to this entity which sits on city property". The Karl Junginger Memorial Library does sit on city owned property and I need to emphasize that the library is also city owned – you and all taxpayers own this library. Karl Junginger purchased the building and his name is on the building however the building is city owned. The Waterloo library does not have a foundation, there is a Clark Trust. The Junginger foundation is a separate entity that helps to support all of Waterloo. The city is very fortunate that the Junginger foundation commits to giving money to the library on a yearly basis. Jenni Quimby brought up that the Junginger foundation should be doing more for the library. The foundation is doing quite a lot for the city/library for the next 5 years they have committed to giving money with a 3% increase each year. The Junginger foundation also pays for all seasonal maintenance of the landscaping. I do have to state the Junginger Foundation is not required and does not have to give the city/library any money. When Junginger stated that he would pay for the library building it was also stated that the city would need to support the city library.

The Clark trust also needs to be brought to your attention. Hopefully you noticed that in 2019 the Clark trust budgeted monies have decreased by \$8,000 dollars. This decrease has been taking place for the past 3 years. The library has been using carryover funds to cover the stock and bond market decrease to the Clark fund.

Taxpayers are the owners of the library and the library is well used by this community. In fact the library, parks and school is what attracts people to the Waterloo community. As of September 30, 2018 the library has 2,820 registered library users, with 1,924 of those living in the city of Waterloo. Waterloo's population is around 3,340. The Waterloo library has over half of the population signed up for a library card. In 2017, Waterloo had over 43,200 total library visits. On an average that is 138 people coming into the library and using the parking lot on a daily basis Monday through Saturday!

At the end of 2017 the library had 45,228 circulation of materials checked out. This was up more than 1,200 circulations from 2016. In 2017 the Waterloo Library had the most circulation increase of all Jefferson County libraries. We had over 7,300 uses of our FREE internet and Wi-Fi during the year of 2017. In 2017 the library offered 232 children's library programs with an attendance of over 4,460. The library offered 62 programs for teens with over 585 attending. For adults 103 programs were offered with over 1,005 adults attending. The library delivered 1,300 materials to over 20 senior citizens through outreach. In 2017 the community room was reserved and used 375 times by our citizens for school activities, sports organizations, Girl Scout groups, senior exercise classes, English Lang. classes, local business meetings (F&M Bank, Avestar, Briess, Trek), and many private gatherings.

If you were to cut the library's general fund budget by 9.67% and with the 20% decrease of Clark funds that was mentioned above, I would need to cut a PT library position, hours open, and many programs. I feel that City of Waterloo residents would be unhappy about these cuts especially since many believe the city library should be open longer.

It was also brought to my attention that Jeni Quimby had a number of around \$315,000 that the library has in carryover funds. \$74,484.00 of this money is donation funds where most have requirements on how the money should be spent. On the City of Waterloo Carryover Work Paper for the Year ended 12/31/2017, I see a carryover amount for the city of \$61,732.59 and for the County \$106,374.35. During the year of 2018 the library will have spent around \$10,000 of this money on security cameras, computer security needs, and building improvements such as painting. In 2015 the Waterloo library board paid for a brand new roof of \$92,950.00 without asking the city to give any extra capital fund money. They were able to do this because library directors had saved county carryover funds from years previous. I feel as if the library has done an excellent job of saving and we are being penalized for this. In the next five years the inside of the library will need to be repainted, new carpeting, audio-visual shelving units are needed, computers, and LED lighting. If the library spends a \$120,000 on a new parking lot these savings will be depleted and the library will need money for these other expenditures.

The Waterloo library is an important cornerstone of having a healthy community. Our library gives people the opportunity to find jobs, research, teach English to Spanish speaking workers who work here in our community, experience new ideas and projects, get lost in wonderful stories, while at the same time providing a sense of place for gathering. Our Waterloo public library is a unique and valuable resource. It is a lifeline to the world and all the information in it. Yet the library struggles to keep up with the many changes in technology, rising costs in books and other materials, and a growing demand from our customers for more information and time. As community leaders I ask you to please make a commitment to support your library and library service for all.

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