

Annual Meeting
Board of Trustees
May 11, 1949

The Annual Meeting of the Board was called to order at 4:05 o'clock.

Members present: Mr. Knuth presiding, Mrs. Evans, Mrs. Garman, Mrs. Loewen, Messrs. Blackford, Hull, Owen and Stafford.

The motion was made by Mr. Hull, seconded by Mr. Blackford and unanimously passed that the reading of the Minutes of the previous meetings be dispensed with.

The Annual Report of the Librarian had been read by the members previous to the meeting, and it was unanimously agreed that the Librarian might give it to the newspaper after the official copy was sent to the Council.

Mr. Hull reported that the National Bank lawyer had rendered the decision that it was impossible for the Library to contract a mortgage without a referendum. Mr. Hull had telephoned his associate Mr. Redmon at the State House in Springfield and had asked him to try to find the legislator who had written the passage in the library law which is causing the trouble and ask him his interpretation of the legality of contracting a mortgage without a referendum. It is possible that if his interpretation were positive the banks could be persuaded to change their decision.

The motion was made by Mrs. Garman and seconded by Mr. Hull that the number of years set for repayment of bonds, mortgage or whatever financial arrangement is made be for five years.

The Librarian was instructed to prepare a record of the Board's proceedings from the Minutes for transmission to the City Council.

Among other possibilities for securing money Mr. Hull mentioned the referendum and a tax anticipation levy. It was agreed that the referendum had little chance of passing.

The motion was made by Mr. Owen and seconded by Mrs. Garman that \$75,000. be added to the budget to take care of the renovations. All voted "ay".

The motion was made by Mrs. Loewen and seconded by Mr. Blackford that the sum of \$15,000. plus \$3,750. interest for a first year's payment on a projected loan be included in the budget. This motion was tabled until the next meeting.

It was unanimously agreed that Mr. Hull and Mr. Owen meet the following day with Mayor Hedrick and Mr. Merris and that the former discuss the three items regarding the impasse confronting the Board, first, Deputy Chief Ping's report declaring the building a fire hazard and recommending immediate rewiring and a new roof; second, the National Bank's decision that a mortgage would be impossible without a referendum; third, the need for advice from the City Government regarding other means of securing necessary funds.

May 11, 1949

- 2 -

It was unanimously agreed that a special meeting should be held Friday May 13th at 3:30 p.m. to consider the matter further.

The motion was made by Mr. Stafford, seconded by Mr. Owen and unanimously passed that the proper percentage of the entire budget be inserted to pay collection fees.

The meeting adjourned at 5:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Muriel E. Perry

Muriel E. Perry
Secretary

Special Meeting
Board of Trustees
May 13, 1949

A special meeting of the Board was called to order at 3:40 p.m.

Members present: Mr. Knuth presiding, Mrs. Evans, Mrs. Loewen, Messrs. Blackford, Hull, Owen and Stafford.

The motion was made by Mrs. Evans, seconded by Mr. Owen and unanimously passed that the April bills totaling \$7,333.17 with that of Charles Harris for \$2,400.00 be approved.

Mr. Owen reported that Mr. Hull and he had met with Mayor Hedrick and Mr. Merris that morning to discuss financing of the renovations to the main building as proposed by the Harris survey. The Trustees had told the City Officials that the local banks would not negotiate a mortgage on the building without a referendum and that the only thing they could see to do was to include the necessary \$75,000.00 in the budget about to be submitted to the City Council. Mr. Hull pointed out to them that financing the project in this manner would be saving money in the long run.

The Mayor and Mr. Merris approved the idea, but said they could not guarantee the results although the Mayor said that he himself would explain the situation to the Council. However, he would want the Trustees present at the Council hearings and will call them when these occur. He also explained that he wanted a letter specifically outlining the situation and containing the statement that the request would be non-recurring.

Mr. Knuth appointed the same Committee (Mrs. Garman, Mr. Hull and Mr. Owen) to continue the Board's contact with City Hall and to keep in touch with the Librarian concerning developments.

It was agreed that the Resolutions which must by law accompany the request for funds to make the renovations were to be drawn up by Mr. Hull and the Librarian and sent with the budget.

The motion was made by Mr. Owen, seconded by Mr. Stafford and unanimously passed that the Annual Report be approved as submitted.

The motion was made by Mr. Owen and seconded by Mr. Stafford that the budget containing the \$75,000.00 and with a percentage of 6% on the total for collection fees be adopted.

Roll call: all voted "aye".

The Trustees agreed that the Annual Report might be made available to the newspapers but that the budget was to go directly to the Mayor and any publicity concerning it was to be given out from City Hall.

May 13, 1949

- 2 -

The Librarian reported that Mr. Gretch the City Electrician and a representative from the I.P.C. had requested permission to move a pole bearing electric light and telephone wires from its present position in the alley back of the Telephone Company to the west lawn of the Library. The I.P.C. man thought the request came from the owner of the parking space east of the Telephone Company and was made because the pole interfered with the parking space of one car. The Librarian told Mr. Gretch that the pole was not to be moved onto library property until the Trustees' permission had been secured. The fact that one automobile was difficult to park seemed insufficient grounds for disfiguring our property.

It was also reported that trouble had occurred in several main light switches, and the Librarian was instructed to have any situation which might be dangerous taken ^{care of} but to avoid any expense possible until we could see if the renovations could be started.

She was also instructed to investigate the possibility of having a gas unit installed in the Evans Branch heater.

The Librarian was asked to withdraw while the salary schedule was discussed. Mr. Knuth reported to her that her salary for 1949-1950 would be \$3900.00 which would be increased in 1950-1951 to \$4,050.00.

The meeting adjourned at 5:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Muriel E. Perry
Muriel E. Perry
Secretary

Since it was impossible to secure a quorum
there was no regular Board meeting May 27, 1949