



ISHPEMING CARNEGIE
PUBLIC LIBRARY

Enriching our community through access to information and opportunities in a welcoming and inspiring environment.

Inspire. Include. Innovate. Ishpeming

Library Board Meeting

Thursday, January 15, 2026

7:00pm-8:00pm (ET)

Margaret Dundon Reading Room

AGENDA

1. Call to Order
 2. Roll Call
 3. Approval of Minutes from November 20, 2025 meeting*
 4. Public Participation *(limited to 5 minutes)*
 5. Librarian's Report
 - a. Circulation
 - b. Calendar of events
 - c. Budget Report
 - d. Book Bills
 - e. Friends of the Library
 - f. Sustainable Shelves
 - g. Beanstack
 6. Committee Reports
 - a. Sustainability Committee
 - i. Draft township contracts
 - ii. Draft letter to township supervisors
 - iii. Township ROI & statistics
 - iv. Approve submission to city management for feedback*
 7. Communications
 8. Unfinished Business
 9. New Business
 - a. Accept 2024 State Aid Report*
 10. Public Participation *(limited to 5 minutes)*
 11. Date of next meeting: Thursday, February 19, 2026 at 7:00 pm in the Margaret Dundon Reading Room
 12. Adjournment*
- *Requires a vote

Ishpeming Carnegie Public Library

Board Minutes November 20, 2025

Present: Elyse Bertucci, Darren Boldt and Brooke Routhier. Jesse Shirtz, Library Director was present. Absent, Paul Olson, Kaylee Reno; Public: none.

Meeting called to order at 7:08 PM.

Motion by Brooke Routhier supported by Elyse Bertucci to approve the October 16, 2025 meeting minutes as presented. Motion passed.

Public Participation: none.

Librarian's Report:

Jesse Shirtz, Library Director, presented information, monthly progress report, statistical report and library report for October. October participation was over September and the past three Octobers continuing the year over year increase trend. The draft calendar of events for December was presented. Unique Management continues to provide significant value and returns many items to the library. Youth and adult outreach programs and other efforts continued and are increasing library resource access. Staff attended the Community Open House at the Senior Center. The Silent Book Club continues to meet monthly at Velodrome. The library is receiving a \$10,000 gift from the Carnegie Corporation.

- Circulation: Attendance in October was just over 3,100 and exceeded the previous October. Roughly 10% of the total library material was in circulation. 47 new cards were issued in October.
- Calendar of events: draft Calendar of events for December was provided.
- Budget report: The budget report was not available from the City this month. The City approved the budget at their October meeting. The City requested the Library to issue a Request for Proposal for a complete replacement of the library heating system. The cost of the replacement is currently not in the 2026 budget.
- Book bills: Book invoices were reviewed and signed by the library board.
- Friends of the Library: Association of Friends of the Ishpeming Carnegie Public Library (FOL) met in November with their next meeting in March 2026. The FOL will be holding a book sale on December 5 and 6 and books are being accepted for the sale.
- Sustainable Shelves: This service is no longer available. Options are being evaluated to replace the services provided.
- Beanstack: Information on accounts and activities was provided by age group.

Presentations: None.

Committee Reports:

- The Sustainability Committee met once since the October meeting and provided an update on several items that will be brought to the fully board in 2026.

Communications:

- None

Unfinished Business:

- Policy manual review, revision and updating is ongoing. No update this month.

- Tousignant donation: The library director met with the Community Foundation of Marquette County regarding the Tousignant donation. A presentation or attendance from the Community Foundation can be arranged. Building upkeep is viewed as a City responsibility and is not part of the endowment intent. A list of potential projects (enhance and enrich: table lights, e readers, more computers for patrons, picture rail, chairs with chargers, reading pod) is still being developed and should be prioritized in 2026. Annual distributions no later than 2028.
- The Children's room redesign (FOL will cover up to \$15,000 for the renovation plan). No update this month.
- Capital Improvement items submitted for consideration to the City: No update this month
 1. Heating system replacement – full replacement bid to allow Children's room renovations to proceed. (One bid with two options received: Keep as steam heat but replace pipes and radiators for approximately \$200,000 or switch to a hot water heat radiator system for \$500,000.)
 2. Front steps/pillar deterioration repair
 3. Children's room redesign and renovation.
 4. Computer replacement – budget annual capital replacement at 3 per year.
 5. Glass floor repairs.
 6. Tile floor repairs and carpeting replacement.
 7. Roof replacement fund allocation in preparation for full replacement in 2034 to 2039. The repairs completed in 2024 should provide 10-15 more years of service.

New Business:

- Motion was made by Brooke Routhier and seconded by Darren Boldt to approve the 2026 meeting dates (1/15, 2/19, 3/19, 4/9, 5/21, 6/18, 8/20, 9/17, 10/15 and 11/19). Motion passed.
- Carnegie Corporation \$10,000 gift options that are under discussion include front entrance steps and pillar repair or heating system replacement. The current scanner is not very functional and a new one would be helpful to the public and staff. A 3D printer could be an option also.
- A motion was made by Elyse Bertucci and seconded by Brooke Routhier to draft a letter of support from the Library board for the Pizza Hut Foundation Slice of Literacy Grant application. Motion passed.

Public Participation: none.

Next meeting is January 15, 2026 7:00 PM in person at the Library.

A motion was made by Darren Boldt and seconded by Brooke Routhier at 8:01 PM to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted by,

Brooke Routhier

DECEMBER 2025



Monthly Progress Report

VISIT [HTTPS://ISHPEMINGLIBRARY.INFO](https://ishpeminglibrary.info) FOR PAST ANNUAL STATISTICAL REPORTS & UPCOMING PROGRAMS

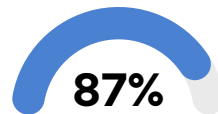
Programming

Number of, and attendance at, programs for adults & youth

11	439
# Kids Programs	Attendance at Kids Programs
2	22
# Teen Programs	Attendance at Teen Programs
16	103
# Adult Programs	Attendance at Adult Programs
29	564
Total # Programs	Total Attendance

Highest Circulating Collections

Patrons checked out this percentage of the section this month



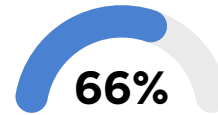
New Adult Fiction



New Kids' Graphic Novels



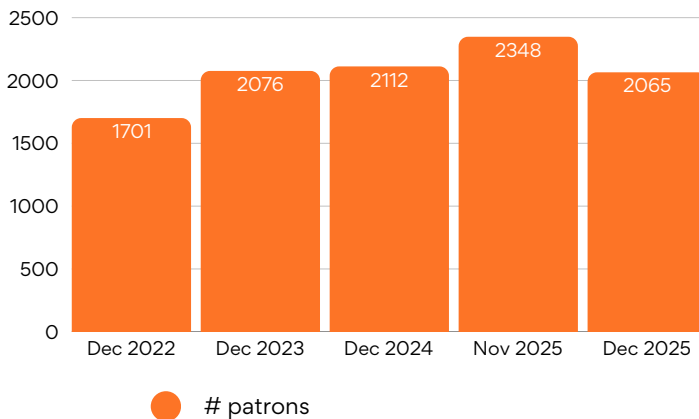
New Vox Books



Vox Books

Visits to the Library

Visits to the library compared to last month and previous years



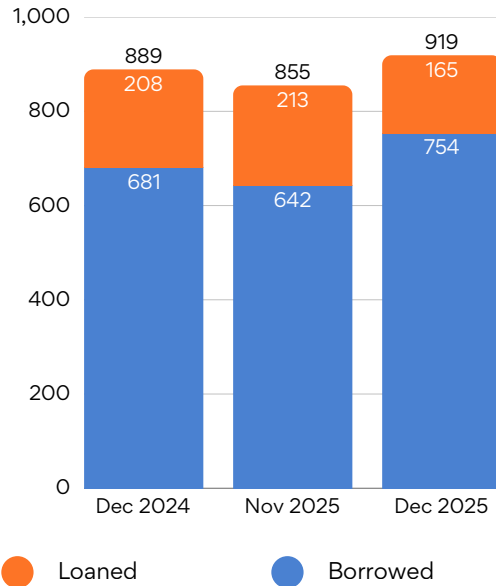
Most Popular Books

The most checked-out books for Adult Fiction & Non-Fiction, YA, and Kids



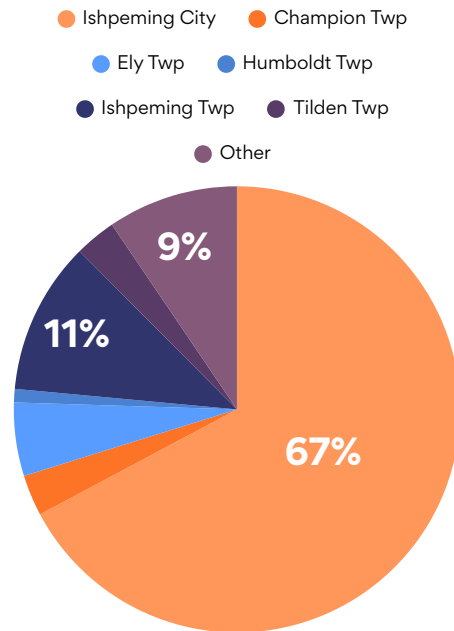
Inter-Library Loan

The number of physical items loaned to and borrowed from other libraries

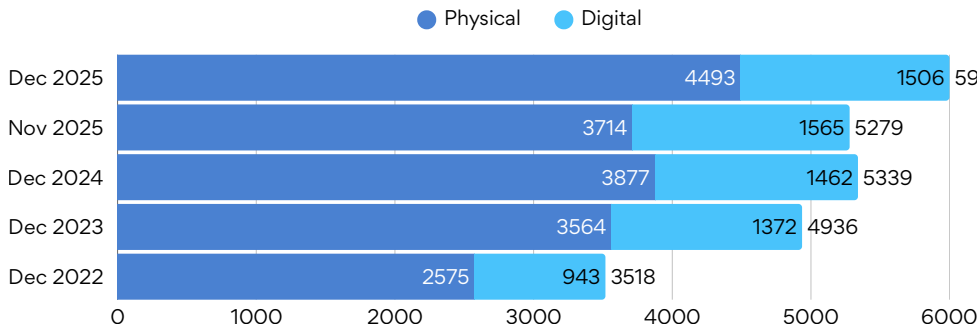


Library Cardholders

Percentage of cardholders by service area



Items Checked Out



The number of physical and digital items checked out by our patrons

Percentage of total physical collection circulated:

10.02%

Upcoming Programs

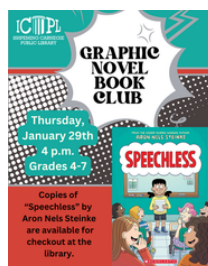
JANUARY & FEBRUARY



JANUARY & FEBRUARY



JANUARY
29



FEBRUARY
4



FEBRUARY
12



December 2025 Statistical Report

December Circulation Stats

We circulated 5,999 items (4,493 physical items; 1,506 ebooks and eaudiobooks) in the month of December!

- We had 11 new people register for library cards in the month of December.
- 754 items were borrowed on interlibrary loan.
- Collections that have the highest percentage of circulation:
 - NEWFIC (new adult fiction) - 88%
 - NEWJGRAPH (new children's graphic novels) - 71%
 - NEWJAUDIO (Vox books) - 70%

December Programming Stats

29 programs were offered throughout the month of December with 564 attendees.

- 11 programs for kids with 439 attendees
 - 52 people attended the Great Start Gingerbread House program on December 11th.
 - 76 people attended Tot Tuesday Storytime with Santa on December 16th!
- 16 programs for adults with 103 attendees
 - 13 adults attended our needle felting program on December 13th.
- 2 programs for teens with 22 attendees
 - 16 teens attended our Tiny Book Ornaments craft on December 4th.

2025 Totals

Circulation

- 73,584 items were circulated in 2025 (54,502 physical items; 19,082 digital items)!

Programming

- 403 programs were held in 2025 with 9,355 attendees
 - 146 kids programs with 6,354 attendees
 - 33 teen programs with 296 attendees
 - 224 adult programs with 2,705 attendees

(62 more programs were offered in 2025 with 275 more attendees than 2024)

What a year!

Nicole Johnson

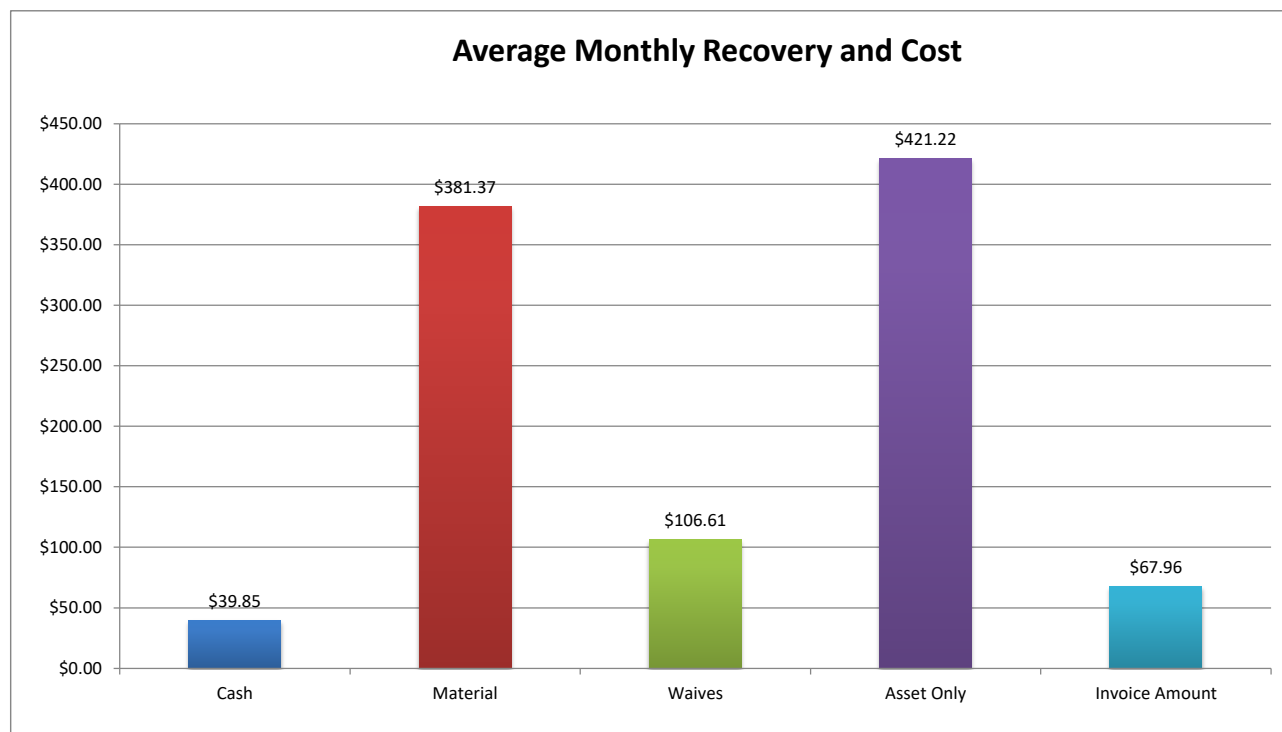
Librarian



Monthly Recovery Statistics: Ishpeming Carnegie Public Library

12/2024 Through 11/2025

Month	Cash	Material	Waives	Total	Assets Only	Invoice Amount
November-25	\$10.00	\$334.99	\$100.40	\$445.39	\$344.99	\$58.25
October-25	\$0.00	\$310.00	\$116.31	\$426.31	\$310.00	\$116.50
September-25	\$15.00	\$375.85	\$39.70	\$430.55	\$390.85	\$23.30
August-25	\$0.00	\$228.00	\$110.90	\$338.90	\$228.00	\$58.25
July-25	\$59.00	\$140.00	\$40.20	\$239.20	\$199.00	\$93.20
June-25	\$2.00	\$562.94	\$162.70	\$727.64	\$564.94	\$58.25
May-25	\$0.00	\$178.98	\$52.00	\$230.98	\$178.98	\$46.60
April-25	\$121.99	\$406.96	\$144.40	\$673.35	\$528.95	\$46.60
March-25	\$10.00	\$1,016.83	\$110.90	\$1,137.73	\$1,026.83	\$46.60
February-25	\$56.70	\$337.91	\$148.79	\$543.40	\$394.61	\$93.20
January-25	\$136.53	\$420.96	\$253.01	\$810.50	\$557.49	\$116.50
December-24	\$67.00	\$262.99	\$0.00	\$329.99	\$329.99	\$58.25
Total	\$478.22	\$4,576.41	\$1,279.31	\$6,333.94	\$5,054.63	\$815.50
Average	\$39.85	\$381.37	\$106.61	\$527.83	\$421.22	\$67.96
						Total ROI: \$8:1



Winter Reading Challenge

January 1st - February 28th

People of all ages are invited to participate by logging their reading and/or submitting book reviews. Individuals can use Beanstack to track their reading online by downloading the Beanstack app or visiting ishpeminglibrary.beanstack.org. Additionally, participants can submit book reviews either via Beanstack or by turning in paper review slips to the library. Paper reading logs are also available! Participants who log reading or submit reviews during the Winter Reading Challenge will be entered to win prizes!



Puzzle Challenge

January 1st - February 28th

We are celebrating two years of our puzzle library! Throughout January and February, you can log each puzzle that you complete as an entry to win a Puzzle Board! Completing your own puzzles or puzzles from our library count towards entries. There is a jar to submit your entries next to our puzzle library.

Tot Tuesday Preschool Storytime

Every Tuesday in January at 11am

Join us for stories, songs, and movement activities followed by an optional craft and playtime. Perfect for toddlers and preschoolers.

My Adventures in the Land of Spice

Part Two: India

Wednesday, January 7 at 5:30pm

Join us for another night of culture and fun as Arwen continues her journey into India. Our Library Clerk, Arwen spent six weeks in India volunteering and exploring the area, and she will be presenting on those experiences!

Great Start's West End Playgroup

Every Thursday in January at 10:30am

Join us for open-ended free play and a snack.



Book Club at the Ishpeming Senior Center

Thursday, January 8 at 11am

The Ishpeming Carnegie Public Library is hosting a monthly book club at the Ishpeming Senior Center (121 Greenwood St., Ishpeming)! This month's selection is *The Business Trip* by Jessie Garcia. Copies are available for checkout at the library. Newcomers are always welcome to attend.

Drop-In and Draw Club: Michele Tuccini Instructs

Thursday, January 8 at 4pm

Join us as Michele Tuccini leads a class on sketching and painting watercolor bookmarks! All supplies will be provided! For tweens, teens, and adults ages 10+. Class is suitable for all levels from beginners to those more experienced. Located in the Ray Leverton Community Room.

Homeschool Hangout

Friday, January 9 from 10am-12pm - Guided Art Practice with Faren of Woven Path Art Therapy

Friday, January 23 from 10am-12pm - LEGO Day

Special guest presentations begin at 10:30am

Homeschooling families are invited to visit the library and hangout with both old and new homeschooling friends.

Genealogy Club

Friday, January 9 at 2pm-4pm

Friday, January 23 at 2pm-4pm

Work on your family history research, use our resources, or ask for assistance with a brick wall. For internet-based research you may bring your own device. For adults and interested youth aged 10+.

Adult Book Club

Tuesday, January 13 at 2pm

Wednesday, January 14 at 6pm

Join us for adult book club! Copies of *My Friends* by Fredrik Backman are available for check out. Meetings are held at the Ishpeming Carnegie Public Library.



Italian Lessons: Casual Conversation

Wednesday, January 14 at 4pm

Wednesday, January 21 at 4pm

Marilena Corradino will be at the library to teach Italian in a casual conversation format. This class is perfect for beginners or those who want to practice speaking Italian with others.

Project Linus: Fiber Artists Meetup

Thursday, January 15 at 2pm

Calling all fibers artists including knitters, crocheters, quilters, and other fiber crafters! Gather together to work on blankets for Project Linus, an organization that donates homemade blankets to children in need. Bring your own project to work on for the cause. Also, yarn will be provided to make blankets to donate.

Graphic Novel Book Club (Grades 4-7)

Thursday, January 15 at 4pm

Thursday, January 29 at 4pm

Join us for discussion and snacks. Copies of the book will be available to checkout at the library ahead of time. Newcomers are always welcome to attend.

Retirement: Making Your Money Last Presentation with Edward Jones

Thursday, January 15 at 5:30pm

Join us for Retirement: Making Your Money Last.

We'll discuss ways to help you work toward achieving your retirement goals - what matters most to you. A key focus will be how to provide for your income needs, including your retirement income for the future.

Baby Play Day

Friday, January 16 from 10am

Friday, January 30 from 10am

A special day for babies to play! Intended for littles under 2, this program will include a brief storytime with lots of cuddles, bounces and songs; then stay for a chance to play with infant-friendly toys and socialize with other babies and caregivers.



Adult Horror Book Club

Wednesday, January 21 at 6pm

Join us for adult book club! Copies of *The Reformatory* by Tananarive Due are available for check out.

Meetings are held at the library.

Crochet Club

Thursday, January 22 at 2pm

Wednesday, January 28 at 5pm

Gather together with fellow crafters to socialize while you work on a project of your choice. Beginning supplies and instruction will be provided if you'd like to learn how to crochet! This event is for kids, teens, and adults.

LEGO CLUB

Thursday, January 22 at 4:30pm

Build with friends and attempt to complete Lego challenges.

Silent Book Club at

Velodrome Coffee in Ishpeming

Saturday, January 31 at Noon

Join us for silent book club at Velodrome Coffee in Ishpeming hosted by the Ishpeming Carnegie Public Library! Bring your own book of choice to read silently for 1 hour with fellow bookworms, followed by time to socialize and talk about books!



January Book Club Selections



Senior Center
Book Club



Adult
Book Club



Adult Horror
Book Club

		2026
GL NUMBER	DESCRIPTION	AMENDED BUDGET
<hr/>		
Fund 101 - GENERAL FUND		
Expenditures		
101-790-702.000	SALARIES	187,817.11
101-790-707.000	PART-TIME SALARIES	41,647.00
101-790-708.000	UNEMPLOYMENT COMPENSATION	37.64
101-790-709.000	FICA	15,924.53
101-790-712.000	INSURANCE OPT-OUT	4,732.79
101-790-716.000	RETIREMENT- DEFINED BENEFIT	24,978.22
101-790-717.000	MERS - DC	6,241.88
101-790-719.000	POST EMPLOYMENT HEALTH PLAN	2,782.57
101-790-721.000	CLOTHING ALLOWANCE	444.72
101-790-726.000	ACCRUED LEAVE RESERVE	35.16
101-790-727.000	OFFICE SUPPLIES	5,150.00
101-790-727.001	OFFICE SUPPLIES-SPEC PROG	4,120.00
101-790-740.000	OPERATING SUPPLIES	2,060.00
101-790-775.000	REPAIR/MAINT. SUPPLIES	535.00
101-790-801.000	PROFESSIONAL SERVICES	5,150.00
101-790-850.000	COMMUNICATIONS	2,780.45
101-790-860.000	TRANSPORTATION & MEALS	183.60
101-790-920.000	UTILITIES - ELECTRICITY	9,922.57
101-790-921.000	UTILITIES - WATER/SEWER	1,429.13
101-790-922.000	UTILITIES - NATURAL GAS	4,554.53
101-790-930.000	REPAIRS & MAINTENANCE	4,202.00
101-790-957.000	TRAINING	515.00
101-790-975.003	BUILDING IMPROVEMENTS	1,030.00
101-790-982.000	BOOKS	58.63
TOTAL EXPENDITURES		<hr/> 326,332.53
Fund 101 - GENERAL FUND:		
TOTAL REVENUES		0.00
TOTAL EXPENDITURES		<hr/> 326,332.53
NET OF REVENUES & EXPENDITURES		<hr/> (326,332.53)

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REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE REPORT FOR CITY OF ISHPEMING
PERIOD ENDING 01/31/2026

Page: 2/4

GL NUMBER	DESCRIPTION	2026 AMENDED BUDGET
Fund 268 - CARNEGIE LIBRARY SPEC FD		
Revenues		
268-000-665.000	INTEREST EARNED	2,029.84
268-000-675.000	CONTRIBUTIONS	5,150.00
TOTAL REVENUES		7,179.84
Expenditures		
268-790-727.000	OFFICE SUPPLIES	5,150.00
TOTAL EXPENDITURES		5,150.00
Fund 268 - CARNEGIE LIBRARY SPEC FD:		
TOTAL REVENUES		7,179.84
TOTAL EXPENDITURES		5,150.00
NET OF REVENUES & EXPENDITURES		2,029.84

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REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE REPORT FOR CITY OF ISHPEMING
PERIOD ENDING 01/31/2026

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GL NUMBER	DESCRIPTION	2026 AMENDED BUDGET
Fund 271 - LIBRARY STATE AID		
Revenues		
271-000-566.000	STATE AID PAYMENTS	11,600.00
271-000-699.101	TRANSFER IN - GENERAL FUND	7,815.00
TOTAL REVENUES		19,415.00
Expenditures		
271-790-965.000	LIBRARY SYSTEM	19,415.00
TOTAL EXPENDITURES		19,415.00
Fund 271 - LIBRARY STATE AID:		
TOTAL REVENUES		19,415.00
TOTAL EXPENDITURES		19,415.00
NET OF REVENUES & EXPENDITURES		0.00

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REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE REPORT FOR CITY OF ISHPEMING
PERIOD ENDING 01/31/2026

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GL NUMBER	DESCRIPTION	2026 AMENDED BUDGET	
Fund 401 - PUBLIC IMPROVEMENT FUND			
Expenditures			
401-790-980.007	COMPUTER WORKSTATION	2,781.00	
401-790-982.000	BOOKS	20,600.00	
401-790-982.001	PERIODICALS	2,575.00	
401-790-982.002	VIDEO CASSETTES	2,060.00	
401-790-982.003	RECORDS/AUDIO CASSETTES	4,120.00	
TOTAL EXPENDITURES		32,136.00	
Fund 401 - PUBLIC IMPROVEMENT FUND:			
TOTAL REVENUES		0.00	
TOTAL EXPENDITURES		32,136.00	
NET OF REVENUES & EXPENDITURES		(32,136.00)	
TOTAL REVENUES - ALL FUNDS			26,594.84
TOTAL EXPENDITURES - ALL FUNDS			383,033.53
NET OF REVENUES & EXPENDITURES			(356,438.69)

Beanstack - January 2026						
Beanstack Monthly Registration & Participation Totals						
Month	New Accounts	New Readers	Completed Activities	Completed Activity Badges	Logged Books	Logged Minutes
December 2025	4	4	2	1	1,099	35,833
November 2025	3	3	42	28	1,111	28,041
October 2025	0	0	50	47	1,310	35,829
September 2025	13	13	26	19	1,058	30,873
August 2025	46	46	967	663	1,018	221,746
July 2025	2	2	66	40	1,261	125,549
June 2025	46	46	82	44	1,113	67,000
May 2025	2	2	6	2	583	22,717
April 2025	7	7	13	11	921	28,600
March 2025	1	1	0	0	691	27,047
February 2025	4	4	29	16	860	37,338
January 2025	6	6	51	19	1,000	67,084
December 2024	10	10	15	7	1,098	22,713
TOTAL:	144	144	1,349	897	13,123	750,370
1000 Books Before Kindergarten: Local Area Participation Totals (since January 2023)						
Local Area	Total Readers Enrolled (Challenge)	Total Completions		Total Earned Badges	Logged Books	Logged Minutes*
City of Ishpeming	50	7		6,067	20,483	0
Champion Township	2	0		155	526	0
Ely Township	14	1		432	3,988	0
Humboldt Township	0	0		0	0	0
Ishpeming Township	19	3		1,487	6,805	0
Tilden Township	6	1		138	1,011	0
Negaunee	20	2		1,024	4,582	0
Other	6	0		69	151	0
No Local Area	0	0		0	0	0
TOTAL:	117	14		9,372	37,546	0
*This challenge only counts books read, not minutes.						
2025 (year-long): Your Next Chapter						
Local Area	Total Readers Enrolled (Challenge)	Total Completions		Total Earned Badges	Logged Books*	Logged Minutes
City of Ishpeming	18	8		8,993	0	199,482
Champion Township	0	0		0	0	0
Ely Township	6	3		1,700	0	66,593
Humboldt Township	0	0		0	0	0
Ishpeming Township	3	2		405	0	34,106
Tilden Township	0	0		0	0	0

Negaunee	12	3	1,066	0	59,744
Other	3	1	613	0	28,665
No Local Area	0	0	0	0	0
TOTAL:	42	17	12,777	0	388,590

*This challenge only counted minutes read, not books.

November 2025: Read Grateful

Local Area	Total Readers Enrolled (Challenge)	Total Completions	Total Earned Badges	Logged Books*	Logged Minutes
City of Ishpeming	12	1	8,303	0	15,038
Champion Township	0	0	0	0	0
Ely Township	2	0	831	0	5,830
Humboldt Township	0	0	0	0	0
Ishpeming Township	0	0	0	0	0
Tilden Township	0	0	0	0	0
Negaunee	2	1	162	0	773
Other	1	1	520	0	1,125
No Local Area	0	0	0	0	0
TOTAL:	17	3	9,816	0	22,766

*This challenge only counted minutes read, not books.

December 2025: Reading Wrap-Up

Local Area	Total Readers Enrolled (Challenge)	Total Completions	Total Earned Badges	Logged Books*	Logged Minutes
City of Ishpeming	12	10	8,238	0	14,174
Champion Township	0	0	0	0	0
Ely Township	2	2	831	0	3,285
Humboldt Township	0	0	0	0	0
Ishpeming Township	0	0	0	0	0
Tilden Township	1	1	75	0	9,107
Negaunee	1	1	122	0	875
Other	1	1	520	0	1,050
No Local Area	0	0	0	0	0
TOTAL:	17	15	9,786	0	28,491

*This challenge only counted minutes read, not books.



Written Report for the January 15, 2026 Meeting

Jesse Shirtz, Library Director

Carnegie Corporation \$10,000 gift

We will receive a \$10,000 gift in January 2026 from [Carnegie Corporation of New York](#), the foundation established by Andrew Carnegie. The award is part of [Carnegie Libraries 250](#), a special initiative celebrating the upcoming 250th anniversary of the signing of the Declaration of Independence and honoring the roughly 1,280 Carnegie Libraries still serving their communities across the United States.

Outreach

- Senior Center Book Club continues to meet at the Ishpeming Multi-Purpose Senior Center once per month.
- Silent Book Club meets once per month at Velodrome in Ishpeming for a relaxed reading and socializing hour.

Policy Manual

- Meeting Room Policy: with the City Attorney; waiting for feedback on the need for an indemnification clause.
- Board of Trustee Bylaws: waiting for feedback from city on existence of an “ethics statement” or something comparable within the city already
- Unattended Child Policy: will likely be on an upcoming agenda
- Non-Resident Fee Policy: will be on an upcoming agenda

Library Repairs

The replacement of the current steam heating system with a hot water system was approved at the regular December meeting of the City Council. We are waiting for Prime to reach out to outline and schedule the project.

Better World Books

With the closure of book vendor Baker & Taylor their discard program through Sustainable Shelves also ended. We have renewed our agreement with Better World Books as a replacement for Sustainable Shelves. The program works very similarly, except any revenue received will be sent via check rather than credit with a specific vendor. We will be sending our first batch to BWB after the books are declared surplus at the 1/21 Council meeting.