

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE PEKIN CITY COUNCIL
AND PEKIN LIBRARY BOARD
MONDAY, OCTOBER 30, 2000
4:00 P.M.
PEKIN PUBLIC LIBRARY**

PRESENT: Paula Weiss, Barbara Little, Dale Sandrock, Jim Jones, Dick Hierstein, David Kasley, Robert Grover, Laurie Barra, Richard Wherry, James Ash, Sue McMillan, Marie Carson, Pam Hoffman, Dawn Breaden

BUSINESS:

The meeting was called for the purpose of sharing the Library Board and Council's thoughts in some venue other than a finance budget meeting. Director Paula Weiss presented a written overview of Library operations. A discussion followed regarding the role of the Library in the downtown, its establishment, levying authority, building needs, funding and the process of preparing the budget.

City Manager Hierstein discussed the Library's establishment under State Statute and disagreed in the interpretation that taxes levied by the corporate authorities can be in the amounts determined by the Board. He also felt if the Board followed the quoted levying authority section of the statute, they would be restrained to significantly less than the City's 3% increase limitation.

It was decided that the Board would research provisions contained in the statutes to clarify its authority under Home Rule powers.

Trustee Jim Ash presented the request for 5% increase to the budget, estimated at \$18,000.00. Further discussion followed on the future needs for roof, HVAC, rising heating costs and long range planning for purchase and operation of the Dirksen Center facility. An estimated \$35,000.00 income would be lost when the Dirksen Center leaves the building. Mr. Hierstein presented figures from the financial statements that indicated a surplus of approximately \$80,000.00 each year over four year history and disagreed that funds were needed in this budget to acquire or operate the Dirksen Center. The sources of income and uses of endowment money were discussed.

It was agreed Director Weiss would provide the breakdown of the endowments funds for comparison of years 1996 and 2000. The information would be provided to the Board trustees and City Council members.

No action was taken by Council.

Meeting adjourned at 5:25 p.m.

Sue E. McMillan
City Clerk