



**Board of Trustees**

September 23, 2022

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**A message to be read into the Minutes of Tobyhanna Township:**

Clymer Library wishes to make its position clear. Recently, an article was published regarding a Declaratory Judgement involving both Clymer and the Township Supervisors. Clymer is concerned that the article may have given the wrong impression.

Often when legal action is taken, there are opposing views and there is an adversarial relationship between the two parties. We want to emphasize that from our viewpoint, this action was not adversarial. Both the Township Supervisors and Clymer Library wanted clarity on the limits of the Township Supervisor's authority to increase a millage established by referendum without taking the matter to the voters. Both parties agreed in advance to be bound by the decision of the Judge.

Now, that verdict has been rendered and we all know with certainty that Municipal Authorities (Township Supervisors in our case), under Pennsylvania Law, have the authority to act on behalf of Libraries to increase a millage established by tax-payer referendum. They may increase it but they may not decrease it. This is important for Clymer and Tobyhanna, but it is also important for every library and Municipal Authority in Pennsylvania. Judge Zulick's decision is binding in Monroe County but it also provides case law that can be referenced across all of Pennsylvania.

Tobyhanna Township Supervisors are uniquely well informed of Clymer's difficulties and our struggle to maintain and improve the level of service we provide for Tobyhanna and Tunkhannock residents. Our Library, like many, has deficit budgets that must be balanced by vigorous fundraising and acquisition of grants. In Clymer's case, this has reached a point where without a millage increase, we will be unable to maintain our level of service to the Community we serve. The Supervisors understand this. We consider ourselves fortunate to be supported by both Townships.

So, thank you for your continued support of Clymer. It is appreciated by every Trustee and member of our staff.

Clymer Library Board of Trustees

**Mission Statement:** To serve as a community hub of enrichment, connection, and communication by providing free access to quality resources, technology, activities, and knowledgeable assistance; and by fostering a welcoming atmosphere for all.