

Why the Library is Not Asking for a Tax Increase This Year

Wendy Scott, Executive Director

In December, 2019, the Community Library of DeWitt & Jamesville Board of Trustees unanimously approved a 2020 budget that included a proposed tax increase of \$29,204 to cover the increasing costs of operations. That decision was made before any of us were aware of the devastating toll the COVID-19 pandemic would have on all of our lives.

In light of the financial impact that the health crisis is having on so many residents in our service area, and because of limitations to library access, services and programs necessary to comply with COVID_19 related NYS Executive Orders, the Board of Trustees unanimously voted in a special meeting of on May 7 to withdrawal the Library's request to place a tax proposition on the 2020 Jamesville-DeWitt School District ballot. This means that the Library will receive the same tax revenue that was approved in 2019: \$1,460,202. The Library will explore alternative funding sources to support this year's services, programs and workshops.

I want to assure you that, although there will challenges and changes as we confront the new reality imposed by the pandemic, we remain committed to offering you the service excellence that you have come to expect.

Look for updates and news on next steps on our library website, social media and e-newsletters.