

VERNON LIBRARY BALLOT PROPOSITION #2

ELECTION DAY NOVEMBER 5, 2024

1. This ballot proposition is to be placed on the November 5th ballot as a result of a petition by the Vernon Public Library seeking to require the Town of Vernon to fund that Library with \$60,000 per year. The Town does not advocate for or oppose the proposition.
2. The Library Board of Trustees was able to place this on the ballot because of a New York State Law, Education Law Section 259, that says a Library like this can file a petition with the Town Clerk requiring the Town to submit this proposition to the Oneida County Board of Election, which must in turn put the proposition on the ballot for the general election. This proposition will be on the ballot only in the Town of Vernon, and only Town of Vernon voters can vote on it.
3. The proposition will say:

**“SHALL THE ANNUAL CONTRIBUTION OF THE TOWN OF
VERNON FOR THE OPERATING BUDGET OF THE VERNON
PUBLIC LIBRARY BE INCREASED TO THE SUM OF SIXTY
THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$60,000) ANNUALLY?”**
4. There is not now nor has there ever been any legally mandated amount the Town was required to pay. The phrase “*be increased*” is in the State law, and is not based on any current mandated funding.
5. If this proposition is passed, the Town will be obligated to pay the \$60,000 in 2025 and the following years, as there is no provision in the State law which would allow the Town to ask for the mandated funding to be reduced or eliminated.
6. In 2023, the Library asked for and the Town voluntarily contributed \$1500 to the Library.
7. Currently, the property owners within the Town of Vernon who live in the following districts pay Library Taxes:
 - Oneida Library District – Pay Oneida Library District Tax on Town Tax Bill for the library in the City of Oneida
 - Vernon Verona Sherrill School District – Pay Sherrill Public Library Tax on School Tax Bill
8. If this proposition passes, the Town of Vernon would have to pay \$60,000 per year to the Vernon Public Library, now located on Peterboro Road in the Village of Vernon, Town of Vernon.

Town Board, Town of Vernon