

CHAPTER 20

LIBRARY

ARTICLE I – LIBRARY BOARD

20-1-1 **ESTABLISHED.** There is hereby established a Public Library for the use and benefit of the inhabitants of the City. **(75 ILCS 5/1-2)**

20-1-2 **APPOINTMENT - COMPENSATION.** The Mayor shall, with the approval of the City Council, proceed to appoint a board of **nine (9) trustees** for the Public Library, chosen from the citizens at large with reference to their fitness for such office. **Not more than one (1) member of the City Council shall be (at any one time) a member of the Library Board. (75 ILCS 5/4-1)**

Trustees of the Library Board shall serve without compensation, but shall be reimbursed for their actual and necessary expenses incurred in the performance of their duties from library funds. **(75 ILCS 5/4-5)**

20-1-3 **TERM.** The Mayor shall, before the **July 1st of each year**, appoint **three (3) trustees** to take the place of the retiring trustees who shall hold office for **three (3) years** and until their successors are appointed. By and with the advice and consent of the City Council, the Mayor may remove any trustee as provided in **Section 1-2-47 of this Code. (75 ILCS 5/4-1.1)**

20-1-4 **VACANCIES.** Vacancies shall be declared in the office of a trustee by the board when the trustee declines or is unable to serve, or is absent without cause from all regular board meetings for a period of **one (1) year**, or is convicted of a misdemeanor for failing, neglecting, or refusing to discharge any duty imposed upon a trustee or becomes a nonresident of the City, or who fails to pay the library taxes levied by the corporate authorities. **(75 ILCS 5/4-4)**

20-1-5 **OATH OF OFFICE; ORGANIZATION; MEETINGS.**
(A) Within **sixty (60) days** after their appointment, the new trustees shall take their oath of office and meet to organize the board. The oath shall consist of the following:

"I, _____ do solemnly swear that I will support the Constitution of the United States, and the Constitution of the State of Illinois, and that I will faithfully discharge the duties of the office of trustee according to the best of my ability."

(B) The first action taken at the organizational meeting of the board shall be the election of a president and a secretary and such other officers as the board may deem necessary, and the board shall further provide in the bylaws of the board as to the length of the terms in office. The trustees shall determine the time and place of all official meetings of the board at which any legal action may be taken and shall post notice thereof at the public library maintained by the board and at not less than one public place within the corporate confines of the area of library service one day in advance thereof. **(75 ILCS 5/4-6)**

20-1-6 **CUSTODIAN OF FUNDS.** The City Treasurer shall be the custodian of all funds of the Library Board of Trustees. The cost of any bond necessary to satisfy the requirements of **Chapter 75, Section 5/4-9 of the Illinois Compiled Statutes** shall be borne by the library.

20-1-7 POWERS AND DUTIES. The Board of Library Trustees shall carry out the spirit and intent of this Chapter in establishing, supporting and maintaining a public library or libraries for providing library service and, in addition to, but without limiting other powers conferred by this Chapter shall have the following powers:

(A) To make and adopt such bylaws, rules and regulations for their own guidance and for the government of the library as may be expedient, not inconsistent with this Chapter.

(B) To have the exclusive control of the expenditure of all moneys collected for the library and deposited to the credit of the library fund;

(C) To have the exclusive control of the construction of any library building and of the supervision, care and custody of the grounds, rooms or buildings constructed, leased or set apart for that purpose;

(D) To purchase or lease real or personal property, and to construct an appropriate building or buildings for the use of a library established hereunder, using, at the board's option, contracts providing for all or part of the consideration to be paid through installments at stated intervals during a certain period not to exceed **twenty (20) years** with interest on the unpaid balance at any lawful rate for municipal corporations in this State, except that contracts for installment purchases of real estate shall provide for not more than **seventy-five percent (75%)** of the total consideration to be repaid by installments, and to refund at any time any installment contract entered into pursuant to this paragraph by means of a refunding loan agreement, which may provide for installment payments of principal and interest to be made at stated intervals during a certain period not to exceed **twenty (20) years** from the date of such refunding loan agreement, with interest on the unpaid principal balance at any lawful rate for municipal corporations in this State, except that no installment contract or refunding loan agreement for the same property or construction project may exceed an aggregate of **twenty (20) years;**

(E) To remodel or reconstruct a building erected or purchased by the board, when such building is not adapted to its purposes or needs;

(F) To sell or otherwise dispose of any real or personal property that it deems no longer necessary or useful for library purposes, and to lease to others any real property not immediately useful, but for which plans for ultimate use have been or will be adopted, however, the corporate authorities shall have the first right to purchase or lease;

(G) To appoint and to fix the compensation of a qualified librarian, who shall have the authority to hire such other employees as may be necessary, to fix their compensation, and to remove such appointees, subject to the approval of the library board, (but these powers are subject to **Division 1 of Article 10 of the Illinois Municipal Code** in municipalities in which that Division is in force). The board may also retain counsel and professional consultants as needed; **(65 ILCS 5/10-1-1)**

(H) To contract with any public or private corporation or entity for the purpose of providing or receiving library service or of performing any and all other acts necessary and proper to carry out the responsibilities and the provisions of this Chapter. This contractual power includes, but is not limited to participating in interstate library compacts and library systems, and contracting to supply library services and for the expenditure of any Federal or State funds made available to the municipality or to the State of Illinois for library purposes;

(I) To join with the board or boards of any one or more libraries in this State in maintaining libraries, or for the maintenance of a common library or common library services for participants, upon such terms as may be agreed upon by and between the boards;

(J) To enter into contracts and to take title to any property acquired by it for library purposes by the name and style of "**The Library Board of Trustees of the City**" and by that name to sue and be sued.

(K) To exclude from the use of the library any person who willfully violates the rules prescribed by the board;

(L) To extend the privileges and use of the library; including the borrowing of materials on an individual basis by persons residing outside of the City. If the board exercises this power, the privilege of library use shall be upon such terms and conditions as the board shall, from time to time, by its regulations, prescribe and for such privileges and use, the board shall charge a nonresident

fee at least equal to the cost paid by residents of the City, with the cost to be determined according to the

formula established by the **Illinois State Library**. The nonresident fee shall not apply to privilege and use provided under the terms of the library's membership in a library system operating under the provisions of the **Illinois Library System Act** or under the terms of any reciprocal agreement with a public or private corporation or entity providing a library service or to a nonresident who is an individual or as a partner, principal stockholder, or other joint owner owns taxable property or is a senior administrative officer of a firm, business, or other corporation owning taxable property within the municipality upon the presentation of the most recent tax bill upon that taxable property, provided that the privilege and use of the library is extended to only one such nonresident for each parcel of such taxable property.

(M) To exercise the power of eminent domain subject to the prior approval of the corporate authorities under the provisions of **Illinois Compiled Statutes, Chapter 75, Sec. 5/5-1 and 5/5-2**.

(N) To join the public library as a member in the **Illinois Library Association and the American Library Association**, non-profit, non-political, **(501-C-3)** associations, as designated by the federal Internal Revenue Service, having the purpose of library development and librarianship; to provide for the payment of annual membership dues, fees and assessments and act by, through, and in the name of such instrumentality by providing and disseminating information and research services, employing personnel and doing any and all other acts for the purpose of improving library development;

(O) To accumulate and set apart as reserve funds, portions of the unexpended balances of the proceeds received annually from taxes or other sources for the purpose of providing self-insurance against liabilities relating to the public library;

(P) To invest funds pursuant to the **Illinois Compiled Statutes, Chapter 30, Section 235/1, et seq. (75 ILCS 5/4-7)**

20-1-8 ADDITIONAL POWERS AND DUTIES. In addition to all other powers and authority now possessed by it, the Board of Library Trustees shall have the following powers:

(A) To lease from any public building commission created pursuant to the provisions of the **Public Building Commission Act**, as now or hereafter amended, any real or personal property for library purposes for a period of time not exceeding **twenty (20) years; (50 ILCS 20/1 et seq.)**

(B) To pay for the use of this leased property in accordance with the terms of the lease and with the provisions of the **Public Building Commission Act**, as now or hereafter amended;

(C) Such lease may be entered into without making a previous appropriation for the expense thereby incurred. However, if the board undertakes to pay all or any part of the costs of operating and maintaining the property of a public building commission as authorized in subparagraph (D) of this section, such expenses of operation and maintenance shall be included in the annual budget of such board annually during the term of such undertaking;

(D) In addition, the board may undertake, either in the lease with a public building commission or by separate agreement or contract with a public building commission, to pay all or any part of the costs of maintaining and operating the property of a public building commission for any period of time not exceeding **forty (40) years. (75 ILCS 5/4-7.1)**

20-1-9 SELECTION AND USE OF LIBRARY MATERIALS. The Board of Library Trustees shall establish, and review at least biennially, a written policy for the selection of library materials and the use of library materials and facilities. No employee may be disciplined or dismissed for the selection of library materials when the selection is made in good faith and in accordance with the written policy required to be established pursuant to this section. **(75 ILCS 5/4-7.2)**

20-1-10 FREE TO PUBLIC. The library established shall be free for the use of the inhabitants of the City, always subject to such rules and regulations as the Library Board of Trustees may

adopt, in order to render the use of the library and reading room to the greatest benefit to the greatest number. **(75 ILCS 5/4-7)**

20-1-11 ANNUAL REPORT. Within **thirty (30) days** after the expiration of each fiscal year of the municipality, the Library Board of Trustees shall make a report of the condition of their trust on the last day of the fiscal year to the City Council. This report shall be made in writing and shall be verified under oath by the secretary or some other responsible officer of the Library Board of Trustees. The report shall contain the following:

- (A) An itemized statement of the various sums of money received from the Library Fund and from other sources;
 - (B) An itemized statement of the objects and purposes for which those sums of money have been expended;
 - (C) A statement of the number of books and periodicals available for use and the number and character thereof circulated;
 - (D) A statement of the real and personal property acquired by legacy, purchase, gift or otherwise;
 - (E) A statement of the character of any extensions of library service which have been undertaken;
 - (F) A statement of the financial requirements of the library for the ensuing fiscal year for inclusion in the appropriation of the corporate authority and of the amount of money which, in the judgment of the Library Board of Trustees, it will be necessary to levy for library purposes in the next annual tax levy ordinance;
 - (G) A statement as to the amount of accumulations and the reasons therefor;
 - (H) A statement as to any outstanding liabilities including those for bonds still outstanding or amounts due for judgments, settlements, liability insurance, or for amounts due under a certificate of the board;
 - (I) Any other statistics, information and suggestions that may be of interest.
- A report shall also be filed at the same time with the **Illinois State Library. (75 ILCS 5/4-10)**

20-1-12 DONATIONS. Any person desiring to make donations of money, personal property or real estate for the benefit of such library shall have the right to vest the title of the money or real estate so donated in the Library Board of Trustees to be held and controlled by the board when accepted, according to the terms of the deed, gift, devise or bequest of such property, and as to such property, the Board of Trustees shall be held and considered as special trustees. **(75 ILCS 5/1-6)**

20-1-13 DISTURBANCE PROHIBITED - PENALTY. Any person who shall create any disturbance while in the rooms of the Public Library, or who shall be guilty of any conduct calculated to annoy or disturb others in said library and who shall not cease said conduct when requested to do so by the Librarian or other person in charge, shall be subject to arrest under the provisions of this Chapter.

20-1-14 INJURY TO OR FAILURE TO RETURN BOOKS - PENALTY. No person shall maliciously cut, injure, deface, tear, or destroy any book, newspaper, periodical, or picture belonging to the Public Library. No person shall fail to return any book or books taken from the Library at the time when, by the rules of the Library, the same should be returned. The person shall promptly pay the fine provided for by the rules and regulations governing the Library, as the same have been or may be established by the Library Board of Trustees.

20-1-15 REFERENCE. The City Council does hereby include by reference, all provisions of **Chapter 75; Paragraph 5/4, et seq. of the Illinois Compiled Statutes** applicable to the City Library that are not provided heretofore.