

## CHAPTER 10

## TOWNSHIP LIBRARIES

TOWNSHIP LIBRARIES - ESTABLISHMENT

The legislative body of a township which is not already taxed for library purposes and that has a population of at least ten thousand (10,000) or an assessed valuation that is at least as high as the median of the most recent certified assessed valuation of the ten (10) library taxing districts closest in population to ten thousand (10,000) may establish a public library for residents of that township. The establishment of a public library may be initiated by either the legislative body passing the resolution; or the filing of a petition by at least twenty percent (20%) of the registered voters with certain requirements. Petition and remonstrance procedures are provided in IC 36-12-2-5.

CONTRACTS FOR LIBRARY SERVICES

A library board may contract to provide or receive library service from a township. The contract for library service between the public library and the township must outline the manner and extent of service and the amount of compensation for the extension of library service.

PROPOSAL OF EXPANSION - REQUISITES - FILING

The library board of a public library may file a proposed expansion with the township trustee and township board of the township. The proposal must state that the public library seeks to expand its service area to include a certain township or any part of a township not being taxed for public library service. IC 36-12-5-2

AGREEMENT TO EXPAND - PETITION REMONSTRANCE PROCEDURE

When the township trustee and township board receive the proposal of expansion, they may agree to the expansion by written resolution. A petition for acceptance of the proposal of expansion must be signed by twenty percent (20%) of the registered voters of the township or part of the township, as determined by the most recent general election. Within ten (10) days after the filing, the township trustee shall publish notice of the petition for acceptance of the proposal of expansion in the manner provided in IC 5-3-1 in a newspaper of general circulation in the township. IC 36-12-5-3 provides petition and remonstrance procedures. IC 36-12-5-4 provides procedures for acceptance or rejection of the proposed expansion.

TOWNSHIP CONTRACTING WITH COUNTY CONTRACTUAL LIBRARIES - TAX LEVIES

When a township, or part of a township, is contracting with a library that is extending service through a county contractual library, then the township or part of a township; (1) shall cease to levy a separate tax for library purposes; and (2) becomes a part of the county contractual library district.

The tax levy for county contractual library purposes shall then be levied in the township or part of a township that has become part of the county contractual library district.

Any township that ceases to levy a tax for public library purposes in any year becomes a part of its county library district or county contractual library district, if either library district exists at the time the township levy is discontinued. The county library or county contractual library tax shall then be levied in the township. IC 36-12-6-4

IC 36-12-5 provides detailed procedures concerning expansion of Class 1 Public Libraries into more than one township in a county.