

# Board packet May 16, 2017: Resolution 2016/2017-5 Resolution Confirming Tax Levy Plan for 2017-2018 Levy

Friday, May 12, 2017  
9:55 AM

<b>Subject</b>	<b>Board packet May 16, 2017: Resolution 2016/2017-5 Resolution Confirming Tax Levy Plan for 2017-2018 Levy</b>
<b>From</b>	Ryan Livergood
<b>To</b>	libraryboard
<b>Cc</b>	Noreen Reese; Celia G. Ornelas; 'annelinsdau@aol.com'; 'bonnies2024@att.net'; 'Kathleen Kettman'; Amy Blanchard; Sandy Beda; Jan Marsh; Ryan Livergood
<b>Sent</b>	Friday, May 12, 2017 9:54 AM
<b>Attachments</b>	Resolution 2016-2017-5 Confirming Tax Levy Plan for 2017-2018 Levy

Good morning,

The day after the May Committee of the Whole meeting, we released the press release seen below this message. It was picked up by some online sites such as the Gurnee Community News Facebook page and theYOUjournal News, in addition to being picked up by the Daily Herald. It can also be seen on our website and a modified version will appear in the latest issue of the *Inside Angle* scheduled to arrive at households in our District around Saturday, May 20. Although it was suggested we consider contacting some taxpayers directly, per Roger Ritzman's recommendation I do not plan on doing so at this time.

I've only been contacted directly by one person (a WNPL volunteer) about the tax abatement filing error and he appreciated the explanation of what had happened. I have discussed this situation with a few others in the community as well and the general consensus appears to be that our taxpayers appreciate our acknowledgement of the mistake and our commitment to making things right.

The attached resolution explains how WNPL is going to correct our mistake and make the voters whole. If after reviewing Resolution 2016/2017-5 you have any questions, please don't hesitate to get in touch.

Thanks,  
Ryan

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## Warren-Newport Public Library District

224 North O'Plaine Road, Gurnee, Illinois 60031

847-244-5150 [www.wnpl.info](http://www.wnpl.info)

### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

May 3, 2017

### WNPL Board Resolution Aims to Address Tax Abatement Filing Error

An administrative error by the Warren-Newport Public Library District will result in a temporary increase in taxes paid to the library in 2017 for 2016. To correct the error, the 2017 levy will ask for a lesser amount (a "double abatement") to make whole the taxpayers.

The 2016 tax bills that were recently mailed to homeowners reflect a special tax to pay a bond debt that was levied in 2010 to refinance existing bond debt at a more favorable rate. In past years, the library filed an ordinance to abate, or void, the tax and pay down the bond with the Corporate/General Library Fund.

A homeowner with a home market value of \$250,000 will see a onetime increase of \$39 for bond retirement; for a \$400,000 home, the special tax is \$66. The additional tax revenue is expected to generate \$863,196 and will be set aside in a separate fund.

While the library board passed a bond tax abatement ordinance on January 17, 2017, it was not properly filed with the Lake County Clerk's office. Therefore, the County Clerk was compelled to levy a special tax for bond retirement. A corrective ordinance on the board's May 16 agenda is expected to address the imbalance.

"We made a mistake," said Ryan Livergood, WNPL's executive director. "We apologize to our taxpayers and are currently taking steps to ensure this is a onetime error. I personally regret that it happened, and it serves to remind us that, as humans, we are not perfect. The board and administrative staff truly appreciate the community's support as we move forward."

The Warren-Newport Public Library District, founded by volunteers in 1973, serves a population of approximately 67,000 within a 55-square mile area that covers all or most of Warren and Newport townships, including Gurnee, Wadsworth, Park City, Wildwood, Grandwood Park, Old Mill Creek, and portions of Grayslake, Millburn, Lake Villa, Libertyville and Waukegan.

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### Ryan Livergood

Executive Director

Warren-Newport Public Library District

224 N. O'Plaine Road

Gurnee, IL 60031

847-244-5150 ext. 3008

[rlivergood@wnpl.info](mailto:rlivergood@wnpl.info)