

Barker Public Library
Board of Trustees Meeting
January 12, 2026
6:00 PM
Barker Public Library, Barker, NY

Present: Board of Trustees: Kathie Smith, Vernetta Kenyon, Ashley Grabowski, Roy Anderson.
Library Director Lisa Thompson and Library Clerk Kristin Sullivan.
Absent: Trustee Cynthia Harris

Call to order and Pledge to the flag

1. Motion to approve the minutes of the November 10, 2025 meeting as submitted by the secretary. Motion by Trustee Kenyon, seconded by Trustee Anderson. All voted aye.

2. Motion to pay bills as reviewed by the President. Motion by Trustee Kenyon, Seconded by Trustee Grabowski. All voted aye.

3. Treasurer's Report: Finances are doing well at the midpoint of the fiscal year.

4. President's Report submitted by President Kathie Smith: Signed Bills and checked in with Barker CSD regarding tax information.

5. Director's Report submitted by Lisa Thompson: Will review the new employee handbook prior to our next meeting to then seek board approval for employee usage. Reminder of Feedmore WNY Farm Market at the library every first and third Tuesday of every month, all year long for fresh fruits and vegetables.

6. Friends Report provided by Kristin Sullivan: No new business to report. The in-library book sale is being well-received by patrons. They are looking for storage space in the community to store books to expand the book sale over time.

Old Business

7. Motion to approve funds be expended from the reserve account for the sidewalk to the shed. Motion by Trustee Anderson, Seconded by Trustee Kenyon. All voted aye.

8. Evaluations for the Board and Director should be completed. We will set a date to review with the Director. Results from Board review will be discussed at the March meeting.

New Business

9. Resolution #1-2025 Tax Cap Override

Whereas, the adoption of the 2026-27 budget for the Barker Public Library may require a tax levy increase that exceeds the tax cap imposed by state law as outlined in General Municipal Law Section 3-c adopted in 2011; and

Whereas, General Municipal Law Section 3-c expressly permits the library board to override the tax levy limit by a resolution approved by a vote of sixty percent of qualified board members;

Now therefore be it Resolved, that the Board of Trustees of the Barker Public Library voted and approved to exceed the tax levy limit for fiscal year 2026-27 by at least the sixty percent of the board of trustees as required by state law on January 12, 2026..

Motion by Trustee Grabowski, seconded by Trustee Kenyon. All voted aye.

10. The M&T Bank of Lyndonville will be the official depository for the Barker Public Library for 2026 and the official signatories for the accounts will be Kathie Smith, Cynthia Harris and Jenn Thom CPA. Motion by Trustee Anderson, seconded by Trustee Kenyon. All voted aye.

11. The following Trustee is designated as the liaison to the Friends of the Library: Trustee Kenyon. Motion by Trustee Anderson, seconded by Trustee Grabowski. All voted aye.

12. The President will prepare a letter to Barker Central School District stating the tax rate increase (proposing a 10% increase) and vacancies to be filled on the Board in the May election. Cynthia Harris will be completing her first 5 year term. Motion to approve 10% tax rate increase by Trustee, Kenyon, seconded by Trustee Anderson. All voted aye.

13. The Posting Policy and Meeting Space Policy have been reviewed and revised. Motion to adopt these policies by Trustee Grabowski, Seconded by Trustee Kenyon. All voted aye.

The following policies have been reviewed by the Board of Trustees and found to be acceptable:

Patron Code of Conduct

Patron Complaint

Wireless Internet

Public Use of Multimedia & Guidelines

Tablet Lending

Conflict of Interest

Unscheduled Closings

Quarantine
Equal Employment Opportunity
Sexual Harassment
Whistleblower
Disaster Pay

Motion to adopt these policies by Trustee Anderson, seconded by Trustee

Kenyon. All voted aye.

14. Board Comment: no comments

15. Public Comment: no comments

Adjournment: Motion to adjourn at 6:56 pm by Trustee Grabowski, seconded by Trustee Kenyon. All voted aye.

The next meeting of the Barker Public Library Board of Trustees will be March 9, 2026.

Respectfully submitted by Trustee Ashley Grabowski, Secretary.