# BUFFALO & ERIE COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY OPERATING FINANCIAL REPORT AS OF MAY 31, 2021, FOR ERIE COUNTY LEGISLATURE 2021 MID-YEAR BUDGET HEARING July 14, 2021

### BACKGROUND:

The attached report provides a summary of revenue and expenditure performance in the Library's Operating Budget for the year as of the May 31, 2021 monthend close. The report also details monthly activity for May. Overall, with 41.4% of the budget year elapsed, year-to-date Library revenue at 87.8% collected is within budget and year-to-date expense, at 32.4%, is also within budget.

### **REVENUE:**

- ✓ **Property Tax for Library Proceeds Booked.** The full \$25,917,341 Library Tax allocation was booked to the Library Fund in January.
- ✓ New York State Library Aid restored to 2020-2021 level; 20% withholding of 2020 aid released in March 2021. A total of \$477,055 in state aid from 2020 has been received and applied to 2021's operating budget. First, a February payment of \$38,259 in state aid represents 80% of the final 10% of 2020 Local Library Services & Local Services Support Aid (NY State was still withholding 20% from disbursements at that time). Normally, this payment would have arrived by last December. Second, in March the Library received a \$438,796 state aid payment representing the operating budget's share of the 20% of 2020 State Aid withheld from distributions in 2020.

Further, New York State's enacted 2021-2022 budget, which provides the Library's aid for calendar year 2021, was a significant improvement over the Governor's proposed budget, which would have reduced library aid by \$7.1 million statewide (7.5%). Due to the pandemic's impact on the State's finances, the State had withheld 20% of B&ECPL's 2020 State Aid throughout 2020, which was compounded by the proposed reduction in 2021. At the time B&ECPL's Budget was prepared, the Library assumed a 10% State Aid reduction reflecting a slow recovery from the pandemic's impacts. So, the restored funding will add an estimated \$219,830 above the Library's 2021 adopted operating budget. Active support for libraries in the NY State Legislature, combined with approval of the Federal *American Rescue Plan Act of 2021* on March 11th, contributed to the restored funding. That Federal action led to the State releasing the 20% of State Aid withheld from 2020 disbursements in late March 2021. The combined effect of the February payment, the State's releasing withheld 2020 aid in March and the improved 2021 budget is estimated to total \$898,379 (\$696,885 in the Operating Fund and \$202,163 in the Library Grants Fund). The operating budget share of these funds were incorporated into the 2021 adjusted budget via Resolution 2021-14.

Erie County has experienced a similar effect with the County Budget Director noting in his Budget Monitoring Report for May issued on June 30<sup>th</sup> that for the first five months of 2021, the County has a \$65,447,427 positive variance. This variance is largely due to three components: (1) The elimination of local aid cuts as part of the adopted 2021-2022 New York state budget. Based on the passage of the Federal American Rescue Plan (ARP) New York State eliminated their original local aid cuts of 20%. This has provided \$36.3 million in unutilized benefit through May. (2) Sales tax through May 2021 has YTD growth rate of 15.11% over 2020. The net benefit from this growth year-to-date is \$23.2 million. (3) An unbudgeted revenue of \$4.1 million relating to the NYS 2020-21 Criminal Justice Discovery Reform Funding.

# **REVENUE** (continued):

- ✓ **Library fines/fees** 2021's budget was reduced 25.7% from the 2020 budget. However, the gradual return of patron physical visits to the Library, combined with suspending hold fees to facilitate patrons' ability to have materials pre-selected ready for pick-up, has revenue underperforming the reduced 2021 budget. Further, continued strong use of downloadable eBooks and e-Audiobooks, which increased dramatically during the pandemic, is another factor as they expire automatically on their due date and therefore are never late and no fines accrue.
- ✓ Copies, Printing, Book Bag, Minor Sale, Rental and Commissions Food Svcs revenue all reflect the impact of a more gradual return of in-person patron activity.
- ✓ **Refunds P/Y Expenses** revenue represents reimbursable expenses occurring in the prior year for which reimbursements were received in the current year.
- ✓ **Refunds Contract Library** revenue represents a return of fine revenue collected by contract libraries in excess of local expenses of those libraries. The revenue is transmitted as part of the year-end closing process and will also be significantly impacted by the more gradual return of in-person library use. Revenue estimates were adjusted downward by \$166,141 via Resolution 2021-14. Improved state aid mentioned earlier offset this reduction.
- ✓ **Use of Fund Balance** revenue adjustments to date include: \$50,000 to support additional LED conversions (Res. 2021-1); \$728,300 applying the local match towards Library Construction Aid projects (from assigned fund balance for grant match as previously approved by the Board) for the Crane (Resolutions 2018-1, 2018-24, 2019-34) and Dudley (Res. 2019-28) Libraries; \$6,624 to reimburse the Collins, Concord, and Newstead Libraries to partially offset unanticipated revenue loss in 2020 (Res. 2021-7); and offset by net \$491,578 contribution to fund balance from additional state aid noted above (Res. 2021-14). These changes result in a net budget adjustment of \$293,346.

### **EXPENSE:**

- ✓ **Salaries and wage expense running within budget.** Overall, year-to-date Net Personal Services expense consumed 33.0% of the budget. Savings reflect controlled hiring; extended vacancy controls; and reduced part-time workhours to meet operational needs as patron physical visits gradually recover.
- ✓ Fringe Benefit expense is running under budget at 30.5% overall.
  - Employer FICA Regular & Medicare are the employer share of payroll taxes for Social Security and Medicare. Savings reflect savings in salary and wage expense.
  - Active Employee Health cost is under budget (at 36.3% of budget) reflecting usage experience. The Year-to-date (YTD) expense was 7.8% above the same period last year.
  - Retiree medical charges so far this year are also running under budget, at 36.2% of budget. YTD expense was 2.7% above the same period in 2020. Said expense is subject to significant swings due to changes in usage by retirees.
  - Unemployment insurance expense YTD stands at a net credit of \$377,437 reflecting the operating budget share of credits received. The Federal CARES Act passed in March 2020 provided for a 50% offset of unemployment insurance expense through December 31, 2020 however, New York State needed time to update their systems to pass this savings on to employers. Additionally on January 14, 2021 the New York State Department of Labor (DOL) Commissioner signed an order to effectively credit back all pandemic related unemployment expenses for self-insured employers. Erie County and the Library are self-insured for Unemployment and Workers Compensation.

We will closely monitor these accounts.

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# **EXPENSE** (continued):

- ✓ **Highway Supplies (rock salt) show at 49.3%.**This relatively small account (\$17,000 annual budget) is very seasonal in nature with the next set of purchases taking place in the fall. Salt prices have increased.
- ✓ Contractual Payments to Contract Libraries combined show at 45.0%. The above budget variance reflects the contract provision that small dollar amounts are transmitted at the beginning of the year rather than quarterly in advance. The budget adjustments apply additional state aid to help offset revenue losses resulting in the need to send funds to the member libraries to cover locally incurred expenses.
- ✓ Telephone & Internet Service charges show at 47.0% pending e-Rate reimbursements.
- ✓ Several remaining operating accounts above 41.4% reflect timing differences.

  These accounts: Maintenance Contracts, Telephone & Internet Service and Insurance Premiums reflect timing variations and would be expected to end the year within budget.
- ✓ Interfund Expense Utilities: YTD expense reflects the seasonal nature of utility expense, a less mild winter, and higher Electricity and Natural Gas rates.

  Natural gas charges of \$99,095 came in at 58.6% of the 2021 annual budget, reflecting a winter season less mild than the year before and natural gas rates averaging 12.8% higher than January-May 2020. Expense was 14.9% above the \$86,250 paid in January May 2020. Electricity charges of \$156,430 came in at 26.1% of the 2021 annual budget and were 13.7% above the \$137,527 paid in January May 2020. Electricity rates averaged 13.2% higher than January-May 2020. A significant portion of the area's electricity generation utilizes natural gas and is impacted by changes in Natural Gas rates.

<u>Combined, 2021 interfund utility charges of \$255,525 (33.3% of budget) were below budget while they were \$31,749 (14.2%) above the same months in 2020.</u> The Library participates in Erie County's aggregated utility purchasing pool which saves costs compared to retail pricing.

Revenue Detail as of 5/31/2021

41.4% of Budget Year

SAP			41.4%	of Budget Ye	ar	% of				
Account		Adopted	Adjust-	Adjusted	Revenue		To Be	Budget		
Number	Account Description	Budget	ments	Budget	May	YTD Revenue	Realized	Collected	Notes	
	REVENUE FROM LIBRARY OPERATIONS									
419000	Library Charges - Fines	213,819	0	213,819	10,379	46,888.39	166,931	21.9% Assum	es 47% lost rev	
422000	Copies	17,587	0	17,587	1,963	7,518.75	10,068	42.8% Slight	positive variance	
466040	Printing	58,712	0	58,712	3,206	16,621.08	42,091	28.3% Assum	es 25% lost rev	
466030	Book Bags	800	0	800	64	248.40	552	31.1% Assum	es 21% lost rev	
466020	Minor Sale - Other	4,558	0	4,558	203	1,081.40	3,477	23.7% Assum	es 40% lost rev	
420510	Rent - Real Prop - Auditorium	24,000	0	24,000	1,743	8,341.24	15,659	34.8% Assum	es 8% lost rev	
420530	Comm - Tel Booth Food Svs	14,400	0	14,400	425	2,056.47	12,344	14.3% Assum	es 60% lost rev	
	TOTAL REVENUE FROM LIBRARY OPERATIONS	333,876	0	333,876	17,983	82,755.73	251,120	24.8%		
	REVENUE FROM STATE & COUNTY GOVT.									
400020	Library Real Prop Tax	25,917,341	0	25,917,341		25,917,341.02	(0)	100.0%		
								YTD to	otals include \$38,259 that is the	
100110	NNG ALLEN A	4 704 704	500 (40	2 244 242		200 407 00	4 042 024	final 1	0% of 2020 Local Library Services	
408140	NYS Aid-Lib Incl Incent	1,721,731	589,612	2,311,343		398,107.00	1,913,236		ocal Services Support Aid received	
									ruary, plus \$438,796 which is the	
								•	ting budget share of the 20% of	
									state Aid withheld from	
408150	NYS Aid to Member Libraries	252,185	106,619	358,804		78,948.00	279,856		outions in 2020, received in March. t adjusted to reflect these items	
								_	s 2021-14.	
	TOTAL REVENUE FROM STATE & COUNTY GOVT.	27.891.257	696,231	28,587,488	0	26,394,396.02	2.193.092	92.3%	3 2021 11.	
	OTHER REVENUE	,	<b>,</b>	,,		, ,	_,,			
	OTHER REVENUE							Fetima	ate factors in lost fine revenue @	
419010	Refunds - Cont Library	193,268	(166,141)	27,127		0.00	27,127	Λ Λ0/	acting Libraries	
423000	Refund P/Y Expenses	10,000	0	10,000	1,379	13,209.64	(3,210)		terning Elbranies	
445030	Int & Earn - Gen Inv	6,000	0	6,000	189	1,584.59	4,415	26.4%		
466010	NSF Check Fees	15	0	15	107	0.00	15	0.0%		
467000	Misc Depart Income	5,000	0	5,000	4,421	6,221.59	(1,222)			
479100	Other Contributions	25,000	0	25,000	.,	0.00	25,000	0.0%		
177100	TOTAL OTHER REVENUE	239,283	(166,141)	73,142	5,989	21,015.82	52,126	28.7%		
	USE OF FUND BALANCE	257,203	(100,111)	, 5, 1 12	3,707	21,010,02	52,120	20.770		
	OJE OF TOTAL BALANCE							Includ	es local match towards Library	
402190	Appropriated Fund Balance	881,500	293,346	1,174,846		0.00	1,174,846		ruction Aid projects, see note in	
102170	. pp. opriaced raise battailee	231,300	273,310	.,., 1,0 10		3.50	1,1.71,070		se sheet.	
	TOTAL USE OF FUND BALANCE	881,500	293,346	1,174,846	0	0.00	1,174,846	0.0%	<del></del>	
	GRAND TOTAL OPERATING REVENUE	29,345,916	823,436	30,169,352	23.972	26,498,167.57	, ,	87.8%		
	SIGNIE IVIAE VI ENAING NETENVE	_7,5 15,710	023,730	JU, 107,JJL	,,,,_	20, 170, 107.37	3,071,107	07.070		

Expenditure Detail as of 5/31/2021

	41.4% of Budget Year										% Current Budget			
SAP Acct. Nbr.	Account Description	2021 Adopted Budget	2020 Encumbered & PY Reservations	2021 Budget Adjust- ments/ Revisions	Adjusted Budget	May Expended	Year-to-Date Expended	Encumb.	Funds Reser- vations	Total Expenditures & Encumbrances	Remaining Balance	YTD Expend	YTD Expend/ & Encumb	Notes
	OPERATING EXPENDITURES													
	PERSONAL SERVICES													
	Regular Salaries & Wages													
500000	Full Time - Salaries	10,542,591		0	10,542,591	\$785,394	3,985,766.29			3,985,766.29	6,556,825	37.8%	37.8%	Controlled hiring
500010	Part Time - Wages	4,531,133		0	4,531,133	208,974	925,216.71			925,216.71	3,605,916	20.4%	20.4%	Reduced PT hours reflecting below normal library visits/circulation. Assumes gradual increases as more patrons return the the library as the year progresses.
500020	Regular PT - Wages	951,977		0	951,977	81,408	420,822.46			420,822.46	531,155	44.2%	44.2%	Increased RPT hours help offset impact of vacancies.
500300	Shift Differential	25,000		0	25,000	1,819	10,001.79			10,001.79	14,998	40.0%	40.0%	
500330		21,000		0	21,000		10,373.77			10,373.77	10,626	49.4%		
500350	Other Employee Payments	120,000		0	120,000	1,560	17,986.25			17,986.25	102,014	15.0%	15.0%	
	Salaries & Wages	16,191,701	0	0		1,079,154	5,370,167.27	0.00	0.00	5,370,167.27	10,821,534	33.2%	33.2%	
501000	Overtime Salaries & Wages	280,000		0	280,000	\$11,550	76,030.50			76,030.50	203,970	27.2%	27.2%	
	TOTAL, PERSONAL SERVICES	16,471,701	0	0	16,471,701	1,090,705	5,446,197.77	0.00	0.00	5,446,197.77	11,025,503	33.1%	33.1%	
504990	Reduction From Personal Services	(163,262)		0	(163,262)		0.00			0.00	(163,262)	0.0%	0.0%	
504992	Contractual Salary Reserves	172,892		0	172,892		0.00			0.00	172,892	0.0%	0.0%	
	NET PERSONAL SERVICES	16,481,331	0	0	16,481,331	1,090,705	5,446,197.77	0.00	0.00	5,446,197.77	11,035,133	33.0%	33.0%	
	FRINGE BENEFITS													
502010	Employer FICA - REGULAR	1,021,239		0	1,021,239	65,363	327,589.50			327,589.50	693,650	32.1%	32.1%	impacts of Controlled hiring.
502020	, ,	238,850		0	238,850	15,285	76,540.40			76,540.40	162,310	32.0%		reduced PT hours; and/or
502030	F	2,448,892		0	2,448,892	198,364	889,042.24			889,042.24	1,559,850	36.3%	36.3%	turnover
502040		87,396 75,310		0	87,396 75,310	7,663	26,772.23 20,350.96			26,772.23 20,350.96	60,624 54,959	30.6% 27.0%		-
502050	·	·		v	,	8,206				ŕ	·			Reflects operating budget share of credits due to CAREs Act and NY State refunding of
502060	Unemployment Insurance	37,997		0	37,997	0	(377,436.96)			(377,436.96)	415,434	-993.3%	-993.3%	pandemic related unemployment insurance expense.
502070	F	1,494,302		0	1,494,302	110,455	541,220.36			541,220.36	953,082	36.2%	36.2%	
502090	,	50,820		0	50,820	4,185	21,475.00			21,475.00	29,345	42.3%		
502100		1,737,106	^	0	1,737,106	121,722	669,769.99	0.00	0.00	669,769.99	1,067,336	38.6%	38.6%	
	TOTAL, FRINGE BENEFITS	7,191,912	0	0	7,191,912	531,243	2,195,323.72	0.00		2,195,323.72	4,996,588	30.5%	30.5%	
	TOTAL COMPENSATION RELATED	23,673,243	0	0	23,673,243	1,621,948	7,641,521.49	0.00	0.00	7,641,521.49	16,031,722	32.3%	32.3%	

Expenditure Detail as of 5/31/2021

41.4% of Budget Year % Current Budget 2021 2020 Budget YTD SAP 2021 Encumbered Adjust-Total Expend/ Acct. Adopted & PY ments/ Adjusted May Year-to-Date Funds Reser- Expenditures & Remaining YTD Encumbrances **Expend Encumb** Nbr. **Account Description** Budget Reservations Revisions **Budget** Expended Expended vations **Balance** Notes Encumb. 505000 Office Supplies 224,950 0 76,080.39 109,813 17.4% 51.2% 224,950 25,746 39,056.16 115,136.55 505200 Clothing Supplies 5,500 0 5,500 1,152.39 847.61 2,000.00 3,500 21.0% 36.4% 505600 Auto Truck & Heavy Equip Supplies 14,250 0 22.6% 14,250 361 3,215,46 3,215,46 11,035 22.6% 2,500 0 989.73 505800 Medical & Health Supplies 2,500 138.95 1,128.68 1,371 39.6% 45.1% 506200 Maintenance & Repair 174,300 30,000 204,300 8,039 32,366.63 13,531.46 45,898.09 158,402 15.8% 22.5% 506400 Highway Supplies (Rock Salt) 17,000 0 17,000 8,387.30 3,813.70 12,201.00 4,799 49.3% 71.8% 510000 Local Mileage Reimbursement 11,000 0 11,000 157 1,133.58 1,133,58 9,866 10.3% 10.3% 510100 Out of Area Travel 19,000 0 19,000 0.00 0.00 19,000 0.0% 0.0% 510200 Training and Education 56,100 0 56,100 1,968 18,364.25 4,496.25 22,860.50 33,240 32.7% 40.7% 515000 Utility Charges (Telecom/water/sewer) Fuel Oil 0.00 1,000 1,000 0.00 1,000 0.0% 0.0% Water/Sewer 33,897 33,897 3,253 10,594.35 10,594.35 23,303 31.3% 31.3% Telephone & Internet Service 98,276 0 98,276 25,761 46,164.55 46,164.55 52,111 47.0% 47.0% 515000 Total Utility Charges 133,173 0 0 133,173 29,014 56,758.90 0.00 0 56,759 76,414 42.6% 42.6% 516010 CONTRACTUAL PAYMENTS 5,074 Newstead Public - Akron 3,896 8,970 3,789 7,685.00 1,285.00 8,970.00 85.7% 100.0% Ewell Free - Alden 5,087 1,757 5,087.00 1,757.00 6,844.00 74.3% 100.0% 6,844 **Boston Free** 4,996 1,934 6,930.00 72.1% 100.0% 6.930 4,996.00 1,934.00 Cheektowaga Public 0 7,417 7,417 0.00 7,417.00 7,417.00 0.0% 100.0% Clarence Public 0 847 847 0.00 847.00 847.00 0.0% 100.0% Collins Public 604 4,625 5,229 1,659 2,263.00 2,966.00 5,229.00 43.3% 100.0% Concord Public 560 3,887 4,447 560.00 3,887.00 4,447.00 12.6% 100.0% 2,655 Eden Library 2,187 4,842 2,655.00 2,187.00 4,842.00 54.8% 100.0% Elma Public 0 2,244 2,244 0.00 2,244.00 2,244.00 0.0% 100.0% Grand Island Memorial n 1,273 1,273 1,273.00 1,273.00 100.0% 0.00 0.0% Lackawanna Public 4,260 11,644.25 19,029.00 14,769 19,029 7,384.75 38.8% 100.0% Marilla Free 3,298 1,457 4,755 3,298.00 1,457.00 4,755.00 69.4% 100.0% North Collins Public 4,556 1,153 5,709 4,556.00 1,153.00 5,709.00 79.8% 100.0% n Orchard Park Public 7,021.00 7,021 7,021 0.00 7,021.00 0.0% 100.0%

Total Cnt Pmts-NP Pur Svs

38,484,75

47.072.25

0.00

85.557.00

45,136

85.557

\$5,448

40,421

45.0% 100.0%

Expenditure Detail as of 5/31/2021

41.4% of Budget Year

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SAP Acct. Nbr. Account Description	2021 Adopted Budget	2020 Encumbered & PY Reservations	2021 Budget Adjust- ments/ Revisions	Adjusted Budget	May Expended	Year-to-Date Expended	Encumb.	Funds Reser- vations	Total Expenditures & Encumbrances	Remaining Balance	YTD Expend	YTD Expend/ & Encumb Notes
516020 Professional Services Contracts & Fees	824,238	5,170	20,000	849,408	17,011	285,245.82	298,844.05		584,089.87	265,318	33.6%	68.8%
516030 Maintenance Contracts	215,456		0	215,456	5,731	91,871.69	64,425.99		156,297.68	59,158	42.6%	72.5%
530000 Other Expenses	178,250	43,306	0	221,556	17,179	59,077.12	14,482.83	42,666.50	116,226.45	105,330	26.7%	52.5%
545000 Rental Charges	5,877		0	5,877	418	2,117.73	3,288.59		5,406.32	471	36.0%	92.0%
555050 Insurance Premiums	165,218		0	165,218		116,003.01			116,003.01	49,215	70.2%	70.2% Timing of policy renewals
559000 Local Share - Grant Match	0		728,300	728,300	(695,000)	33,300.00		695,000.00	728,300.00	0	4.6%	Local match towards Library Construction Aid projects: at the Dudley Library (project completed - Res. 2019-28). Per Comptroller's office, 100.0% tranfers of funds to the grant project for the Crane Library (Resolutions 2018-1, 2018-24, 2019-34) to occur as expenses are reimbursed later this year.
561410 Lab & Technical Equipment	87,758	113,669	0	201,427	10,445	76,486.15	14,403.00		90,889.15	110,538	38.0%	45.1%
561420 Office Equip, Furn & Fixtures		42,115	0	42,115		0.00			0.00	42,115	0.0%	0.0%
561430 Building, Grounds and Heavy Equip		9,090	0	9,090	477	477.00			477.00	8,613	5.2%	5.2%
561440 Motor Vehicles			0	0		0.00			0.00	0	0.0%	0.0%
561450 Library Books and Media	2,828,460	171,780	0	3,000,240	208,975	1,106,504.13			1,106,504.13	1,893,736	36.9%	36.9%
575040 Interfund Exp - Utilities Natural Gas Electricity Total Interfund Exp - Utilites	169,103 598,431 <b>767,534</b>	0	0 0	169,103 598,431 <b>767,534</b>	9,719 37,297 <b>47,016</b>	99,095.26 156,430.19 <b>255,525.45</b>	0.00	0.00	99,095.26 156,430.19 <b>255,525.45</b>	70,008 442,001 <b>512,009</b>	58.6% 26.1% 33.3%	Est reflects recent Fluent Energy Forecasts (as of May 26.1% 2021 Reports).
942000 Interfund - Holding Center Interfund - Correctional Facility Interfund - Court Storage Total ID Library Services	(90,627) (96,308) (8,598) (195,533)		0	(90,627) (96,308) (8,598) (195,533)	(717) (717)	0.00 (4,658.00) (3,582.50) (8,240.50)	0.00	0.00	0.00 (4,658.00) (3,582.50) (8,240.50)	(90,627) (91,650) (5,016) <b>(187,293)</b>	4.8%	0.0% Reduced operations - COVID 4.8% Reduced operations - COVID 41.7% 4.2%
910600 Interfund Expense - Purchasing Services 910700 Interfund Expnese - Fleet Services	38,396 42,673		0 0 0	38,396 42,673	2,900 1,652	14,497.50 8,175.58			14,497.50 8,175.58	23,899 34,497	37.8% 19.2%	37.8% 19.2%
980000 Interdepart Services DISS  System Operating Grand Totals	16,152 <b>29,345,916</b>	385,131	·	16,152 <b>30,554,483</b>	1,116 1,309,885	5,580.00 <b>9,888,051.32</b>	541,425.07	737,666.50	5,580.00 11,167,142.89	10,572 <b>19,387,340</b>	34.5% <b>32.4</b> %	34.5% 36.5%

% Current Budget