

RECEIVED

By City Clerk at 4:05 pm, Mar 24, 2026

Amesbury Public Library Board of Trustees Meeting

Location: Virtual

Wednesday, March 4, 2026

In attendance Mak Marsteller, Mary Chatigny, Jessica Ducrow, Alex Matthews, Brenda Rich, Alyson Osgood, Jane Siebecker, Ann Langlois

APL Staff Present: Aimie Westphal- APL Director

Call to order: 6:40 pm by Mak

1. Massachusetts Preservation Project Grant update

Because the library building is listed on the National Register, we are eligible to apply for a matching grant up to \$100,000. The plan is to use the proceeds from the sale of the School Street properties as our matching dollars. Currently we do not have the funds in hand and this very complex grant is due in two weeks. Aimie is not comfortable putting up money from other funds in anticipation of the School Street proceeds. Aimie requested the Board approve waiting until next year to apply. Waiting will also save us \$5000-8000 in Architectural fees as the info needed for the grant is scheduled to be completed next year as part of the long term building project. The board approved submitting the grant next year.

2. FY27 Budget discussion and vote

The Mayor directed all department heads to submit a level funded budget only. After much discussion, including the fact that we were out of compliance in FY25 (we were in 90% safety net), we were just lucky. The state did not notice/address this therefore saving us a cut of about \$5500 in State Aid and the other consequences being out of compliance. We need the 18 hour position to meet required staffing levels. We need the part time administrative assistant if Aimie is to pursue the MPPF grant and to guide the building project along. The Board agreed to leave our request as is.

3. Matters not reasonably anticipated in advance of the meeting

March 10th will be a joint vote of the City Council and the Board of Trustees to appoint a new Trustee (Marcia)

4. Public Comment-

None

Motion to adjourn made by Jessica and seconded by Brenda. Meeting adjourned at 7:37 pm