

Ellsworth Public Library Funding Model Changes



Funding Model Changes FY2021

- Per capita fees to supporting towns (18 municipalities in Hancock County).
- Fee is pro-rated based on distance from the library.
- Non-Resident card fee if the town does not provide full funding beginning July 1, 2020.

Supporting Towns

- Amherst
- Aurora
- Dedham
- Eastbrook
- Franklin
- Gouldsboro
- Great Pond
- Hancock
- Lamoine
- Mariaville
- Orland
- Osborn
- Otis
- Sorrento
- Sullivan
- Surry
- Trenton
- Waltham

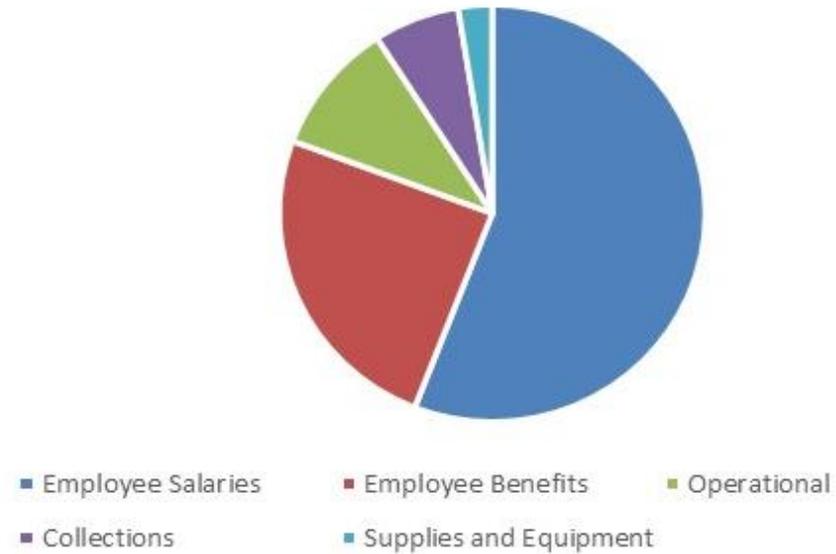
Why did trustees make this change?

- Funding Fairness and Equity: Last year, five of the 18 towns provided no funding or sharply reduced funding.
- Incentivizing Municipal Funding: If residents can receive a free card whether or not the town funds the library, there is no incentive for municipal funding.
- Regional Library Service: The City of Ellsworth pays \$75 per capita while other towns pay at most \$5 per capita, most much less.
- Standard Funding Model: EPL is the largest library in the state, after Bangor, that does not charge non-residents a fee for cards.



Library Funding - Expenses

FY20 Budget Expenses



Employee Salaries: \$389,926 – Staff pay: 8 full-time and 3 part-time staff

Employee Benefits: \$172,157 – Staff benefits and professional development expenses

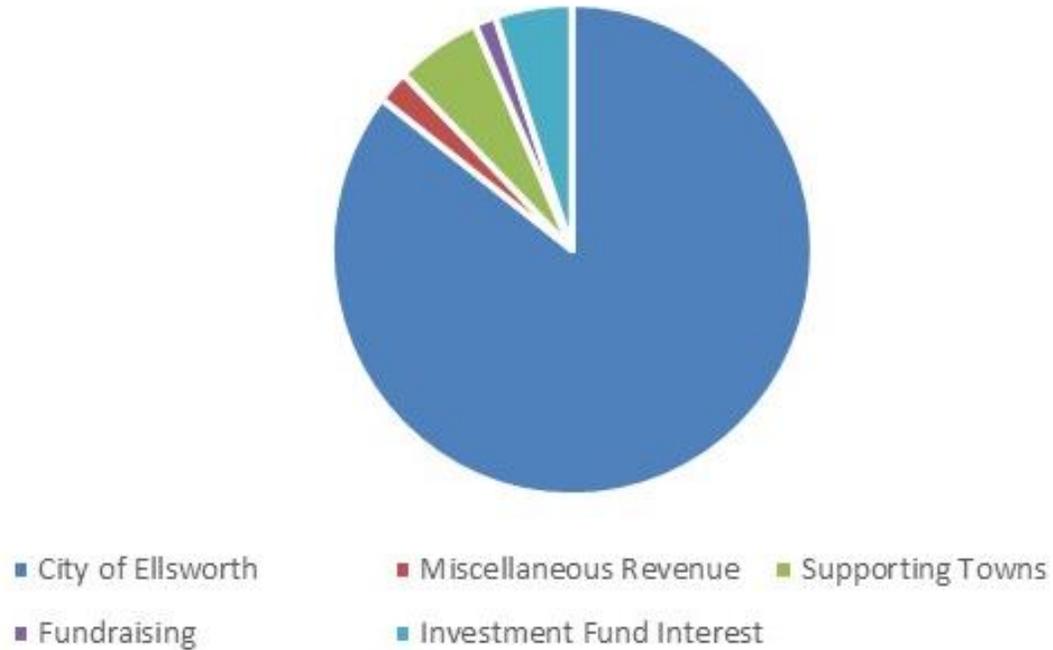
Operational: \$71,450 – Electricity, Heating, Phone, Water, Building Maintenance, Service Contracts, Technology

Collections: \$45,500– Books, Audiobooks, Periodicals, DVDs, ebooks, digital music

Supplies & Equipment: \$18,000 – Office Supplies, Postage, Printing, Equipment (computers, desks, chairs, shelving, etc.)

Library Funding: Revenue

Ellsworth Library FY20 Budget Revenue



City of Ellsworth: \$596,033

Supporting Towns: \$40,000 (18 municipalities combined; five of these underfunded or did not fund)

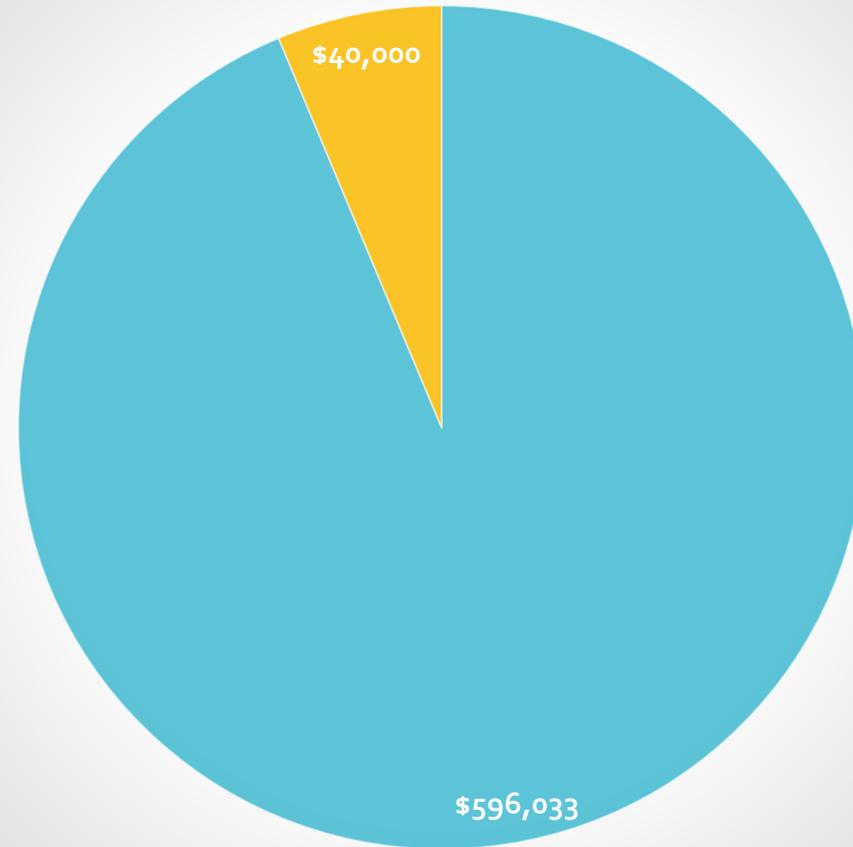
Investment Fund Interest: \$36,000

Miscellaneous Revenue: \$15,000 (printing and faxing fees, fines, meeting room rentals)

Fundraising: \$10,000

Municipal funding is 91% of the library's budget

Municipal Funding Breakdown FY20



■ City of Ellsworth ■ Supporting Towns (combined)

Return on Investment

Fiscal Year 2018

Value of Library Services: \$2,164,136

Combined Municipal Appropriation: \$594,759

For every dollar invested by municipalities in library support, citizens receive a \$3.64 value in return.

Next Steps

- Funding request letters were mailed to all town select boards/budget committees in early October.
- Library staff and trustees will follow up with each town's select board to answer questions and arrange meetings as needed.
- All funding requests will appear on the 2020 town meeting warrant for each town. Some towns (Hancock and Franklin) require signatures in order to appear on the warrant.
- Town residents may share feedback about library funding with their select board and budget committee at any time.
- Any town that provides full funding in 2020 will receive free library cards. Others will pay a \$25 fee for a card renewal. The fee in 2021 will be \$30.

Ways to get involved

- Contact your select board/budget committee to share your thoughts about library funding.
- Communicate with other town residents about funding changes.
- Sign up for library email updates about funding.
- Potential communication committee to help us get the word out about library services and funding – please indicate your interest.

Questions/
Comments?

