

TITLE V HUMAN DEVELOPMENT - EDUCATION AND CULTURE

CHAPTER 1 LIBRARY SERVICES

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5-1-1 PUBLIC LIBRARY. There is hereby established a free public library for the City, to be known as the Britt Public Library.

5-1-2 LIBRARY TRUSTEES. The board of trustees of the Britt Public Library, hereinafter referred to as the board, consists of seven (7) members. At least five (5), but no more than six (6) of the members shall be residents of the City of Britt. There shall be at least one (1), but no more than two (2) non-resident members who are library patrons residing in Hancock County, Iowa

All board members shall be appointed by the Mayor with the approval of the City Council.
(Code of Iowa, Sec. 392.5)

5-1-3 QUALIFICATIONS OF TRUSTEES. All of the members of the board shall be bona fide citizens and residents of the City and all shall be over the age of eighteen (18), except that the non-resident member(s) shall be library patrons living in Hancock County, Iowa.

5-1-4 ORGANIZATION OF THE BOARD.

1. Terms of office. All appointments to the board shall be for six (6) years, except to fill vacancies. Each term shall commence on July first. Appointments shall be made every two (2) years of one-third the total number as near as possible, to stagger the terms.
(Code of Iowa, Sec. 336.5)

2. Vacancies. The position of any trustee shall be declared vacant if said trustee moves permanently from the City or if said trustee is absent from six (6) consecutive regular meetings of the board, except in the case of sickness or temporary absence from the City. Vacancies in the board shall be filled by the City Council, and the new trustee shall fill out the unexpired term for which the appointment is made.
(Code of Iowa, Sec. 336.6)

3. Compensation. Trustees shall receive no compensation for their services.
(Code of Iowa, Sec. 336.7)

5-1-5 POWERS AND DUTIES. The board shall have and exercise the following powers and duties:

1. To meet and elect from its members a president, a secretary, and such other officers as it deems necessary.

2. To have charge, control and supervision of the public library, its appurtenances, fixtures and rooms containing the same.

3. To direct and control all the affairs of the library.

4. To employ a librarian, and authorize the librarian to employ such assistants and employees as may be necessary for the proper management of the library, and fix their compensation; provided, however, that prior to such employment, the compensation of the librarian, assistants and employees shall have been fixed and approved by a majority of the members of the board voting in favor thereof.

5. To remove by a two-thirds vote of the board the librarian and provide procedures for the removal of assistants or employees for misdemeanor, incompetency or inattention to duty, subject, however, to the provisions of Chapter 35C, Code of Iowa.

6. To select, or authorize the librarian to select, and make purchases of books, pamphlets, magazines, periodicals, papers, maps, journals, other library materials, furniture, fixtures, stationery and supplies for the library within budgetary limits set by the board.

7. To authorize the use of the library by non-residents of the City and to fix charges therefor.

8. To make and adopt, amend, modify or repeal rules and regulations, not inconsistent with Ordinances and the law, for the care, use, government and management of the library and the business of the board, fixing and enforcing penalties for violations.

9. To have exclusive control of the expenditure of all funds allocated for library purposes by the City Council, and of all monies available by gift or otherwise for the erection of library buildings, and of all other monies belonging to the library including fines and rentals collected, under the rules of the board.

10. To accept gifts of real property, personal property, or mixed property, and devises and bequests, including trust funds; to take the title to said property in the name of the library; to execute deeds and bills of sale for the conveyance of said property; and to expend the funds received by them from such gifts, for the improvement of the library.

(Code of Iowa, Sec. 392.5)

11. To keep a record of its proceedings.

12. To enforce the performance of conditions of gifts, donations, devises and bequests accepted by the City. The board shall enforce performance by taking action against the City Council.

13. To have authority to make agreements with the local County historical associations, where such exists, and to set apart the necessary room and to care for such articles as may come into the possession of the association. The trustees are further authorized to purchase necessary receptacles and materials for the preservation and protection of such articles as are in their judgment of a historical and educational nature and pay for the same out of funds allocated for library purposes.

5-1-6 POWER TO CONTRACT WITH OTHERS FOR THE USE OF THE LIBRARY.

1. Contracting. The board may contract with any other boards of trustees of free public libraries, any other City, school corporation, private or semi-private organization, institution of higher learning, township, or County, or with the trustees of any County library district for the use of the library by their respective residents.

(Code of Iowa, Sec. 336.18(1))

2. Termination. Such a contract may be terminated at any time by mutual consent of the contracting parties. It also may be terminated by a majority vote of the electors represented by either of the contracting parties. Such a termination proposition shall be submitted to the electors by the governing body of a contracting party on a written petition of not less than five (5) percent in number of electors who voted for governor in the territory of the party at the last general election. The petition must be presented to the governing body not less than forty (40) days before the election. The proposition may be submitted at any election provided by law that is held in the territory of the party who is seeking to terminate the contract.

(Code of Iowa, Sec. 336.18(2)(a and b))

5-1-7 NON-RESIDENT USE OF THE LIBRARY. The board may authorize the use of the library by non-residents in any one or more of the following ways:

1. By lending the books or other materials of the library to non-residents on the same terms and conditions as to residents of the City, or upon payment of a special non-resident library fee.

2. By establishing depositories of library books or other materials to be loaned to non-residents.

3. By establishing bookmobiles or a traveling library so that books or other library materials may be loaned to non-residents.

4. By establishing branch libraries for lending books or other library materials to non-residents.

5-1-8 LIBRARY ACCOUNTS. All money appropriated by the City Council from the general fund for the operation and maintenance of the library shall be set aside in an account for the library. Expenditures shall be paid for only on orders of the board, signed by its president and secretary.

5-1-9 ANNUAL REPORT. The board shall make a report to the City Council immediately after the close of the municipal fiscal year. This report shall contain statements of the condition of the library, the number of books added thereto, the number circulated, the amount of funds collected, and the amount of money expended in the maintenance of the library during the year, together with such further information required by the City Council.

Editor's Note: The Council may retain the power to hire, discharge, set salaries, expend funds unless the library board was in existence prior to July 1, 1974. (See Sections 5-1-5(4), 5-1-5(5), 5-1-5(9) and 5-1-8.

Any proposal to alter the composition, manner of selection, or charge of a library board, or to replace it with an alternate form of administrative agency, is subject to the approval of the voters of the City. See Code of Iowa, Sec. 392.5