

PLAISTOW PUBLIC LIBRARY
BOARD OF TRUSTEES SPECIAL MEETING

July 1, 2024

The Plaistow Library Board of Trustees held a special session at the Plaistow Public Library on Monday, July 1, 2024, at 9:00 am.

Present: Megan Lee, Chair
Rosemarie Bayek, Treasurer
Jennifer Kiarsis, Secretary
Randy Mikkelsen, Trustee at Large
Kathy Slade, Alternate (Voting for Michelle Sykes)

Not Present: Michelle Sykes, Trustee at Large
Mary Gori, Alternate

Others Present: Cab Vinton, Library Director

A special meeting was called to make a decision regarding the hire of Rich Gaudette as a Library employee, as its Custodian. Rich was an employee of the Town and he was assigned to do the custodial work for the Library and the Library reimbursed the Town for his services. He has done this job for more than 10 years. Personnel issues occurred at the Building Maintenance Department, and the Town asked if the Library would be willing to take Rich on as an employee effective July 1, 2024.

An email document was received from Lori Sadewicz stating the above, including some information regarding back up from the Town when Rich was absent, points of contact, and snow removal during storms in the winter. The Board discussed the document. Jennifer Kiarsis suggested that the paragraph regarding points of contact should be changed to be more specific, stating that the Director of the Library should contact the Town Manager in the event back up custodial services is needed, as well as extra snow removal work to keep the sidewalks at the Library safe.

There was further discussion that a letter will be sent to the Town Manager requesting clarification, and to verify all conditions in writing so that the Board and the Town understand these new arrangements. In addition, the Board will request specifics regarding the rates that will be charged to the Library and whether the substitutes will be Town employee(s), which might involve overtime, or Town custodial contractor(s). Said letter will be drafted by Cab and sent out to Megan and Jennifer for approval and delivery.

Discussion continued in regard to the Board having to determine the number of hours and rate that our future budget will allow. There was a discrepancy regarding the number of hours adjusted by the Library in the last budget, and the number of hours paid by the Town. Hiring Rich as an employee is an added expense to the Library.

Since the effective start date of employment with the Library is the day of this meeting, it was agreed that we would hire Rich, but we would need more clarification from the Town regarding the outstanding issues above.

Motion was made by Jennifer Kiarsis (seconded by Rosemarie Bayek) to hire Rich Gaudette as Custodian at his current rate of pay, for 27.5 hours, with earned time based on 10 years. Motion approved: Ayes 5 (Slade for Sykes); Opposed 0, Abstentions 0.

Meeting adjourned at 9:56 am.

Respectfully submitted,

Jennifer Kiarsis, Secretary