

Ishpeming Carnegie Public Library

Board Minutes June 18, 2026

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

Meeting called to order at 7:03 PM.

Motion by Darren Boldt supported by Elyse Bertucci to approve the May 21, 2026 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 May. A total of 35 programs were offered in May with 1,043 attendees. 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. There will be Storytimes in the Park in Tilden Township and Al Quaal. The heating system repairs are still ongoing with piping insulation in progress and is nearly complete. The library staff discovered errors with the patron account system with residency listed incorrectly and unused cards that were not being purged due to an error in adding an "all patron" group to the Library Cooperative system that manages the recurrent unused card system. Summer Reading donations for this year are in line with previous years.

- Circulation: Attendance in May was 2,963. Roughly 9% of the total library material was in circulation. A total of 33 new library cards were issued. Over 500 people have already registered for Summer Reading.
- Calendar of events: Calendar of events for June and the summer reading programs was provided. The summer reading event includes many programs and events.
- Budget report: The budget information was provided and is in line for the year. Council approved the purchase of the new microfilm scanner that was purchased with the Carnegie grant. The City Council approved approaching the Townships with contract revisions to reach the 3/10th mileage funding over 5 years. The City Attorney is working on revised contracts.
- 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) has not met since the May meeting. The FOL planted flowers in the flower boxes outside the library this past month.

Committee Reports:

- The Sustainability Committee
 - A summary of the 14 meetings since March 2025 was provided. Research has been conducted on how other municipalities manage contracts that are in line with the required 3/10th mileage funding level for State Aid and the range of fees charged for non participating area library cards. The Library Director presented to the City Council on current Township revenue for the library compared to the required 3/10th mileage funding level. City Council voted to have City staff move forward with working with the Townships to reach the equitable and required 3/10th mileage rate within 5 years once the City Attorney has draft contracts.

Communications:

- None

Unfinished Business:

- Presentation on Township Library Services – The library Director reviewed the presentation that was provided at the City Council meeting last night. The Townships currently provide 8.7% of the library revenue from contract fees, State Aide and Penal Fines. This is below the required 3/10th mil rate required to receive State Aide. The City of Ishpeming has been subsidizing the difference to receive state aide. The goal is to have all service area Townships provide the required 3/10th of mil funding within 5 years.
- Motion was made by Darren Boldt and seconded by Brooke Routhier to support the City opening communication with township boards regarding contracts for library service to fully provide the 3/10th funding required for State Aid. Motion passed.
- A motion was made by Elyse Bertucci and seconded by Darren Boldt to table the Second Reading of the Library Card Policy pending more information. Motion passed.
- First Reading of amended Circulation Policy was held.
- A motion was made by Paul Olson and seconded by Darren Boldt to recommend a fee of \$90 per household for annual non-resident library card. Motion passed.
- Policy manual review, revision and updating is ongoing. Waiting on city attorney input on several.
- Tousignant donation: No updates this month. 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. Front steps/pillar deterioration repair
 2. Children's room redesign and renovation. The heating work will allow this to proceed.
 3. Computer replacement – budget annual capital replacement at 3 per year.
 4. Glass floor repairs.
 5. Tile floor repairs and carpeting replacement.
 6. 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:

- Elect Library Board Officers
 - President – A motion was made by Elyse Bertucci and seconded by Darren Boldt to elect Paul Olson President. Motion passed.
 - Vice President – A motion was made by Darren Boldt and seconded by Paul Olson to elect Elyse Bertucci as Vice President. Motion passed.
 - Secretary – A motion was made by Elyse Bertucci and seconded by Darren Boldt to elect Brooke Routhier as Secretary. Motion passed.
- A meeting would be helpful in July. The Library Board agreed to conduct a July meeting this year.

Public Participation: none.

Next meeting is July 16, 2026 7:00 PM in person at the Library.

A motion was made by Elyse Bertucci and seconded by Darren Boldt at 8:50 PM to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted by Brooke Routhier.