



1. Why is the Library pursuing a \$259 funding proposition on the school ballot?

New York State Education Law §259(1)(b) allows association libraries to have a proposition placed on the school ballot. If the vote passes then the library funding will be determined directly by the voters.

2. Is the Library budget part of the school budget?

No! The library budget is a separate line and is not part of the school budget. The school district will collect the taxes for the library according to the law, but the library and the school district remain separate entities.

3. Will the Library budget be on the school ballot every year?

No! The library budget will remain the same unless there is another \$259 vote.

4. Does the Library budget increase each year?

No! The library budget will remain the same unless there is another \$259 vote.

5. How much will I pay for Library services?

The amount depends on the assessed value of your property. For a property assessed at \$400,000 (the average in Putnam Valley), your tax will increase by less than \$50 a year (based on 2022 total taxable assessed Putnam Valley resident values.)

6. How is the Library funded now?

Currently, the Town of Putnam Valley contracts library services on an annual basis. This provides the library with the largest portion of its funding. Small amounts of funding are received from Putnam County, donations, and grants. A \$259 vote would provide the library with a guaranteed and stable amount of funding from year to year as decided by the community.

7. Is the Library asking for a budget increase?

Yes, the library has an annual contract for 2023 with the Town of Putnam Valley for \$347,650. The \$259 vote requests \$460,000. This will allow the library to restore resources and hours, enhance services for the community and complete overdue building maintenance.

8. When the vote passes, will part of the 2023 contract be returned to the Town of Putnam Valley?

Yes. The library will return the overlapping portion of the 2023 contract fund to the Town of Putnam Valley. NO DOUBLE DIPPING!

9. Will the \$259 vote change who can use the Library?

No, anyone who resides, works, or goes to school in Putnam Valley will be able to get a library card. This has always been the case and will not change.

10. Is the taxable area going to be different?

Yes, library taxes will be paid by residents who reside in the Putnam Valley School District. This includes a small area in Cortlandt Manor. Conversely, Putnam Valley homeowners in the Mahopac and Haldane school districts will no longer be "double-taxed."

If you have additional questions, please contact Kathy Reilly, Library Director at 845-528-3242 or Terry Raskyn, President of the Board of Trustees at traskyn@putnamvalleylibrary.org.