

**Marshalltown Public Library
Board of Trustees
February 24, 2015**

PRESENT: Maureen Lyons, Allan Thoreson, Sue Fink, Leah Mattox, Ronnie Manis, Sarah Rosenblum, Sandy Gowdy and Bennet Goldstein (T-R). **Absent:** Tom Colbert and Barbara Burt

President Maureen Lyons called the meeting to order at 4:31pm

JANUARY 27, 2015 MINUTES: The minutes of the January 27, 2015, meeting were approved as written.

OPERATING BILLS: It was moved by Allan Thoreson and seconded by Sue Fink to approve the bills. The motion was unanimously approved.

OLD BUSINESS:

--*The Chromebooks* will soon be ready to circulate for one week.

--*Public Works* representatives have been working on how best to multi-purpose the café. A gate has been suggested to divide the room to make the best use of the space.

NEW BUSINESS:

--*Library Levy:* Sarah presented a sample petition to the City Council on February 23 and explained that a Library Levy is allowed by a State Statute to enhance library services. The first step of the process is to acquire a minimum of 200 signatures on a petition which will then be presented to the City Council. The City Council will approve the petition and it then will be sent to the County Auditor who will place the levy on the November ballot. A 50% +1 vote is necessary for passage. Any eligible Marshalltown voter is able to sign the petition. People will not be able to sign the petition at the library, although several people have come in and asked to sign it. Several people will be circulating the petition in the near future. If passed, the levy money would be available in July of 2016.

--*City Budget:* The state's commercial property tax rollback has resulted in a city budget shortfall. As of July 1, the library is looking at a \$10,000 cut. We will still get capital improvement funds for a new staff copier. All other individual staff copiers will be eliminated, saving costs for repair, toner, paper, etc.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT:

--The first film of the spring film series was shown on Monday, February 23.

--The six-week traveling exhibit on the Dust Bowl will be at the library in November. The Marshalltown Library is the only library in Iowa to host the exhibit.

--In collaboration with Lenihan Intermediate School and St Francis School, the library will host the Battle of the Books on March 9. Over 100 5th and 6th graders will converge on the library.

The meeting was adjourned but it was moved and seconded to re-open.

It was moved by Ronnie Manis and seconded by Allan Thoreson to move forward with the Library Levy process. The motion was unanimously approved.

The next meeting will be March 24, 2015.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:11pm.