



# CLIFTON PARK- HALFMOON PUBLIC LIBRARY

## 2024 BUDGET VOTE & TRUSTEE ELECTION

**THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 14 AT THE LIBRARY  
7 AM-9 PM**

### **What am I voting for?**

The proposed 2024 library budget and the election of two Clifton Park Trustees to the Library Board. The Library Board of Trustees is made up of 11 elected representatives, seven from Clifton Park and four from Halfmoon. Trustees serve a five-year term and are elected by each town's residents. There are currently two open trustee positions created by the expiring terms of Stephen Meyer and Purushothaman Srinivasan, both representing the town of Clifton Park.

### **Where will the voting be held?**

The vote will take place at the Library, 475 Moe Road, from **7 AM-9 PM on Thursday, September 14** as prescribed by our legislated charter.

### **Who's eligible to vote?**

Registered voters, including renters and property owners, in the towns of Clifton Park and Halfmoon who live within the Library District. **Proof of identity is required.**

### **How can I get more information?**

For more information about the 2024 Library budget and trustee candidates, the public is invited to attend a **Budget Information Session on Thursday, September 7 at 7 pm at the Library**. You can also visit our website for more information.

**[WWW.CPHLIBRARY.ORG](http://WWW.CPHLIBRARY.ORG)**

# A MESSAGE FROM THE LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Your Library serves as a cornerstone of our community, offering a multitude of resources, programs, and experiences to people of all ages and backgrounds. As the **Board of Trustees**, we are committed to ensuring that the Library remains a vibrant and essential hub for discovery, learning, and community engagement.

## Your Library works hard to meet the needs of the community.

Patrons of the Library are long-time residents and new neighbors, some of whom are new to this country. Library staff works hard to continually change and grow to meet the needs of the diverse and expanding communities we serve. The steady population growth in both Clifton Park and Halfmoon continues, with an influx of residents moving to our area post-pandemic. As we welcome new residents to our towns from outside the U.S., we are grateful and proud your Library can offer English Language Learning and citizenship opportunities to help support our newest neighbors. These classes provide a safe and welcoming space for participants to hone their English-speaking skills, acclimate to a new culture, and build friendships. The Library also recently added inclusive programs to accommodate adults with disabilities who are frequent visitors to the Library. While here, they can enjoy gaming, watch a movie, or spend time with a therapy dog. We have once again developed a fiscally responsible budget to ensure your Library has the necessary resources to meet the needs of our diverse community.

## Renovations offer improvements.

One of the largest groups of visitors to the Library are undoubtedly the children--from babies and preschoolers to school-aged children. During the ongoing renovation of the very popular and cherished Children's Library, dedicated library staff maintained

their unwavering commitment to delivering the highest level of programs and services to these important visitors. The result was an increase in program attendance and record numbers of participants in our Summer Reading Challenge. The improvements to the Children's Library will offer a cozy and welcoming area, encouraging children to learn, explore, and become lifelong readers.


## Your Library remains committed to being a green building.

With the world around us moving towards greater sustainability, the Library continues its mission to be as environmentally friendly as possible. This year, four electric vehicle (EV) charging stations were installed at no cost to taxpayers. The pay-per-use EV stations were made possible through grants secured by library staff and the generosity of the Friends of the Library. Another environmental, cost-saving initiative is to forego mailing an expensive budget information brochure this year, and to make it available in the Library and on our website. This step will not only save money and resources, but also help reduce waste.

The proposed budget reflects our commitment to maximizing the value of every dollar while providing access to resources and services that foster personal growth, learning, and community connections. We extend our heartfelt gratitude to you, the community members who have continually demonstrated support of the Library. Your enthusiasm, engagement, and generosity have allowed the Library to provide exceptional service to all who enter our doors.

**Maria McMunn, President**  
**Suzanne Dugan, Vice President**  
**Mat Cantore, Treasurer**

**Megan Brown**  
**Jason DiGianni**  
**David Golden**  
**Thomas Madison**

**Stephen Meyer**  
**Edwin Rodger**  
**Purushothaman Srinivasan**  
**Russell Wise**  
  
**Joseph Gaug, Esq., Attorney**  
**Alex Gutelius, Library Director**

## BY THE NUMBERS

- On average, more than 190 new cardholders each month.
- Nearly 50,000 items per month are checked out, including print, digital, and audiovisual materials.
- Visitors to the Library are steadily increasing; more than 5,000 visitors each week.
- Program attendance has almost reached pre-pandemic levels.
- 150,000+ items in our collection, including nontraditional items such as telescopes, hiking backpacks, boards games, and more.
- English Language Learning & Citizenship classes have doubled in size with students representing more than a dozen countries.
- Since resuming in 2022, almost 1,000 tutoring hours have been dedicated to helping ELL students.
- 40+ One-on-one Tech Help appointments to date.
- Computer and technology offerings expanded to include targeted workshops for seniors, live webinars for professional development, in addition to continued classes for kids, teens, and adults.



## WHAT PEOPLE ARE SAYING...



*"From the moment I walked in, I was enthralled... The Library is the best part of living in Clifton Park."* –Library patron

*"Without the help of the library programs, I don't think I would have had enough confidence to pass the citizenship interview."*  
–U.S. Citizenship Class student

*"I love how each coworker cares about this Library as much as me... I'm very happy that I get to work in the place I've loved for most of my life."*  
–Staff member

*"What a wonderful experience for our children. Thank you to all the amazing staff for making [our visit] such a memorable experience!"*  
–Okte 2nd grade teacher

*"Through our library, I met great people, learned a lot, and achieved a lot... Our library has been a great inspiration for the next half of my life."*  
–English Language Learning student



REVENUES			EXPENSES		
	Adopted 2023 Budget	Proposed 2024 Budget		Adopted 2023 Budget	Proposed 2024 Budget
Total Tax Levy	\$4,921,020	\$5,103,252	Salaries & Benefits	\$2,965,415	\$3,129,944
Other Public Funds	\$19,883	\$19,883	Books, Materials, & Processing	\$345,938	\$353,000
Gifts	\$10,000	\$10,000	Facility & Equipment	\$342,572	\$338,811
Interest	\$1,000	\$5,000	Operations	\$588,096	\$614,860
Fines & Fees	\$30,500	\$35,500	Bond Payment	\$740,382	\$737,020
Fund Balance	0	0			
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$4,982,403</b>	<b>\$5,173,635</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>\$4,982,403</b>	<b>\$5,173,635</b>

2024 PROJECTED TAX IMPACT ON HOMEOWNERS		
	Clifton Park	Halfmoon
Full Market Value (MV)	\$250,000	\$250,000
Equalization Rate (ER)	.39	.4250
House Assessed Value (MV x ER)	\$115,000	\$118,750
Estimated Tax Rate Per \$1,000 Assessed Value (AV)	1.3226	1.2137
Taxes Paid in 2024 (AV x Est. Tax Rate)	\$128.95	\$128.95

- **Absentee Ballot applications are available in the Library or online at [www.cphlibrary.org](http://www.cphlibrary.org) for those unable to vote in person.**
- The market value of properties continues to change at different rates between the two towns. As a result, tax rates—which are based on assessed values—are different depending on what town you reside in. However, properties of equal market value will have the same tax bill no matter what town they are in.

## LIBRARY HOURS:

Monday-Thursday	9 am-9 pm
Friday	9 am-6 pm
Saturday	9 am-5 pm
Sunday	12 pm-5 pm



[cphlibrary.org](http://cphlibrary.org)

518-371-8622