AMENDED

TINLEY PARK PUBLIC LIBRARY
SPECIAL BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING
October 9, 2026 – 5:00 p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT

Chuck Augustyniak, Trustee-Remotely by Phone
Brad Daniels, Treasurer
Joe Molinare, Trustee
Elizabeth Stern, Secretary
Gloria Yakes, Trustee
Laura Hess-Wojcik, President

MEMBERS ABSENT

Leah Herman, Vice-President

LIBRARY STAFF PRESENT

Zach Musil, Director
Jennifer Schulien, Business Office Assistant

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting of the Tinley Park Public Library Board of Trustees was called to order at 5:00 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Roll call was taken.

APPROVAL OF TRUSTEE AUGUSTNYNIAK'S REQUEST FOR REMOTE ATTENDANCE

Trustee Yakes moved to approve Trustee Augustyniak's request for remote attendance telephonically. Secretary Stern seconded. Ayes: Chuck Augustyniak, Brad Daniels, Joe Molinare, Elizabeth Stern, Gloria Yakes, Laura Hess-Wojcik. Nays: None. Motion carried.

INTRODUCTION OF GUEST/AUDIENCE TO VISITORS

No guests were in attendance.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Trustee Augustyniak moved to approve the agenda of the Special Board of Trustees Meeting. Trustee Molinare seconded. Ayes: Chuck Augustyniak, Brad Daniels, Joe Molinare, Elizabeth Stern, Gloria Yakes, Laura Hess-Wojcik. Nays: None. Motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS

Approval of the proposed 2027 Health Insurance Arrangement with the Village of Tinley Park, Appendix A.

Secretary Stern moved to discuss the Proposed 2027 Health Insurance Arrangement with the Village of Tinley Park, Appendix A. Trustee Yakes seconded.

The Board discussed the proposed arrangement prepared by the Village, including concerns that approval of Appendix A would commit the Library to both the Village's proposed 2027 health insurance arrangement and entering into a forthcoming Intergovernmental Agreement by December 2, or risk losing insurance coverage after that date. While the Village was still drafting the Intergovernmental Agreement, Director Musil shared that, based on conversations with Village staff, the agreement was expected to include an annual charge of $13,000 for Village staff time associated with administering Library employee benefits and an additional $2,000 for insurance broker contract administration. Director Musil also shared that Appendix A had not been reviewed by the Library's legal counsel, Klein, Thorpe, and Jenkins, as the firm had cited a conflict of interest due to its representation of the Village of Tinley Park in other matters.

Treasurer Daniels stated that the Board had two options: accepting the Village's proposed arrangement or rejecting the offer with the understanding that the library would likely need to secure coverage independently. Both options will result in increased costs to the library. Treasurer Daniels questioned the amount the Village was seeking to charge the library to stay as part of the insurance pool, citing documents provided by the Village which reflected a cost of insuring the library staff of $917,269, much less than the Village proposed to charge the library. As such, he cautioned against making a hasty decision without a better understanding of how the Village's proposal for what it would charge the library reconciled with the actual apparent cost associated with providing insurance to library staff. He also noted that the Village had not yet passed its resolution on the health insurance resolution. Treasurer Daniels also commented that while the library had always looked to work together with the Village and felt that cooperation brought tremendous value to Tinley Park residents, it didn't seem that the Village valued that cooperation in the same fashion as the library and suggested that the Library Board Trustees note the apparent changing nature of the relationship when making any future decisions. Treasurer Daniels also recognized this matter as being especially time sensitive.

Director Musil shared that if the Board declines the Village's proposed arrangement, the library will likely need to select an alternative health insurance plan at the October 28th meeting. If the Board decided to accept the Village's offer, Library Administration could use the additional time to evaluate other options. Trustee Molinare asked whether the Library could participate in health insurance pools with other libraries. Director Musil shared the Library Administration investigated LIMRiCC as an option, but that group required a minimum of 50 enrolled employees, which the Library doesn't have.

President Hess-Wojcik expressed reservations about approving Appendix A with out sufficient time to fully evaluate the terms and implications of the Village's proposed arrangement, particularly given the absence of a written Intergovernmental Agreement and the lack of legal review. She also stated that Appendix A was not like the September 30th version from the meeting. Director Musil shared a statement will need to be provided declining the arrangement if that is what the Board decides. Trustee Yakes expressed disappointment with the Village's approach, emphasizing that the strength of a village lies in its ability to serve its community. President Hess-Wojcik reiterated her concern that there isn't sufficient time to work out all the details within the Village's timeline.

Director Musil reported that Library Administration had received updated rates the previous day for independent health coverage for January 2027, with estimated gross annual premiums totaling approximately $898,000, or $133,000 more than the project gross annual premiums for coverage through the Village. He further shared that while these rates were higher than the preliminary quotes, the estimated total was below the estimated total under the Village's proposed arrangement in Appendix A.

Director Musil also noted that the alternative plans did not provide identical coverage to the Library's existing plans and that he had contacted as additional insurance broker to obtain another proposal.

Secretary Stern shared that the Village had already included the proposed administration fees in its own budget and shared concern about the short timeframe provided to the Library Board to make its decision.

Treasure Daniels questioned whether a formal vote was necessary. Trustee Molinare suggested tabling the matter and subsequently moved to table consideration of Appendix A. Treasurer Daniels seconded the motion. The motion did not carry.

Trustee Augustyniak expressed his belief that the Board should make a decision at the meeting. He moved to reject the Village's proposed 2027 Health Insurance Arrangement, as presented in Appendix A. Trustee Yakes seconded the motion. President Hess-Wojcik clarified that a vote of "aye" would be a vote to not accept the proposed arrangement. Roll Call Vote: Ayes: Chuck Augustyniak, Elizabeth Stern, Gloria Yakes, Laura Hess-Wojcik. Nays: None. Abstention: Brad Daniels, Joe Molinare. Motion carried.

Approval of Annual Library Accounting Charge Invoice for the Village of Tinley Park in the amount of $60,000.

Trustee Molinare asked whether the Library would request additional supporting documentation if it received a similar invoice from another vendor. President Hess-Wojcik noted that additional information had been provided during past discussions with Village officials, and that the Village considers this invoice past due. Treasurer Daniels expressed support for approving this invoice, noting that it is for services previously rendered.

Trustee Molinare asked what period the invoice covered. Director Musil explained that the invoice was for services provided during the Library's previous fiscal year, FY2026. He further explained that the invoice and the additional supporting documentation would ordinarily be reviewed by the Library's legal counsel before Board approval, but Klein, Thorpe, and Jenkins has declined to assist the Library in negotiations with the Village moving forward citing a conflict of interest.

Trustee Molinare asked whether language could be added to the payment stating that payment will not be made for the current fiscal year until an Intergovernmental Agreement for accounting and financial services is in place. Director Musil explained that the Library's previous arrangements with the Village for accounting services had been based on informal understandings rather than a written agreement, while Village officials had indicated that formal agreements would be necessary moving forward. He reminded the Board that we have been trying to get an IGA since 2022.

Treasurer Daniels moved to Approve the Annual Accounting Charge Invoice for the Village of Tinley Park in the amount of $60,000. Trustee Yakes seconded. Roll Call Vote: Ayes: Chuck Augustyniak, Brad Daniels, Joe Molinare, Elizabeth Stern, Gloria Yakes, Laura Hess-Wojcik. Nays: None. Motion carried.

ADJOURNMENT

Treasurer Daniels motioned to adjourn the meeting at 5:59. Trustee Molinare seconded. Ayes: Chuck Augustyniak, Brad Daniels, Joe Molinare, Elizabeth Stern, Gloria Yakes, Laura Hess-Wojcik. Nays: None. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

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Secretary

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President