

**MINUTES  
ELMHURST PUBLIC LIBRARY  
BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
Tuesday, January 20, 2026  
Kossmann Room  
7:00 PM**

President Cindy Wellwood called the January 20, 2026 Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees to order at 7:00 p.m.

Board members in attendance included: Marsha Baker, Ingrid Becton, Jane Chornij, Taylor Holop, Sue Sadowski, and Bill Shanklin.

Trustees Carol Jacobsen and Bill Ryan were absent.

Also in attendance were Library Director Mary Beth Harper and Assistant Director Marcy Rodriguez.

Visitor Chris Henek arrived at 7:23 pm. She expressed concern that seniors lack a dedicated senior center, noting that while kids and teens have their own spaces, seniors do not.

There was no correspondence.

The first order of business was the approval of the Minutes of the December 16, 2025 Regular Board of Trustees Meeting. Trustee Becton moved:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:

That the Minutes of the December 16, 2025 Regular Board of Trustees Meeting be approved as presented.

Trustee Baker seconded the motion. The motion carried.

The next order of business was the approval of the December 31, 2025 and January 20, 2026 Accounts Payable. Trustee Chornij moved:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:

That the December 31, 2025 and January 20, 2016 Accounts Payable be approved as presented.

Trustee Shanklin seconded the motion. Director Harper answered several questions about the invoices. The motion carried.

Director Harper reviewed the financial reports and stated that a property tax payment of \$45,505 and a replacement tax payment of \$45,253 were received. She also noted that interest income exceeded budgeted amounts. Director Harper then answered several questions from the Board.

Ms. Harper reviewed the expenditure lines and noted that Health Insurance is over budget due to increases across the industry. She noted that she will have the final year-end numbers next month.

In the Director's Report, Ms. Harper stated that the Library remained busy throughout the holidays. The Kids' Library hosted several winter break drop-in programs and craft sessions. She also talked about the new Makery chairs, approved last year, which arrived this week.

President Wellwood stated that she will be attending the State of the City address on Thursday.

The first order of Unfinished Business was the patio renovation. Director Harper stated that the final pieces of patio furniture were delivered on December 30. The project is now complete, with a few minor additions, such as patio toys. Staff are looking forward to early summer for the debut party.

The first order of New Business was the HVAC Replacement, and approval of the engineering proposal. Will Cotton, Head of Facilities, and Jeff Chamberlain from 20/10 Engineering Group discussed the HVAC project. Trustee Sadowski moved:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED

That the engineering proposal for the HVAC replacement is approved as presented for a cost not to exceed \$52,000.

Trustee Becton seconded the motion. The motion carried.

The next order of New Business was the approval of the 2026 Salary Scale. Director Harper stated that the Board reviews the salary schedule every year and makes adjustments to maintain competitive salaries. The company that performed the salary scale analysis last year recommends a 2.2% increase to the salary scale for 2026. Trustee Sadowski moved:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED

That the 2026 Salary Schedule will be adjusted by 2.2% to stay current with market movements.

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Trustee Becton seconded the motion. The motion carried.

There being no Other Business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:03 p.m.