CLEVELAND PUBLIC LIBRARY

Board Meeting June 16, 2022

RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE DIRECTOR TO NEGOTIATE AND ENTER INTO NATURAL GAS CONTRACT TO TAKE EFFECT AFTER EXPIRATION OF CURRENT CONTRACT

- WHEREAS, On March 19, 2020, the Board of Library Trustees ratified the natural gas agreement entered into by the Executive Director on February 28, 2020 with Constellation NewEnergy-Gas Division, LLC at the rate of \$2.77 per Mcf for a 24-month term from November 2020 through October 2022; and
- WHEREAS, North Shore Energy Consulting, LLC notified the Library that the natural gas rates on the market have been extremely volatile due to the COVID-19 pandemic and embargoes on Russian natural gas exports. Gas rates are expected to climb significantly and to remain high for an extended period. Gas rates are estimated to be at \$8.15 per Mcf for a 12-month agreement, \$6.50 per Mcf for a 24 to 36-month agreement and \$5.70 per Mcf for agreements longer than 40 months; and
- WHEREAS, North Shore Energy Consulting, LLC desires to run a competitive pricing analysis to evaluate the potential opportunities for the Library; and
- WHEREAS, North Shore Energy Consulting, LLC recommends that the Library consider a natural gas agreement that provides a "blend and extend" option that would allow the Library, in the event natural gas rates drop, to switch to a lower rate during the term of the agreement in exchange for an extension of the length of the agreement; and
- WHEREAS, The Library Administration is requesting authority to negotiate a new natural gas rate to commence at the expiration of the Library's current natural gas contract in accordance with North Shore Energy's notification; now therefore be it
- RESOLVED, That the Board of Library Trustees hereby authorizes the Executive Director, CEO or his designee to negotiate and enter into a new agreement commencing November 2022, through North Shore Energy Consulting, LLC, with natural gas suppliers that have the best

fixed rates for periods of time up to and including 57 months and that include a "blend and extend" option, provided the rates do not exceed the rate of \$6.60 per Mcf, which agreement shall be subject to review and approval of the Director of Legal Affairs; be it further

RESOLVED, That the contracts entered into will be presented for ratification by the Board of Library Trustees at their next regularly scheduled meeting.