

Staff Responses to Council Questions 12/3/2024

ACTIVE AGENDA H - Resolution: Initiate the Submission of a Public Question to Solicit Resident Input Regarding the Downers Grove Public Library

1. Do the following libraries have elected or appointed boards? Which of them are component units of a municipality?

Library	Selection Process	Component Unit (Y/N)
Westmont	Elected	Yes
Woodridge	Elected	Yes
Lisle	Elected	No (District)
Helen Plum (Lombard)	Elected	No (District)
Clarendon Hills	Elected	Yes
Hinsdale	Elected	Yes
Indian Prairie (Darien)	Elected	No (District)

2. Please explain the Aurora Library

In 2019, legislation was passed that authorized the City of Aurora to place a binding referendum on the ballot whereby city electors could vote to have an elected board of trustees for their public library instead of a board of trustees appointed by the corporate authorities of the City, but still remain a component unit. However, shortly after the passage of the legislation, the Aurora Public Library and the City of Aurora both passed resolutions that would authorize the conversion of the Aurora Public Library to a Public Library District. The Aurora Public Library then petitioned the Circuit Court of Kane County for a court order authorizing the conversion, and the Aurora Public Library became a separate, public library district in June of 2020.

3. How would the tax levy (specifically property tax caps, PTEL) for the DGPL be affected if it were converted to a district?

If the DGPL were converted to a library district it would have a maximum tax rate not to exceed the greater of 0.15% of the value of all the taxable property in the Village or the last rate levied by the Village for library purposes for the most recent year before the conversion and that initial rate would not be subject to any rate limitations or referendum

requirements imposed by State law. That rate may thereafter be increased in accordance with State law.

4. If the DGPL is converted to a district, how would this affect the costs for both the DGPL and the VoDG?

The cost impacts cannot be determined at this time as there are no specific proposed operational changes. It should be noted that if there is a change in the way DGPL Trustees are selected or a change in the form of government of the DGPL, the VoDG could continue to provide services to the DGPL in a manner similar to how the services are currently provided.

5. Was there a referendum question about the form of the DGPL in the 1990s?

A petition requesting the submission of a proposition for the conversion of the Downers Grove Public Library to a Public Library District was filed on August 13, 1993. There were several objections filed to that petition, and on August 31, 1993 the Downers Grove Municipal Officers Electoral Board sustained the objections. Ultimately, the question did not appear on the ballot.

6. This is a list of the services that you provided that the Village currently provides the library. Does the Village provide these services to the Park District?

The Village is currently providing the following services for the DGPL:

- *Financial reporting and auditing*
- *Employee payroll processing*
- *Accounts Payable - Process all DGPL vendor checks, EFT's and wire transfers*
- *Bank account management and reconciliation*
- *Cash management and cash flow (Library cash is part of the Village's pooled cash investments)*
- *Bond issuances*
- *Employee health benefits administration (DGPL employees are on the Village's health benefit plan)*
- *Property tax levy administration*
- *Participation in the Village's IMRF pension plan*
- *Provide access to the Village's ERP system*

The Village currently provides employee health benefits administration for the Downers Grove Park District (DGPD employees are on the Village's health benefit plan).

7. Is there anything that precludes the library board and the Village Council from meeting in an ad hoc fashion, or on a regular basis (i.e. annually, bi-annually), to discuss objectives or any matter that is important to either/both boards?

No.